

NATURE OF WORK

The Industrial Maintenance Mechanic uses knowledge of safe work practices, mechanical drives, piping, pumps, hydraulics, lubrication, vibration analysis, and alignment to perform the maintenance of plant and/or field equipment. The mechanic has the ability to troubleshoot problems and make necessary repairs to these systems. Preventive maintenance is also an important function of the maintenance mechanic.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Working conditions for this career are as variable as the position itself. Most often the Industrial Maintenance Mechanic is stationed at a plant or facility during work hours, and the type of work is dependent on the type of company and the product or service it provides. Maintenance mechanics may work around steam, water, chemicals, oil, gas, coal, electricity, noise, elevations, heat and/or cold. Premium pay is given to those willing to work in these conditions. In addition to overtime, the pay is excellent for those willing to work schedules that may include daytime, evenings, and nights.

TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

Industrial companies want mechanics with excellent technical knowledge, skills and abilities, as well as interpersonal skills. Today's employers seek out AAS degree graduates from technology programs, which incorporate math and science, English, and computer applications in addition to the core curriculum of an industrial maintenance mechanic program. This type of mechanic is said to be qualified (declared competent to perform the job) when he or she can demonstrate the ability to perform a job to a predetermined level of competence in accordance with maintenance procedures.

SJC Basic Program Information

The Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Program has over \$2 million worth of equipment from mechanical drives to hydraulics to generators allowing students to obtain hands-on training. The Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Program and its curriculum are heavily supported and driven by industry standards and prepare the student to meet the competencies required for employment in today's highly competitive world.

CAREER OPTIONS

Power Plant Mechanic, Gas Plant/Refinery Mechanic, Operation Maintenance Mechanic, Field Mechanic

ESTIMATED SALARY RANGE

Four Corners Area starting pay — \$35,000 - \$55,000

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

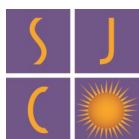
Maintenance Operator, Operations Technician, Maintenance Technician, Manufacturing Technician, Building Maintenance Technician

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities have continued to increase with an unusually high number of current mechanics retiring in the next seven to 10 years from the various process sectors, including power generation, oil and gas production, petroleum refining, pharmaceutical and chemical manufacturing and many more industries. Compounding this scenario is the current growth and construction of new process and production facilities. This will continue for the next 20+ years.

POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

Arizona Public Service Company, BHP, BIA, BP, Western Gas, Intel, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Red Cedar Gathering, Salt River Project, City of Farmington, Enterprise, EPCO, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, Williams, XTO, and many more in the Four corners region and throughout the United States.



*This information is provided by the Coordinator of the Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Program at San Juan College.