

## UDOT ROTATIONAL ENGINEER

### BIO: Greg Merrill

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My name is Greg Merrill and I attended Utah State University; graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in May 2011. I joined the rotational program at UDOT in May of 2011. I am in my first rotation in construction out of the 1752 Wellsville Construction office and will move to Design in Ogden the fall of 2012.

I have been able to be involved in the two Dowell Bar Retrofit projects on I-15 by Tremonton, 10th West SR-252 in Logan, and an expansion of an intersection on SR-218 in Amalga.

On the Dowell Bar project I was able to learn just how important traffic control really is, especially in a work zone to keep the construction crews and the traveling public safe and informed on where to go. Also, I learned how important it is to keep track of pay items and to inspect the work as it is being performed to make sure that it is being performed to the standard specifications and or special provisions.

On the 10th West project the road is being expanded from a 2 lane to a 5 lane roadway and changing it from asphalt to concrete. On the 10th West project I was able to become very involved in the testing of concrete to check the slump and air content to make sure that it was within UDOT specifications. Also I

was able to become WAQTC certified in concrete testing and density/moisture testing of the road grade before the concrete was



placed with the Troxler Gauge.

On the project on SR-218 in Amalga there was a side street being moved to be perpendicular with SR-218 instead of skewed and a portion of SR-218 being expanded for the semi truck traffic going to the Cheese Plant. Because of this expansion there was a box culvert that had to be extended out and this was quite an experience to watch and inspect and count the rebar being placed and the concrete tested and poured into the culvert, the box floor being placed first, the walls second and the top being placed last. This project is not yet completed and will be completed this summer.

The experience that has challenged me the most has probably been working on the 10th West project with almost 500 items to help keep track of, inspect the placement of, and paying for those items. Also learning how to read plan drawings and stations for the first couple weeks was a little tough. However I was able to become very proficient at knowing

exactly where items were to be placed according to the plans and stationing.

There are a lot of advantages to the UDOT Rotational Program because of the different rotations that you are involved in. It gives you the opportunity to work in the different areas to see how each one works and functions and how they each tie together. Which in turn gives you the experience in the different areas and gives you a chance to find your niche in which you can work in after you finish the rotational program and enjoy it and be productive in that area of your choice.

Some of my career goals are to finish the Rotational Engineering Program, get my Professional Engineering License, become a Field Engineer, and then become either a Project Manager or a Resident Engineer. Some of the people who have guided me in the Rotational Program have been: Richard Murdock, Brett Slater, Nick Peterson, Bret Krebs, Chet Naser, Brian King, Brad Freeze, Rob Astle, Rick Presler, and Doug Leatham.