

UDOT ROTATIONAL ENGINEER

BIO: Zack Andrus

Spring 2012

Where did you attend college and when did you graduate?

I graduated from the University of Utah in May of 2007

When did you join the rotational program at UDOT?

I joined the Rotational Program right after graduation, May of '07

What rotations have you completed?

I have rotated through Construction, Project Management, Design, and Traffic and Safety in Region One, Structures, and Research at the Complex.

Please name a few of the projects you've been involved with and some of the skills or knowledge you've gained.

Projects I've been involved with: Swan Creek Bridge Expansion in Garden City, I-84 Bridge Preservation and Concrete Rehab from Morgan to Croydon, DuroMax Pipe testing in Rich County, Guardrail Replacement near East Canyon Reservoir, New Traffic Signal in West Haven, and other design, construction, traffic and safety, and research reviews.

What experience has challenged you the most?

The most challenging experience was probably the Swan Creek Bridge Expansion, in Garden City. It was an ARRA Project and the Concept to Advertisement window was very narrow. The construction schedule was tight as well due to the proximity to Bear Lake and the

trout spawning season. I was working for Structures Design at the time and had to complete the design in just under one month.

What are some of the advantages of the UDOT Rotational Program?

One of the biggest advantages of the Rotational Program is the chance to meet a lot of great people. The "networking" opportunities are abundant. Another advantage is the chance to experience a wide variety of the things we do here at UDOT; design and construction are required rotations, but the chance to try out different things and work with different divisions gives rotationals a chance to find out what they like and make informed career plans.

What are some of your career goals?

One of my career goals is to become a Resident Engineer. I have a background in construction and being a field engineer was one of my favorite rotations.

Do you know your next placement or employment situation?

I don't know my next rotation or employment situation, I've been in the rotational program for almost 5 years and I'm actively trying to



find a permanent position. The economy being what it is right now has caused a lot of experienced engineers to look for more stable employ. UDOT has historically been one of the most stable employers in the industry and that is appealing to a lot of job seekers. It can be difficult to make yourself desirable while competing against professional engineers with more experience.

Who are some of the people at UDOT who have provided guidance or assistance?

Those who have helped me include Brett Slater, Kevin Griffin, Kris Peterson, Abdul Wakil, Barry Sharp, Fred Doehring, and many others.