Internship at ALTO Packaging Hastings

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ABSTRACT

This poster illustrates the internship experience at Alto Packaging in Hastings by Grace Patterson, a third year Bachelor of Computing Systems (BCS) student at the Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) in 2013. Grace worked as an IT intern for Alto Packaging Ltd. in Hastings during this semester. The poster demonstrates the academic alignment of the BCS course into a working environment.

This internship entailed one main product quality database mini-project, recovering/collecting data and storing/manipulating this as required, as well as providing IT support within the Hastings plant.

This experience showed how vital IT is with everyday business, not only within IT departments but the entire business.

Keywords
Capstone project, internship.

1. INTRODUCTION
The Bachelor of Computing Systems degree at EIT includes a compulsory 45 credit internship or project in the final semester of the third year. The internship provides an avenue in which to align the academic learning aspect of the course and apply it to "real-world" scenarios through work and training.

2. Student Work-Integrated Learning
This internship poster describes the role of the internship carried out at Alto Packaging as well as the mini-project involved.

During this internship Grace was involved in one database development mini-project, updating and creating documentation while providing support across the Alto Hastings office. These tasks were in direct correlation to the course work that had been completed during the Bachelor of Computing Systems degree at EIT.

3. Results
Activities and practical experience through the BCS degree carried over into the internship as the fundamentals had been put in place. This internship experience with Alto Hastings systems and procedures helped Grace gain additional knowledge into relational databases, database management and VBA coding.

Grace continued in employment with Alto Hastings as an IT Assistant on a 3-4 month contract. This role was new to the Alto Packaging Hastings and aligned itself with previous work completed by Grace.

4. Conclusion
This internship experience was a successful experience for Grace. The internship option in this case proved to be a more suitable career start for the student in comparison to a traditional industry project.