



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Andrew Carto, Sales Engineer



What first interested you about learning more about the steel industry?

There is no elaborate backstory on how I came into the steel industry, but I can say I was fascinated with the industry after my first exposure. As a college student, I enjoyed learning new information every day. From different subjects to different majors, there was always something new for me to learn and take on as a challenge. After my first Cold Sheet Rolling Technology Committee (CSRTC) meeting back in March 2019, I was immediately impressed and enjoyed exchanging knowledge and information. It was incredibly eye-opening to me after touring AK Steel-Dearborn Works' pickling line and tandem cold mill. This is an industry that is continuously learning and improving. I am excited to be a part of it now and see where it heads.

Describe the coursework and degrees that you have obtained.

I attended Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh. Duquesne University offered a "3-2" program, which allowed you to start with their university for three years in the physics department, then finish the remaining two years with the University of Pittsburgh in an engineering discipline of your choice. Ultimately I obtained B.A. degrees in physics and mathematics from Duquesne University and my B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

What advice do you have for students who are curious about pursuing something related to the steel industry?

As someone who grew up playing hockey, I have always held Wayne Gretzky's quote, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take," close to me. You will never know if this is the industry for you by standing on the sidelines. I think it is

a fantastic opportunity for students to join AIST and be a part of the American Ceramic Society, ASM International, and The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society, made possible through Material Advantage.

What are your plans for continued involvement in AIST?

Currently, I am a part of the CSRTC, where I am also the Young Professional (YP) chair. I am also a part of the Rolls Technology Committee and the Sensor Systems Subcommittee. I am also excited to be the Papers Chair for the Sensor Systems Subcommittee for AISTech 2021. My current plans are to continue to attend the committee meetings actively and stay involved with other Young Professionals. I recently participated in a Zoom call with the Material Advantage Chapter from the University of Pittsburgh with two other alumni that are Young Professionals, Nicole Sitler and Delaney Dobracki. It was great to network with fellow YPs from my alma mater, see a student's internship experience made possible through AIST, and encourage students to get involved and take advantage of what AIST has to offer.

What do you find unique and interesting about the steel industry? What do you enjoy the most about it?

I always find it interesting to learn and understand our customers' processes. For instance, I met with a customer who mentioned that one of their end products are thermal switches and how some end up in windows for vehicles. Every time I roll the window down or back up when I am driving, I always think it is interesting to know where it started. I also enjoy the committee meetings where there has always been a unique and interesting tour. It has not been possible to meet in person since the start of COVID-19, but I am appreciative of the virtual meetings that have been taking place to continue to stay connected during these times. ♦



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