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Reflection Paper 2

After 100 hours of interning at IP Configure, I've seen real improvements in both my technical skills and my professional growth. I spent most of my first 50 hours learning the rules and how things are supposed to work. Now that I have more experience, I can do things more quickly, confidently, and on my own.

My main jobs are still putting together servers, making images, and helping with video exports. But the biggest change I've noticed is in how fast and well I manage my time. When I first started, I had to pay close attention and check that each step was right many times while building a server. Now, I build servers all the time, at a rate of about two to three per hour, depending on how complicated the configuration is. This faster pace is due to better organization of the workflow, less hesitation, and more experience with the hardware parts.

Beyond speed, my accuracy has improved as well. Early in my internship, I struggled at times with installing components correctly and ensuring all connections were secure. With more

experience, I have developed a structured internal checklist when assembling systems. This method has cut down on mistakes by a lot and made me feel more sure about delivering finished builds. I also feel more at ease with basic troubleshooting when a system won't turn on, like checking the placement of the RAM, making sure the CPU is seated properly, and making sure the power supply connections are secure. These troubleshooting habits show that people have grown from just following instructions to understanding how the hardware works.

Another important change has been how I've interacted with new employees. As more technicians joined the team, I had to answer simple questions about how to put together parts, install the power supply, and how the whole assembly process worked. I wouldn't call myself a formal trainer, but helping new employees learn more about their jobs helped me remember what I had learned and showed that I had moved on from the beginning level of learning. I had to think clearly about how to do things instead of just repeating them when I had to explain them to someone else.

Time management has been the skill that improved the most during this second phase of my internship. Meeting production goals while maintaining accuracy requires balance. I have learned to pace myself, prioritize precision, and maintain steady output without rushing. This discipline was reinforced by earlier mistakes in my internship when moving too quickly led to preventable issues. Over the past 50 hours, I have become more intentional about slowing down during critical steps while maintaining efficiency overall.

. During my first few weeks, I often asked my coworkers or my boss for confirmation. Now, I can finish most builds on my own and only bring up problems when I need to. This change shows that people are more confident and have a better grasp of how the company works. I have changed my mind from thinking like a student who is finishing a task to thinking like a technician who is in charge of the final product.

Even though I don't see myself working in server assembly for a long time, this internship has given me important skills that I can use in the future. The focus on documentation, following procedures, and being responsible applies directly to jobs in cybersecurity and IT. Attention to detail, the ability to troubleshoot problems in a methodical way, and the ability to communicate professionally are all skills that I can use in future jobs.

Overall, my second 50 hours at IP Configure, Inc. show that I have made a lot of progress in both my technical and professional skills. I have gotten better at managing my time, being independent, and fixing problems quickly. Most importantly, I have become more disciplined about following rules and getting the same results every time. These experiences have helped me understand what it means to be responsible and do my job well in an operational IT setting.