

Reflection Paper #4

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As I continue my internship, one of the most meaningful aspects of my experience has been the level of trust that has been placed in me by my supervisor and colleagues. Since the beginning of my internship, I have been given the opportunity to work independently on many of my assigned projects while still having access to support and guidance whenever needed. My supervisor has created an environment that allows me to work at my own pace and manage my responsibilities with minimal supervision. At the same time, I know that I can reach out whenever I need clarification, assistance, or feedback. This balance between independence and support has helped me build confidence in my abilities and has encouraged me to take ownership of my work.

Being trusted with responsibilities has allowed me to develop professionally in ways that would not have been possible if I were constantly directed through every task. Rather than simply following instructions, I have been encouraged to research solutions, make recommendations, and determine the best approaches to complete projects. This has strengthened my problem-solving abilities and taught me the importance of accountability in a professional environment. Knowing that my supervisor trusts me to complete tasks independently motivates me to maintain a high standard of work and continuously improve my skills.

Another area in which I have experienced growth is professional communication. Throughout this internship, I have become increasingly interested in learning how communication functions within a professional workplace. To better understand this process, I requested to be included in the company's weekly meetings. I believed that participating in these meetings would provide valuable insight into how coworkers collaborate, communicate ideas, discuss challenges, and work together to accomplish organizational goals. My request was welcomed, and I have been given the opportunity to attend and observe these meetings.

Participating in these meetings has been an extremely valuable learning experience. In an academic setting, group projects and classroom discussions provide some exposure to collaboration, but professional meetings operate very differently. Through observation and participation, I have learned how team members communicate updates, discuss ongoing projects, identify priorities, and address concerns in a productive and professional manner. I have also learned the importance of listening carefully, contributing when appropriate, and communicating clearly when presenting ideas or asking questions. These experiences have increased my confidence in professional settings and provided insight into workplace dynamics that cannot easily be learned through coursework alone.

One of the most exciting opportunities that has recently become available to me is the chance to begin working with a colleague located in Brazil. I have been given the privilege of communicating directly with him as part of my professional development within the company. This experience is especially exciting because it introduces me to a more global and collaborative aspect of the technology field. Working with professionals from different backgrounds and locations is becoming increasingly common in both cybersecurity and information technology, making this a valuable opportunity for growth.

Through this collaboration, I will have the opportunity to learn more about coding and gain exposure to the artificial intelligence systems being utilized by Envision. While my academic background has provided a strong foundation in cybersecurity concepts, this opportunity will allow me to further develop my technical skills in areas that are becoming increasingly important within the technology industry. I am particularly interested in learning how artificial intelligence can be integrated into business operations and how cybersecurity considerations intersect with emerging technologies. Having the opportunity to learn directly

from an experienced professional is something I appreciate, and I am eager to expand my knowledge through this internship.

This experience has also reinforced the importance of maintaining a willingness to learn throughout one's career. Technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, and professionals must remain adaptable to stay current with new tools, systems, and methodologies. Throughout my internship, I have found that some of my most valuable learning experiences have come from simply being willing to ask questions, seek clarification, and take advantage of opportunities that are presented to me. Whether I am learning about workplace communication, technical support, cybersecurity practices, or artificial intelligence, I have discovered that curiosity and initiative are essential qualities for professional growth.

Overall, this stage of my internship has been rewarding because it has allowed me to develop not only my technical abilities but also my professional confidence. The trust placed in me by my supervisor, the opportunity to observe and participate in workplace communication, and the chance to learn from colleagues both locally and internationally have all contributed to my growth. These experiences have helped me better understand the professional environment I hope to enter after graduation and have strengthened my confidence in pursuing a career within cybersecurity and information technology. As my internship continues, I look forward to learning additional experiences, expanding my technical knowledge, and continuing to grow as a professional.