

Jay Tambe

06/10/2025

Reflection 1

### **Welcome to the Port**

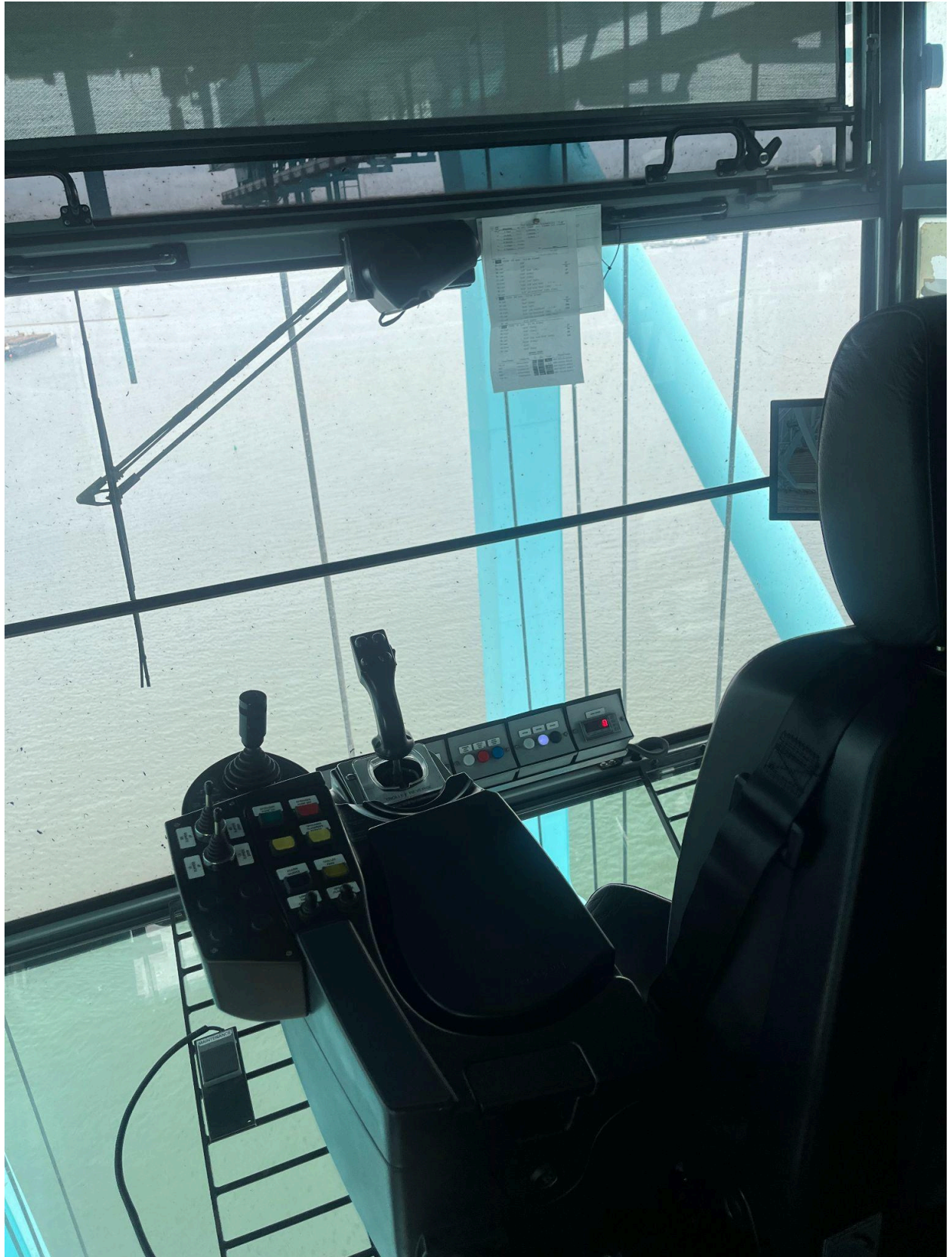
I recently finished my first week working at the port of Virginia and I have to say I love it there and would enjoy working there full time after college. For my first day of my internship I met with the other interns and got registered into the system and had a group lunch. I got to network with many smart individuals, one is including the Head of the cybersecurity department. He came in and gave us a lesson about how to log into our company laptops and how to use ADP to put in our hours and how to fill out our paperwork for our W-5 which was actually very helpful. We started out at the cybersecurity department building, but after we were done this we got transferred over to the main building where we met all of our supervisors and the CEO of the company.

On my second day I went to another terminal called NIT which stands for Norfolk International Gateway. It was hard to find because they have entrances , one where trucks come through and one for staff, but when you put it on google maps it takes you to the truck side. There I met another head of the department and he showed me a safety video showing where all the exits are and what our blue alarm lights do and how to turn them on. In every building there's a blue alarm light which is a slight alarm that alerts you that there is a threat in the building and we should evacuate. During that day Mr.Alonzo took me on a tour of that port where I got to see the barge,crane, and the railroad. He took me to a building we call high tower where they host most of the meetings for the executives, it was really fascinating. In that tower they have an RS

floor where I got to watch and see how the crane operators work. Something I found out that I didn't know was that now the crane operators aren't in the crane, they are usually in an office building controlling the ascend and descend of a screen like it's a video game. There are some cranes which use actual ALM to operate and a ALM is a longshoreman, they are workers who only work on the grounds and aren't associated with the port. They are basically contracts and we are management.

My first week was basically me going around to all the other ports and meeting 3 out of 4 of the heads of the department. During this week I got to see productions I've never seen before, like I went to a terminal called POCT where I got to see their windmill plant. I've never seen the setups of building a windmill until now and believe its not easy, I got to see every part of the windmill before it's forged together and each part is about the size of two football fields.

Honestly my favorite part of week one besides all the lunches, was when my supervisor took me up into the crane. The crane is honestly amazing, even though I am slightly afraid of heights this was an experience I would do again. They took me unto a small elevator which took us to the control room of the crane and this one is controlled by a human not someone sitting in the office using switches. After we saw the control area he took me to the maintenance area and explained what all the wiring does and the emergency plans if someone were to be stuck on the crane or what they do when they need to do maintenance on it. I've never seen or been in something so complicated and well taken care of. When you are outside the maintenance room you get a perfect view of Virginia beach. Since I was at VIG(Virginia International Gateway) I could see VB, and Portsmouth perfectly.







I started working on our new system called EHS insight. I am working with Health and safety to get all the coding right and information so it can be operational by August. After this first week I am excited to see what I get to experience and learn next. Everyone is very friendly and this is a great working environment for me. I know I will gain a lot of experience with them that I can apply in the future. Finally, this doesn't just feel like a job, everyday I am enthusiastic about showing up to work to see what I can learn next. I honestly am upset when I have to clock out and go home because the job has been so enjoyable so far.