



SPORT FRAZIER

NDT Technical Specialist, Marmon Rail
CHARLOTTE, NC

HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME INVOLVED IN NDT?

A friend told me about it. I was just starting at Central Piedmont Community College [CPCC] and didn't really know what I wanted to do. But once I heard about the program, it seemed perfect for me. The format was all theory one day, then the next day was

hands-on. Getting some hands-on experience using the equipment and inspecting materials really excited me.

AFTER FINISHING THE PROGRAM AT CPCC, WHAT FURTHER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS DID YOU PURSUE?

After community college, I started working with Hussein Sadek, a Past President of ASNT. I did a little of everything—mag particle [MT], penetrant, visual [VT], eddy current [ECT], and ACFM [alternating current field measurement]. While working with Hussein, I earned my bachelor's degree in industrial technology with a minor in industrial engineering from East Carolina University.

I worked in project management for a while, then returned to NDT and started at Marmon Rail. There, I've completed my Level III certifications in VT, MT, and ET [electromagnetic testing]. I also have a PCN Level II in UT [ultrasonic testing] and ACFM.

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I'm helping set up an ACFM program at Marmon Rail for tank cars. I review ACFM reports daily to make sure their data and information are correct and answer any technical questions from my Level IIs. With the ACFM units we use, I can remotely collaborate, watching technicians as they inspect. I also train technicians in our shop or at a tech center in Houston.

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH ASNT?

I recently joined the "Faces of NDT" program and love it.

I'm going to ASNT's Hill Day in Washington, DC, to talk to legislators about NDT. A lot of people don't know about NDT, so getting to talk about it is a cool part of being a Face of NDT. This past year, I also received the Lou DiValerio Technician of the Year award—that was pretty awesome.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR NDT CAREER SO FAR?

The biggest challenge is making sure you're doing your job ethically. You don't want anybody to influence your decisions. And I think that happens to a lot of people in our industry—everybody wants everything to be approved and signed off on by the technician, but you have to be able to say no, to make sure you're doing stuff ethically.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN NDT?

In this industry, you can make good money, and I think a lot of people are looking to make great money as soon as they get out of community college. But somebody told me, think about the education and the training that you need. When I came out of community college, I had multiple offers to go to different places. I ended up choosing a job where I got a lot more experience than I would have if I'd picked the place offering me more money. So, I would tell anybody coming into this industry, don't always look for the money. Sometimes the experience will help you get further than looking for the money right away. **ME**





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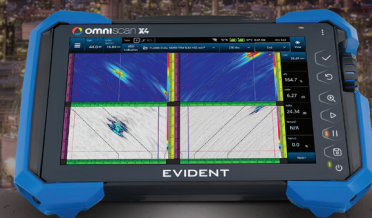
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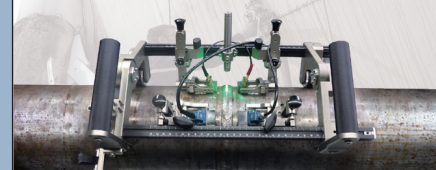


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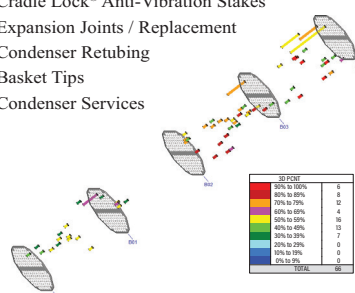
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SNACKTIME TAP-TESTING

This picture was taken during behavioral studies conducted at the Duke Lemur Center at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Ehsan Dehghan-Niri is feeding an aye-aye by placing its favorite food in his hand, forming a fist to resemble a cavity. The aye-aye uses its specialized middle finger, which it employs for tap-testing in the wild, to probe the hand, mimicking its natural foraging behavior. Since aye-ayes are nocturnal, the red lighting replicates their natural nighttime environment, ensuring they remain comfortable and exhibit typical behaviors.

SUBMITTED BY EHSAN DEHGHAN-NIRI, PHD, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, TEMPE, AZ

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