MADE SMARTER

Digital Technology Internship Placement

Employer Information:

'Made Smarter' is a Government funded pilot programme, matching your expertise, skills, and insight to help North West businesses implement digital tools. You will be working on a live project while gaining valuable experience for your C.V.

Placements are open to 3rd and 4th Year Undergrads, MSc, and Postgraduate Students

Placement Information

Job Title:	Software Engineer
Business Overview	The client is an owner managed textile business based in Stockport. The company was established in 1999 and now employs over 100 FTEs. They set out to be the UK's first one stop shop in the garment sector, bringing together all the key garment finishing processes including labelling, printing and embroidery together in one business. The MD established his first company in 1988 and began making licensed products in 1996 (Football's Euro 96 tournament) and reached 50,000 units per week, then repeated this for the 1998 World Cup. In 2004/5, the business consolidated onto one site and expanded operations at the current Stockport factory through the development of adjacent units. The MD has consistently focused on customer service excellence, investing in competence and capacity, reducing costs and maintaining quality to increase sales in an increasingly competitive world market. The MD has a can-do mentality, is highly entrepreneurial, and equally importantly, is backed up by a strong operational lead, and fast-developing management team. A production manager was recruited in March to increase manufacturing efficiency. The company has now been supplying Britain's businesses with branded work wear and promotional clothing for 20 years and more recently has opened routes to export sales into Europe. The company aims to provide a professional service that will deliver a quality finished garment to differentiate from the 'throw away' culture that has evolved within the fast fashion sector.
Location:	Stockport, Greater Manchester
Number of posts:	ONE
Job Description: *Please include as much information as possible including main purpose and detailed duties/responsibilities*	The proposal of this project is to adopt a proof of concept bar code scanner that will create a "box list" digitally. This will follow the example case study shown on the digitalshoestring.com website where a barcode scanner and database was implemented for less than £1000. This project should be a great real-life application of technology and will provide the basis to engage further down the line in building out a solution to remove the manual systems causing unnecessary data entry.

	Once this part of the project is complete we would be interested, depending on the intern's performance and time taken to complete the project, to engage them to interface with a third party supplier to scope out a project for them to fully automate manual processes in the company.
	Work plan:
	• Create and link a database that matches barcodes and item details
	• Implement a system that captures barcodes via a camera and stores them (in an excel file, for example) to be linked to already existing data
	Day 1 – 10: Familiarise themselves with the operations of the factory. How everything works and who is responsible for each area.
	Day 10 – 15: Building on the already produced process flow map to get a more comprehensive understanding of the current interaction of processes within the factory.
	Day 15 – 18: Scoping out the actual project itself. Defining the scope of the project for what it will do and the data that will be displayed at the end.
	Day 18 – 20: Creation of the data flows and system architecture diagram for the interactions and the particular separate segments required for the build.
	Day 20 – 40: Build out of full solution.
	Day 41: Internal review of the operational pilot.
	Day 41 – 50: Scoping out a full system, creating requirements.
	Day 50 – 52: Market research on potential suppliers.
	Day 52 – 60: Oversight of supplier engagement and decision on the supplier choice.
Expected areas of knowledge:	Developing Human Machine Interfaces
	Developing website interfaces that can be locally hosted (or sourced), experience with 'React' would be helpful.
	Experience deploying functional code on raspberry Pi's
	Competence with coding languages; Java / Python / C++ etc.
	Self-starter
Desirable Skills:	Experience within an operational heavy factory
	Experience with, or a basic understanding of process flow and value stream mapping
Salary:	£12.00 p/h (£5,760 per placement)
Placement Start Date:	As soon as possible
Duration of Placement:	480 Hours on a full-time, part-time, or flexible schedule