

VOLVO MULTI-CRAFT TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Growing skill set development opportunities for Volvo employees



SUMMARY

- Volvo Car Manufacturing needed to fill 63 open maintenance positions for the launch of a new vehicle at their plant in Ridgeville, South Carolina.
- The Multi-Craft Technician Apprenticeship Program partnered with East Coast Polytechnic Institute to help apprentices earn a U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) registered apprenticeship program certificate.

Volvo Car Manufacturing started the Multi-Craft Technician Apprenticeship Program in 2019 to fill 63 open maintenance positions for the launch of the XC-90 production in Ridgeville, South Carolina. Volvo now offers a two-year U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) certified apprenticeship in partnership with East Coast Polytechnic Institute (ECPI). ECPI has long been a strategic partner of Volvo and provides the knowledge-based portion of the two-year program, as well as continuing education for Volvo employees who wish to advance their studies while working at Volvo.

Multi-Craft Maintenance Technicians are expected to execute maintenance tasks, which require an in-depth technical knowledge of Volvo's automated equipment. Multi-craft technicians troubleshoot, and repair complex equipment breakdowns involving mechanical and electrical aspects of machinery, analyze failures or equipment technical loss causes and make or suggest improvements as needed, all while ensuring compliance with proper safety policies and procedures.

“Volvo works closely with technical universities to develop our future Maintenance Technicians, while simultaneously creating upward mobility for our teammates. We have found that our 2 year training program is crucial to our success as it provides employees with the right combination of schooling and on-the-job-training to succeed in growing their career with Volvo Cars.”

KIMBERLY MASON,
TRAINING MANAGER

Six graduates of the program have officially become Volvo Multi-craft Technicians since the start and have earned industrial Maintenance Mechanic Apprenticeship Completion Certificates from the DOL. Five additional participants will complete the program in 2022 and a new cohort of six were recruited and selected to start the program in the fall of 2022.



The Multi-Craft Apprenticeship Program is a vital component of training key employees in the manufacturing process at Volvo’s South Carolina production facility. With 150,000 vehicles produced annually, multi-craft technicians are an important component to the success of the over 40,000 Volvo employees worldwide. As Volvo’s South Carolina production facility expanded to begin production of new electric vehicles, including the Polestar brand, multi-craft technicians are more important than ever to ensuring Volvo’s quality production continues in the Palmetto state.

