

{WIN•tern•ships!}

*Grand Prize*

## Fingerprints In Space

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After another day at the factory, I step onto the Metro platform. As I board the train, I notice a man using his cell phone. I look out the window as we pass the Boeing Satellite Development Center and wonder if he has any idea that the device in his hand is communicating with a satellite just like the one I worked on today. People all over the world interact with satellites every day, but most have never seen one. Even fewer have touched one. As an intern for Boeing, I got to be one of those few.

For twelve weeks, I was the junior integration manager for the Wideband Global Satcom F7 bus module. The F7 is one of a series of satellites Boeing is building for the United States military. I was responsible for coordinating and overseeing the teams involved in assembling the bus module. With the guidance of my fellow managers, I created and maintained a sched-

ule for the program. I had the opportunity to work directly with technicians, engineers, planners, parts control, and the program manager. I participated in the day-to-day operations, from the blueprints to the factory floor.

They say when you love your job, you don't work a day in your life. I did not fully understand what that meant prior to this internship. My time at Boeing has allowed me to be a part of something that will affect the lives of people around the world. It fulfills me to know that my work on the F7 will contribute to future military missions. I now know that I want to continue to be a part of technology and projects that will improve lives by improving global communication. I will touch lives by touching satellites, and never work a day in my life.

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