THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS | Southeast Transportation Workforce Center

TRANSPORTATION SPOTLIGHT

PROFESSIONAL: GREG DOTSON

NAME: Greg Dotson
COMPANY: Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
TITLE: Engineer Manager

COLLEGE: University of Memphis
DEGREE: B.S. in Civil Engineering

Q: How did you select your certification program or college major?
A: I had a great high school trigonometry teacher who suggested that I go into engineering because I was good in math. I chose Civil Engineering because I always liked to see how things were put together.

Q: What was the biggest influence in your selection of major/career pathway?
A: My high school trigonometry teacher.

Q: What attracted you to the transportation industry?
A: I developed an interest in traffic operations during my senior design class, and I've been fascinated by it ever since.

Q: What is your favorite aspect of your job?
A: I get to learn and do something new and different every day. I also like being able to go into the field and see how design on paper becomes a reality.

Q: How do you/your company make a positive impact on society/our community?
A: One of our core principles is to work in the communities in which we live and play. As such, most of our employees are involved in community organizations to help their communities have a better place to work, live and play.

Q: What's the most interesting thing you have been able to do in your professional career?
A: To be able to reach back and encourage other young people so that they too can be successful at what they put their minds to do.

Q: What makes you get up each morning excited about your profession?
A: The idea that I'm going to be involved in a project that one day I will be able to see and tell others about my role in designing it.

Q: If you could go back to high school and select any elective course to take that would have better prepared you for college, what would it be?
A: Physics.

Q: What advice would you share with K-12 students that are considering your profession?
A: Never be afraid to ask questions, become comfortable presenting complex ideas in simple terms, and be willing to put in the hard work that comes with the engineering profession.

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