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CAREER PROFILE >>>

Metallurgist

Name: Nathan Rolston, P. Eng., B.Sc (Eng)

Home Community: Kerrobert, SK

Education: Bachelor of Science, Chemical Engineering,

University of Saskatchewan

Employer: Cameco Corp.

Details of the Job: Being a Metallurgist\Process Engineer exposes you to all different aspects of mining, from hands-on test work, process design, operations technical support, and managing people. I started my career in mining by working at a Northern mine site where my responsibilities included troubleshooting processing circuits such as water treatment and ore grinding. Process optimization was also an important job function which generally involved the implementation of a physical change to the site to make an operator's job easier, reduce energy requirements, or improve environmental performance. I now work in the corporate office where my focus is more project oriented and work on the design of new processing circuits for mineral extraction and purification, or water treatment.

About the Job: A career as a Metallurgist can be incredibly rewarding and is well suited for those people who enjoy problem solving, troubleshooting, optimizing processes, working with computer systems, and hands-on test work. I chose the career in Metallurgy/Process Engineering because I wanted a challenging career and was interested in chemical processes and working to produce products that the world requires.

Skills Required: Great communication, trouble shooting and problem solving skills, a curiosity for chemistry and math, desire to improve existing processes and operations to make them more efficient, strong interest in data management and analysis.

My Educational Path: I completed grade 12 in my home town then went on to attain a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Saskatchewan. Helpful high school courses for someone interested in pursuing a Chemical Engineering degree would be Calculus 30, Chemistry 30, Math 30, Physics 30, and Computer Science 30.