

CAREER PROFILE

PROCESS ANALYST

Name: Shana Hugel
Employer: K+S Potash Canada
Education: BSc. Chemistry



DETAILS OF THE JOB: As a Process Analyst, Shana is responsible for preparing and analyzing brine, process and final product samples. The results from this analysis are compiled and inspected, then used for cavern development, process control and quality of final product. Process analysts also perform maintenance and calibration on all laboratory instrumentation and in the future will be responsible for maintenance, calibration and day-to-day operation of online instrumentation as well.

A TYPICAL DAY: As the mine is currently in the project phase (a greenfield mine), there is really no such thing as a “typical” day. Working at a new mine has allowed Shana to be involved in the planning and development of a brand new laboratory facility. “We are involved in everything from designing the permanent lab, to writing policies and procedures, to the installation and commissioning of brand new instrumentation – you really get to see it all” she says. She has been able to experience first-hand what is involved in the construction, commissioning and start-up of a world class potash mining plant.

SKILLS NEEDED:

- General math, science, chemistry (especially analytical chemistry) and computer skills
- Ability to work independently and easily adapt to changing priorities
- Knowledge of Good Laboratory Practices
- Strong communication skills and ability to work within a team

COMMENT: “Going into university, I knew that I wanted a degree in science and chose to major in chemistry based on a number of factors. The majority of careers in chemistry-related fields involve a large amount of “hands on” work that was very appealing to me. In many positions there is the opportunity to be in the lab as well as to work directly in a plant or in the field. In addition, with Saskatchewan’s booming economy I felt that by choosing a career in this field I would have the skills that would give me the greatest number of opportunities to work for companies within the mining sector.”

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET AN EDUCATION? U. of Regina, U. of Saskatchewan

HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES: Chemistry 30, Physics 20/30, Mathematics 30, Calculus 30, Computer Science 20/30, English Language Arts 30

NOC: 2112

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