



# Suzie Woods

**B.S. in Mechanical Engineering (2010)**  
**Shell Oil Company, Houston, TX**

## **Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Sand Control Engineer:**

I work as a Sand Control Engineer supporting offshore well design and operations, primarily in the Gulf of Mexico right now. As a sand control engineer, I'm responsible for the design, planning and execution of the sand control portion of an offshore well completion. I'm responsible for the up front design work, writing the engineering procedure and supervising the execution of the sand control portion of a well to most efficiently and economically extract oil and gas.

## **Explain the skills/abilities that are required for being successful in your role:**

I work closely with the asset development team and their engineers who examine the subsurface rock properties and identify optimal locations for drilling. I also work closely with the operations team executing work outlined in my engineering procedures. I get to play an active role

in the contracting and procurement of goods and services required to complete the wells we design. Some of the skills I rely on daily are basic project management, technical writing, fluid mechanics, and modelling.

## **What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Mechanical Engineering?**

Majoring in mechanical engineering opens up so many doors for you. It provides such a solid base for so many different fields and industries, you can work almost anywhere you'd want to! Since I didn't elect to go into manufacturing with my ME degree, I wasn't sure how valuable the specifics of my engineering classes would be in the industry that I chose. I have found that there are more ties to daily life than I would have expected and more than anything, mechanical engineering school taught me how to problem solve and manage my corporate projects efficiently.

