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B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (2018)
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Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Vehicle Safety Performance Integration Engineer:

I am currently part of a two year rotational program called TRACK that is designed to expose new hires to different roles throughout the vehicle development process. In my current position, I help develop and validate the performance of different safety systems in a vehicle and how they work together to keep occupants safe in the event of a crash. I create test plans to assess vehicles against government and internal requirements, crash whole vehicles and perform component level testing, analyze the data and document any findings. A car cannot move forward to production without my team signing off that it meets or exceeds our safety standards.

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

As my position is based on understanding how a person moves during a car crash, it is necessary to have a background in physics and biomechanics so that I can make decisions based on the data collected from crash test dummies. There is a lot of information that comes out of a

single crash test, so it is important be able to analyze different types of data. And finally, the ability to clearly communicate the findings helps the team arrive quickly at the best solution.

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Biomedical Engineering?

As a student, you are in a unique position where busy people will still take a moment out of their schedule to answer a question or give advice. Use this as a way to open doors to opportunities, people, and learning. Classes are a fantastic way to learn, but I found that I better understood my course work when I was able to apply that information through internships and undergraduate research. Not only did the experiences I had with internships and research help me understand what I enjoy, they made me more marketable. Employers prefer to see some experience outside the classroom. When you are able to talk about what you did, what you learned, and the impact you made, it helps you stand out. So go out and find those opportunities to learn and expand your abilities.

