Building Careers



Co-Op Program

About Ergon



Our Companies

Our companies are engaged in a wide range of operations, including sophisticated crude oil processing; producing and marketing naphthenic, paraffinic and sustainable specialty oils, thermoplastic resins, specialty asphalt products, road maintenance products and machinery; transporting and terminaling crude oil, petrochemicals and refined products; propane marketing; industrial and commerical construction; and real estate services. Our horizons have expanded since we first began, but our mission remains the same: *Meet needs. Support families. Serve customers*.

Our People

We attribute our progress and achievements to one ingredient: our people. Through the efforts of over 4,200 forward-thinking, responsive employees and the integrated relationships of our organization's many components, Ergon has built a synergistic company in the fullest sense of the word.

About Ergon - West Virginia, Inc.

Ergon - West Virginia acquired the refinery at Newell, West Virginia, from Quaker State in July 1997. Originally built in 1972, current process capacity is 23,500 barrels per day of crude oil. In addition to traditional fuel products, the Newell refinery utilizes high-pressure hydrotreating and methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) dewaxing technologies to produce highly refined specialty petroleum products from locally gathered crude oil. Ergon - West Virginia maintains ISO 9001 quality management accreditation.





Groundbreaking Work

Ergon - West Virginia's Co-Op Program aims to identify and mentor the cream of the crop of tomorrow's leaders in the workforce. Co-Ops are afforded the opportunity to plan and manage a wide variety of work within Ergon's disciplines.



Mechanical/Civil/Electrical Engineering

Responsibilities within these disciplines include systems design, cost estimation, project justification, contractor selection and construction management for all assigned refining projects. Co-Ops are given individual assignments to develop or improve refinery systems, including assisting with troubleshooting day-to-day piping and mechanical systems issues.

Process (Chemical) Engineering

Process and Chemical Engineers at Ergon - West Virginia are responsible for monitoring, evaluating and optimizing the various process units and systems involved with refining crude oil into useful, specialized products. Process Engineering duties generally include gathering, analyzing, synthesizing and reporting process data used to evaluate facility performance and to identify opportunities for improvement. Process Engineering Co-Ops will gain valuable experience supporting unit operators and maintenance personnel in troubleshooting issues, participating in process safety and environmental risk assessments, conducting research on process enhancements and new technologies, and collaborating with cross-functional teams to design and implement projects. Co-Ops will also work closely with Process Control Engineers and Analytical Laboratory Personnel, learning to utilize and apply powerful process automation and safeguarding techniques, and digging into the finer details and possibilities of benchtop lab instrumentation and wet chemistry methods.

Environmental, Health & Safety

Ergon - West Virginia's Operational Excellence Department consists of the Process Safety Management, Continuous Improvement and the Environmental, Health & Safety (EHS) groups. EHS Co-Ops will work closely with the EHS Supervisor, Environmental Coordinator and the EHS Technicians to ensure that the refinery is operated in a safe, reliable and compliant manner. EHS Co-Ops with an environmental concentration will gain valuable experience in the gathering of data, records and information for projects and reports for the Environmental Protection Agency/West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. They will assist in the monitoring and documentation of environmental emissions and the operation, troubleshooting, testing, sampling and monitoring of the wastewater treatment unit. EHS Co-Ops with a safety and health concentration will participate in incident investigations, perform safety equipment inventory and function tests, and conduct site safety and contractor audits. Additional Co-Op responsibilities include assisting with industrial hygiene studies (noise surveys, air monitoring, passive sampling, etc.), development and implementation of emergency response plans and tabletop exercises, and conducting plant tours for stakeholders.



Ergon - West Virginia's Co-Ops contribute real work to real projects and are treated as equal team members. This means access to some of the same benefits as full-time employees and more!

Along with the benefits listed at right comes the chance to connect with a diverse group of people, building relationships that extend beyond day-to-day business communication into a real family culture. After all, family is what Ergon is all about.







Benefits Include:

- Private Office Space
- Competitive Pay
- Networking Opportunities
- Company-Provided Uniforms, Boots and PPE
- Company-Provided, Furnished Apartment





The Co-Op Experience

Ergon - West Virginia's Co-Ops are assigned projects within their first few weeks at Ergon. Through hands-on experience, they are able to learn and retain necessary skills for effectively moving forward in their careers.

"From day one as a Co-Op at Ergon, Ergon's core values were evident. I was empowered to contribute immediately, respected as a team member and mentored by selfless leaders, kickstarting my personal and professional growth and development. By being given meaningful, impactful work, I learned more within my first semester at Ergon than throughout all of my schooling. By the end of my third semester as a Co-Op, I was given the same set of responsibilities as a full-time engineer. I have no doubt that I would not be where I am or who I am today without my Co-Op experience at Ergon."

DYLAN BEECH, VP/Plant Manager, former Co-Op

"My Co-Op experience at Ergon provided me with a good foundation to start as a full-time process engineer. At Ergon, I was able to work on meaningful projects that were implemented within the process. For me, the part of Ergon's Co-Op Program that set it apart from other Co-Op roles was the hands-on responsibilities that I was given. While on site, I got to see the inside of vessels, towers and heat exchangers, all of which I would have never imagined seeing as a Co-Op. Seeing all the equipment in person, not just in a textbook, provided me with new knowledge and a unique perspective that I took back to my classes and, eventually, my full-time role. Ergon values their Co-Ops and is willing to give them responsibility that can turn into excellent learning opportunities."

SPENCER CONAWAY, Process Engineer, former Co-Op

"During my Co-Op term at Ergon - West Virginia, I was challenged to become a better Engineer and employee. This rewarding experience was rich in learning and growth, as I was given technical assignments that matched my skillset and the opportunity to build purposeful relationships with employees at the refinery. The fast-paced and exciting environment propelled me to improve and adapt to learning new information quickly and thoroughly. I learned that true engineering success lies in balancing efficiency with the unwavering commitment to protecting people, the environment and the systems we rely on."

JANELLE PEZZUTTI, Process Engineer, former Co-Op









Join the Ergon Family

If you're interested in joining our family of innovative and driven employees, email us at EWVCoOp@ergon.com.
We're eager to provide you with the support and experience you need to successfully build your own career opportunities.

