MADE SMARTER

Digital Technology Internship Placement

Employer Information:

'Made Smarter' is a Government funded programme, matching your expertise, skills, and insight to help North West businesses implement digital tools. You will be working on a live project while gaining valuable experience for your C.V.

Placements are open to 3rd and 4th Year Undergrads, MSc, and Postgraduate Students

Placement Information

Job Title:	**Robotics and Process Control Automation Project** **Reference: 19438Z**
Business Overview	The company are an online retailer of own-branded skincare and cosmetics, who are moving towards manufacturing in-house. They distribute and retail a range of skincare, haircare, and shaving solutions that are kind to you, your skin, and the planet. Currently they supply predominantly to consumers via their website and wish to scale up via retailers and distributors.
Location:	Stockport, SK1 3BJ
Number of posts:	ONE
Job Description:	**Project Overview:** The client is looking to create an A-Frame picking machine that will be used by the logistics team to pick the order contents and therefore improve speed and accuracy. Such a machine will greatly improve the picking performance and accuracy which in turn will increase customer satisfaction by reducing despatching time and errors. This type of equipment is already available from a small number of manufacturers, but the investment required has been quoted circa £1m with annual maintenance costs of roughly £50k. The company has been proactive in digitalisation of their systems and has adopted digital packing slips soon after incorporation but has now outgrown this technology and is looking to make its first steps in automation. **The work plan:** 1. Liaise with the company CTO to establish the requirements 2. Review an existing Proof-of-Concept machine 3. Discuss possible design improvements

	4. Extend and improve upon the machine so it can handle many products per dispenser (currently limited to around 5 due to lack of power in the motors) 5. Scale up the machine so it can support many SKUs (Dispensers) 6. Integrate the picking machine with the digital ordering system. From the above key areas, points 1-4 should be phase 1 of the project and result in a fully functional machine. This is the most time-consuming part of the project and is likely to take up to 6-8 weeks. Once phase 1 is complete, the logistics team will start using the machine to fulfil orders and identify potential design flaws. Once any bugs and issues have been identified and rectified, phase 2 can commence. In this phase, any design issues should be rectified and the machine should be scaled to support a larger number of SKUs (dispensers). This phase is likely to take 2-4 weeks.
Expected areas of knowledge:	• Good understanding of mechatronic devices such as dc motors and gear boxes. • Good understanding of microcontroller programming. • Be pro-active and independent learners with an aptitude toward problem solving. • Good communication skills and ability to understand and tailor to complicated requirements. The intern should enjoy working with mechatronic systems and sensors and ideally have some experience in developing such systems.
Salary:	£12.00 p/h (£5,760 per placement)
How to apply:	By email to the Organisation and Workforce Development team at Made Smarter : ruth.hailwood@growthco.uk, jude.honeyman@growthco.uk, michael.hayes@growthco.uk
Placement Start Date:	Oct 2021
Duration of Placement:	480 Hours on a full-time, part-time, or flexible schedule
Additional Info:	You will be required to register your interest in a Digital Technology Internship with Made Smarter on our website at: www.madesmarter.uk C.V's can be uploaded at the point of registration or forwarded directly. Your details will be stored to allow us to contact you for any future suitable opportunities.