Corporate Social Responsibility Internship
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BACKGROUND

Company: Standard Textile
Standard Textile designs, manufactures, and distributes textiles for healthcare, hospitality, interiors, and consumer markets worldwide, including products such as bedding, surgical gowns, towels, blankets, and window treatments. It has more than 80 patents and has been a privately held family company since its founding in 1940.

Location: Cincinnati, Ohio
The internship was partially remote and partially in-person at the corporate headquarters in Cincinnati, OH.

How did I find the job?
I found and applied for the internship online, on Handshake. I had not heard of Standard Textile prior to applying and searched for “sustainability internships”.

ON THE JOB: RESPONSIBILITIES

Sustainability Certification Research
- Evaluated the requirements, costs and benefits for various sustainability-related textile product and manufacturing certifications

Chemical Compliance: Proposition 65
- Contacted suppliers to update health and safety records for products requiring consumer health warnings

Drafted the Internal Supply Chain Newsletter

Associate Safety – Trainings and Tracking
- Created content for safety trainings designed for both the corporate and manufacturing settings
- Tracked data from employee’s suggestions for safety improvements

Researched Supplier Diversity
- Evaluated over 2000 businesses that Standard Textile interacts with and supports, identifying minority, woman, or veteran-owned businesses

Organized a Volunteering Event
- Created plans for all interns to volunteer at a local food bank

Workplace Sustainability Challenge
- Developed communications and programming in order to launch company-wide sustainability challenge

REFLECTION

I really enjoyed working as an intern at Standard Textile this past summer! This internship solidified my interest in my Business and Sustainability specialization. In the future, I will focus my future job search on sustainability and environmental positions at businesses, especially ones with opportunities for tangible sustainability improvements. For anyone looking for an internship, my advice would be to apply to any job postings from businesses that interest you. You never know what will materialize!

Major Takeaways:
- Allowed me to learn how sustainability can be integrated into business operations
- Experience in a corporate office setting as well as with remote work