

INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL TECHNICIAN

Job Description: Nearly all large-scale energy development companies utilize specialized measurement and control equipment in their operations. This equipment provides vital information to indicate that the machines and equipment in a plant are operating properly and safely. An increasing number of individuals are needed to ensure measurement equipment and control systems are maintained and working properly. Duties in this occupation include:



- Calibrating and repairing instruments and associated equipment
- Working with electronic control systems including microprocessors, sensors, and final control elements used in automated processes
- Measuring levels, pressures, temperatures, flow, and analytical processes
- Testing instrumentation and control systems and maintaining test equipment
- Coordinating crew activities as required and maintaining records and files
- Consulting manuals, reading and interpreting circuit diagrams, blueprints, and schematics
- Repairing and adjusting system components or removing and replacing defective parts
- Installing control and measurement instruments on existing or new plant equipment

Needed Skills and Education: An individual in this occupation should possess good communication, teamwork, and interpersonal skills. They should also possess electrical and mechanical skills and have the ability to problem solve. Familiarity with plant operations, instrumentation and control systems, and computer programs are important. A high school or GED diploma is required for entry-level positions. Most employers prefer to hire someone with at least a two-year associate degree in engineering technology or a related field. Community colleges and postsecondary vocational-technical schools offer certificate programs and two-year associate degrees, which greatly enhance employment opportunities and pay.

Wages: Specific information on North Dakota wages for this position is not currently available. National average annual wages are approximately \$53,500, with an average hourly wage of \$25.71.

Other Information: The nature of this work requires constant training and learning to keep up with new technology. The employment outlook nationally is for slow but steady growth.

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