



Sloan Career Cornerstone Center

Profiles of Electrical Engineers and Computer Scientists



George Hamasaki

**Electrical Systems Engineer
Boeing Commercial Airplane Group
Seattle, WA**

Education:

B.A. - Electrical Engineering, Oregon State University
M.S. - Electrical Engineering, University of Washington

Job Description:

Electrical Systems Engineer, serving as the Lead Engineer over a Proximity Sensing System Group.

Advice to Students:

"Engineers who find administration and business unappealing may need to change positions or companies for one where they can do the technical work."

Video Transcript 1:

"I like to do a lot of things outdoors. And, you know to me, there's more opportunities up here in the northwest than down in Silicon Valley in terms of skiing and you know, mountaineering things which is what I'm pretty active in now."

Interview:

One of the things that attracted George Hamasaki to Boeing was its location. Although Seattle is a long way from his native Hawaii, it combines a job and a lifestyle that are right for him. Not only is the pace of life more human than in the Silicon Valley, but also he can spend his personal time skiing and mountaineering. In fact, Hamasaki's expectations when he came out of college and took his first job did not match the realities of the working world. He expected to find "the type of atmosphere the school portrayed. . .in the sense that he had a lot of laughs and he did a lot of calculations and technical things in order to figure out why things were happening a certain way." Instead, he found himself much less involved in technical issues "because a lot of the other suppliers and vendors do the actual designing," and he "ended up just giving requirements instead of doing the technical work."

Hamasaki believes that engineers who find administration and business unappealing may need to change positions or companies for one where they can do the technical work. For others, time brings a different perspective. "As you grow and you get to understand more about

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what your work's all about, your focus shifts and you start to realize, 'Well, maybe this is something I may want to do as a career.'

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