Sloan Career Cornerstone Center

Profiles of Mathematicians

Jon Hamilton

Research Associate
Eastman Kodak Company
Rochester, NY

Education:
B.A. - Mathematics, Cornell University
M.S. - Mathematics, Indiana University
Ph.D. - Mathematics, Indiana University

Job Description:
Research Associate, working in Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories division, providing research support to scientists at Kodak.

Advice to Students:
"Most companies don't expect you to already know their business. They will teach you that."

Comments:
John discovered during writing his Ph.D. dissertation that, while he was successful at proving theorems, he actually preferred solving problems of a more practical nature.

Video Transcript 1:
"I think for working in Industry with Mathematics, I think you should definitely be familiar with Linear Algebra and Calculus, the basic undergraduate curriculum. You should be ready to learn a number of other areas, details in other areas, whether it's Optics or Physics or Chemistry, other things that may be involved with the industrial activity that you're associated with. Almost certainly using a computer will be involved so having computer skills, enough to be able to learn other computer skills. Most companies don't expect you to already know their business. They will teach you that."

Video Transcript 2:
"I spend a lot of it right here or in someone else's office that looks very much like this. The problems that we work on, the digital imaging problems, we can review on our computer screens, we modify algorithms, we work on removing artifacts, we can do that all right here. This is the laboratory for digital imaging. But being a Mathematician, a laboratory is the blackboard, it's the clipboard, it's the computer."