



Master of  
Industrial Distribution  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# MID

# Success Stories

AGGIE GRADUATES IN INDUSTRY

Q&A with



**Rick Knuble**

MID Class 2012

HI&I Industry Manager

Brenntag Southwest

### What did you like best about MID?

*“Exposure to supply chain from an academic and real world learning environment.”*

### Were you able to implement any knowledge at work immediately?

*“Yes. I was able to justify and hire a logistics coordinator to increase efficiency and reduce waste, sustainable 20K savings month to month.”*

### From the time you heard about the MID program, how long did it take you to decide to apply?

*“I was looking for an advanced degree for about 10 years. Was looking for a program that fit my academic and career goals, and maintain a professional career.”*

### Did you benefit from RES Week? If so how?

*“Absolutely. Res week is pivotal for MID Experience. Allows you to meet your cohort face to face and helps kick off the semesters and enhanced connectivity.”*

### What was your takeaways from Res Week?

*“The diversity of students within MID Program - from a commercial background it was very interesting and engaging to learn from and interact with folks from different disciplines. The trip demonstrated that the level of instruction is world class. I was able to hold discussions and be on equal level with professionals abroad.”*

### Where was your global trip to?

*“Spain and Portugal – Trane, an Ingersoll Rand Co.”*



### What experiences did you value from that trip?

*“I was able to validate the skillsets learned about world business practice and how it differs from domestic business.”*

### What was your favorite aspect of the Global Class?

*“Meetings with Trane in Madrid and the dinner El Botin (in business since 1725).”*



### What was your capstone?

*"Sales force stratification."*

### Did you implement?

*"Presented to Brenntag Leadership and processes were adopted throughout the US."*

### After MID, did you get any pay increases, promotions, recognition?

*"Yes - I earned a promotion, and a good portion of my promotion was based on total performance enhancements implemented through MID skillsets learned."*

### Do you utilize skillsets on a day-to-day basis that you mastered in the MID?

*"Yes, Everyday. I interface with the supply chain daily. I can talk and understand their needs to discuss business at their level which has made me more successful."*



### What advice would you give someone who is thinking about a master degree?

*"Make sure the master degree fits your job and what you want to do. A master degree alone will not pay dividends, it has to be one that impacts your career and matches your goals and needs."*

### What advice would you give to someone that is entering for the MID?

*"Make sure to go in with an open mind and explore other disciplines within the supply chain that you currently have limited knowledge of. Gain a holistic view of the supply chain will that allow you to see where you fit in the Supply Chain and allow you to grow."*

### What advice would you give someone about their capstone projects?

*"When selecting a capstone, make sure that you select a topic that you are interested in and have support from steering committee (company leadership)."*

### If you could do anything different in the MID program, what would it be?

*"I regret not getting to know more of my peers."*

### Have you kept in contact with any of your peers?

*"Yes."*



If so, is it on a professional or personal level?

*"Both."*

Do you believe the curriculum was sufficient to prepare you for the next steps in your career?

*"Yes - the blend of academia and real world experiences far exceeded my expectations and allowed me to be successful in future positions!"*

How much time per week did you dedicate to the MID program?

*"2 Hours per day."*

Did the MID program structure compliment your personal and professional lifestyle?

*"YES. The MID Structure makes it possible for a working professional to balance work, school, and family life."*

If you could summarize your MID experience, now that it has been completed, how would you do so?

*"For me, the MID program bridged the gap between theory and real world implementation."*





This is what success looks like.



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To learn more about the program, application requirements and information sessions, visit us at:

[mid.tamu.edu](http://mid.tamu.edu)