

Alejandro Valdes

Process Control Engineer

Why did you join Air Products?

My prior professional experience has dealt with specific equipment design used as components in a plant environment. Joining Air Products provided an opportunity to participate in the design of multiple equipment and the added benefit of getting feedback from operating plants on existing designs and new design concepts.

Why do you love working at Air Products?

- The engineering culture targets to optimize designs and workflows, but safety is never compromised, regardless of project objectives.
- Air Products is a first-class engineering outfit, where teamwork is key in achieving goals.
- Experience and knowledge is shared within the group without reservation.
- My manager promotes a cooperative team environment.

What is it that keeps you working at Air Products?

- Air Products' commitment is to be the safest and most profitable industrial gas company in the world.
- There are unique daily challenges and tasks.
- One becomes an integral part of the decision-making process.
- Individual effort is encouraged, and when needed, my department provides the additional support required to maintain projects on track.
- Team performance is recognized and rewarded.
- My manager's approach to workload issues is to "divide and conquer" as a team.
- It is not unusual for me to see my manager roll up his sleeves and work alongside me or share field responsibilities when I need help.

Please describe (in brief) your career at Air Products to date.

I am a Sr. Process Controls Engineer specializing in instrumentation and controls. At times, I have been the expert in some areas and a collaborator in multiple teams.

In the office, my responsibilities include control valves sizing, specifying instrumentation and control systems, developing burner management and safety systems, control panel designs, logic design, wiring schematics, specifying major equipment, to name a few tasks.

In the field, typical tasks include equipment inspection, factory acceptance testing, site acceptance testing, validation, field calibrations, startup assistance, redesign existing systems,

installation and code compliance verification.

Being fluent in Spanish and Portuguese has helped the department to deal with commercial and technical clarifications in projects and proposal work.

Tell me about the most intriguing/satisfying thing(s) you've since you've been at Air Products.

It is rewarding to see how my engineering decisions and designs have helped resolve major technical and financial hurdles of a project.

What career advice would you give to those just starting out in their engineering careers?

Engineers are decision makers. Do not wait for others to think for you. Along with problems, bring potential solutions to the table. Be humble, participate, observe, listen more and talk less. We define our future, there is help along the way, continue to learn, excel and earn your place. Participate and be part of the solution.