



Rafael Paredes

Global Operational Excellence Master Black Belt

Why did you join Air Products?

I was looking for a company where I could take my career to the next level. But at the same time, I was looking to have the right work/life balance. Air Products has given me the opportunity to be challenged and develop professionally while having the flexibility to balance my personal life.

Why do you love working at Air Products? What is it that keeps you working at Air Products?

I love Air Products people and the culture. At Air Products, we are focused on remaining the world's most profitable industrial gases company. We create a challenging environment where we want our employees to thrive. We also create an environment where we foster relationships, and we deeply care for the people we work with.

Briefly describe your career at Air Products to date.

I started as a Master Black Belt in North America and was soon promoted to a Global Master Black Belt. During my tenure, I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many different engineers around the world and have been part of many amazing projects.

How does what you do contribute to sustainability?

I work with our distribution and logistics teams to find ways to reduce miles driven and increase the miles per gallon of our liquid and bulk gas product delivery vehicles.

What the most intriguing/satisfying thing(s) you've experienced at Air Products?

I led and worked with a team of scientists to develop and implement cutting-edge plant optimization systems and strategies.

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

As engineers, we are trained to constantly develop our technical skills. But don't forget to also develop your people skills.