



## Q & A with Young Professional: Chase Carper, CMMS Engineer II

At NEXA | EAM, we're proud of our employees, and find it encouraging, in particular, to watch those embarking on their careers face challenges head-on in the fast-paced, complex life sciences industry. We're thrilled to launch a new series of one-on-one interviews with our employees offering their insights, experiences, and (life) lessons learned.



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### What inspired you to pursue a career in Instrumentation?

My older cousin inspired me. Before he even graduated college, he was getting offered numerous internships. I saw the potential, particularly since there aren't a lot of job opportunities in Virginia, and I really felt I'd enjoy doing it. I earned my AAS degree in Instrumentation & Control Automation Technology, with a minor in Electricity.

### What's your favorite part of your role?

There's a lot of field learning on the job, and it's very unique because there can be so many unknowns when you first walk onto a project. I continue to be amazed about everything it takes to do what the NEXA team accomplishes for its customers. So much goes into migrating data from a paper-based system into a paperless CCMS (Computerized Calibration Management System) and ensuring it's accurate—it's a big process. I didn't realize how much was involved until I started. And it's fun to see the end product and gratifying when we have a satisfied customer.

### What have you learned so far?

People skills—that's a big one. When conducting field verifications, it's important to find the right people to help you that work on the customer site and to learn from their knowledge. So much of a successful project starts with building a rapport with their team. It's so much smoother to get buy-in at the beginning. Once you know they are on board, it's quick and efficient, and they are happy with the results.

### What's your most proud career moment or a challenge overcome (while at NEXA)?

Before I started on the animal health facility project, I was on a project in Pennsylvania a little over a year ago, and we migrated the data for approximately 65,000 instruments located in approximately 85 separate buildings. It was a big job.

We conducted field verifications to either identify, locate and/or retire instruments and then needed to ensure their calibration compliance in their paperless CCMS. Once completed, we handed it over to our customer as the system was ready for their team to use, and it was much more efficient. Before this, results were tracked on paper, forms filled out, and physically filed away. Now with the new paperless system, calibrations are filed forever. It improves record-keeping, and supports FDA audit compliance as there is now traceability and accountability.

### What do you enjoy most about working at NEXA?

I'm entrusted with a lot of responsibilities, especially with this new project. I like the career opportunities and enjoy the challenges. It gives me confidence that they trust me and encourages me to want to work harder. When the Pennsylvania project was nearing down, NEXA was looking for volunteers to relocate to the Midwest, so I told them, "If you need me, I'll do it".

### What's the one key thing you want to achieve in 2022?

My supervisor, Frances Aponte-Diaz, is a good mentor, and I want to continue to grow as a person and always be learning. With every new project, there's always more to know about this industry. I want to continue to keep getting the work done on time, meeting with our clients, and leading projects.

### What's a fun fact that people may be surprised to know about you?

I'm a skilled carpenter—I learned from an experienced carpenter while working my way through college. During Covid, I bought, renovated, and (unexpectedly) flipped a house back in Virginia. I learned so much about remodeling in a year in a half than I've learned my entire life. So many small details to know that you never think of until you have to do it.