



MID Student Spotlight

Jason Price, MID '22



Why did you choose the MID program?

In 2014, I graduated from Texas A&M's Industrial Distribution program. I was familiar with the program while attending Texas A&M, but it wasn't until I began working in the industry that I realized the prestige and success of MID graduates. *My decision came down to an MBA or MID. After a phone call with a close family member and fellow graduate of the MID program, I saw the*

benefits of getting a specialized degree without compromising the knowledge learned from an MBA.

How has this program helped advance your career?

Since graduating the MID Program, I was promoted to a senior-level role and I am now the youngest manager on the project team. The time spent and success achieved further proved to management that I am dedicated to the team and making my company better.

Explain how the MID program prepared you to be a better leader?

One of the highlights the MID program offers is splitting the cohort into groups. Team members come from different backgrounds and industries and bring with them certain sets of strengths and weaknesses. *Identifying people's strengths and weaknesses and using them to advance towards a goal is a skill I have improved while in the program. I use this same principle at work to make other people successful.* Frequent successes build up over time and it positively affects the overall well-being of the company.

What was your favorite course, and why?

Every class provided a unique experience, but one that I found interesting was IDIS 689 - Leading People and Managing Performance. Companies often fail when developing their human capital. For example, investing in career development and talent retention. *This course did a great job going into the theories around these subjects and the best solutions from leaders in the industry.*

How was your experience at Residency Week?

Residency Week was one of my favorite times in the program. *It allowed everyone to put a face to the names we see on screens every day, as well as build personal relationships.* And of course, nothing beats spending a week in College Station!

Tell us about your Capstone Project. Why did you choose your topic and what was the process for coming up with a potential solution to your challenge?

My MID capstone focused on sustainability in the fabrication yard, two topics I knew very little about before the program. The second phase of the project was implementing a sustainable effort to reduce our emissions footprint. My project explores alternative fuels, technologies, and equipment acquisition options to find the best fit solution for McDermott. I worked closely with our sustainability team, operations managers, construction managers, buyers, global suppliers, and my manager to build a case to sell outdated cranes for newer, energy-efficient ones. *The results led to future implementation plans and a consulting role for our sustainability team.*

What was your favorite aspect of the MID program?

My favorite aspect of the program was meeting the people in my cohort and the lifelong friends I gained. *Everyone brings a different perspective to the table and it made the discussion board posts exciting.* It gave people a platform to have civil discussions with differing viewpoints and then find a middle ground when both parties could agree.