

# CEFGA IBUILD

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## CEFGA Connects Moultrie Tech Grad with Unger Electric

By Stephanie DiLorio

For 20-year-old Corey Bailey, finding a job just two weeks after completing the Electrical Construction and Maintenance program at Moultrie Technical College seemed like a stroke of good luck. Corey’s instructor Jason Edwards, however, would describe it as anything but luck.

In the fall of 2008 Corey arrived at Moultrie Tech with clear direction for his career, ambition, and experience as a regional

winner and state championship competitor in the SkillsUSA program.

“Corey stood out immediately. He is a very bright kid,” says Mr. Edwards. “He has an outstanding work ethic and was an active participant in class. It was Corey who always asked what’s next? What are we doing today?”

Throughout the program Corey consistently delivered on his good first impression. He translated his passion for

the construction industry into performance, scoring high on tests, showing leadership on the SkillsUSA team, and building good relationships with his classmates. When Mr. Edwards found out about a potential job opportunity at Unger Electric in October 2009, he connected Corey to Unger Electric through CEFGA board member Rick Vickery of Rogers Construction Co.

## 'The type of candidate we like to hire ...'

Based in Tucker, Unger Electric manages projects all over the Southeast, and has recently begun working internationally, with a new project in Haiti. Company Superintendent Britt Unger looks to industry contacts for referrals when hiring, giving Corey a leg up in the process. "Corey's the type of candidate we like to hire – someone who has a good foundation in construction education. We want someone who shows openness to being trained to our standards of quality and safety," says Mr. Unger.



"He's got great people skills and passion-- I could easily see him as a job superintendent. Maybe he'll even become a contractor himself."

Beating out two other candidates for the job, Corey began his first project at Magnolia Manor, a ninety-bed nursing home. Corey knew he would "learn a lot" on his first project, which will be completed this summer, and says it has been "exactly what he expected," with new challenges to build his knowledge and skills daily.

Only seven months into the business, Corey is off to a good start. His project supervisor, Mark Berry, reports that Corey has adapted quickly to the world of work. "He's dependable and a quick learner," says Mr. Berry. "He does anything I ask him to do. For his level of experience, Corey is doing quite well."

Working with his hands, preferably outdoors, and variety in

tasks are important to Corey, making electrical contracting a good career choice for him. "I've loved every minute of it", he says.

Corey is the type of person who approaches life and work with gusto. He coaches soccer at Brooks County High School, his alma mater, and enjoys reading, playing guitar, and hanging out with his friends. His parents are supportive of his chosen career, seeing potential for growth and moving up in the industry.

Mr. Edwards predicts a bright future for Corey, saying, "He's determined, reliable--the type of person who's never met a stranger. He's got great people skills and passion-- I could easily see him as a job superintendent. Maybe he'll even become a contractor himself."

Corey certainly has plans. In the next five years, he wants to get his electrical license and gain the experience he needs to manage projects. "Eventually, I'd like to buy my own house and start a family," Corey says. With his positive attitude, intelligence and work ethic, bets are he will.

The construction program at Moultrie Tech is the first technical college program in the state of Georgia to achieve CEFGA and NCCER Accreditation. To read more about CEFGA and NCCER Accreditation, please visit [www.cefga.org](http://www.cefga.org)