

THE WHOLE WORLD IS MY WORKPLACE

I began my career at Promeco in 2014 as an assembly mechanic at our Jämijärvi, Finland facility. I next briefly worked as a test engineer in Vaasa, Finland for a few weeks, but was soon offered the position of Assembly Engineer, working on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) projects – mainly assembling and installing a range of Promeco products and systems all around the world.

This was in the spring of 2015, and over a year later I still put on my gloves and safety shoes the same was every morning – but my current title is Site Engineer.

Completing a SOLAS installation is a team effort, from start to finish. And in most cases the ‘team’ is not only a small group of employees – but the entire Promeco factory. The process begins with planning and scheduling, then designing and manufacturing, including all the welding, grinding, assembling, checking and double-checking – and much more. And the product is only one part of it. We have to assemble the right people for installing the products, acquiring the tools, and agreeing on the schedule. And of course we have to ship the pieces, products and our even our own professionals overseas, where they assemble, measure, fine-tune, and improve the final product. Then we return home – and we start all over again.

Within the last 14 months I have travelled with our mechanics and engineers around the world: Mexico, The USA, India and Sri Lanka. At times the work is taxing, but the challenges are the best part. I’m the kind of person who wants to face challenges in my work, both physical and mental, because the best way to improve is to be challenged professionally every day – whether I’m expecting it or not.

Even though my career is just beginning, I’ve been fortunate to take part in a wide variety of projects. These have ranged from long-term projects that demand a great deal of time and effort, to smaller, quick repairs.

Looking forward, I already know that in the next four months I will be at sea for at least 10 weeks in the Mediterranean, and also working in Africa and The USA. And more might still be coming, not to mention the entire year ahead. I can honestly say that I feel very lucky to be in this situation at this point of my life – and the opportunities ahead seem nearly limitless.

Antero Tolvanen

Educational degree: Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering

Job title: Global Site Engineer

Time with Promeco: Two and a half years