First Intern in NAMILCO Guyana

As some of you have heard - SOTG is developing an operational internship program for college students! The program will focus on students in their junior or senior year that are studying to obtain their bachelor’s degree in Grain Milling Science or Feed Science at Kansas State University. K-State has one of the best milling science programs in the world and is located just two hours from our corporate office in Kansas City, this program is a great way to get the Seaboard name out there.

The program will consist of a two week internship during a student’s winter break in January and a more traditional summer internship that will allow a student to spend approximately three months at their host location. “We have long desired to have students from the Milling Sciences go to our international operations to learn more about Milling Sciences throughout the world and this program brings those with the interest of learning abroad to Seaboard”, Brad Warner stated.

SOTG’s mission for this internship program is to provide interns with memorable experiences and valuable knowledge for their college and professional career. We have the ability to offer a unique overseas experience that many companies in our industry cannot offer; students that have an interest in living or working abroad can benefit from this program.

SOTG kicked off the program in January 2017 with our first participant Keaton Hale. Keaton is a senior at Kansas State University, studying milling science and management and plans to graduate in December 2017.

While on winter break, Keaton spent approximately two weeks at NAMILCO Guyana working primarily with Ralf Hemsing and Bharat Harjohn in the Operations Department. Some of his duties included:

- Assisting the millers with break releases
- Verifying the accuracy of the flow diagram
- Adjustments to the mill rolls to improve efficiency
- Identifying areas for improvement within the mill and packaging departments
- Producing a flow diagram from AutoCAD for finished product handling
- Evaluating grinding and sifting efficiency by running sieve tests

During his stay in Georgetown, Keaton also had the opportunity to explore the city and experience the culture around him. Keaton mentioned he enjoyed trying traditional food from the region like Labba (Giant rat), iguana, fresh fish, calamari, plantains, lamb, and more.

“Everyone there (NAMILCO) treated me incredibly kind and provided me with an experience of a life time”, Keaton said.
When asked about the overall experience, Ralf Hemsing, Operations Manager at NAMILCO said “Mr. Hale has a great future ahead of him judging by the short time he was with us. Hosting an intern is beneficial to all parties involved”.

Upon Keaton’s return to Kansas, SOTG granted him with a $1500 scholarship for completing this internship program. Keaton is pictured here with Dr. Jon Faubion, Scholarship Committee Chair for the Grain Milling Science department at K-State.

We look forward to our next intern, Addi Marston who will be completing an internship at NAMILCO Zambia over the summer. Addi is a senior at K-State studying Animal Science and Feed Science. Her internship will be focused more on the feed operations for NAMILCO.