

Rig Technician Duties

Rig Technicians operate oil and gas drilling rigs. The trade includes the occupations of Motorhand, Derrickhand and Driller.

A Rig Technician possesses:

- Mechanical abilities
- Great problem solving skills
- The ability to think on his/her feet
- Team work skills with the ability to take direction
- Supervisory skills with the ability to give direction and helpful feedback
- Comfort with travel and remote locations

Drilling rig employment involves:

- Working at heights
- Lifting long sections of steel pipe
- Maintaining and operating rotating machinery
- Handling high pressure hydraulics and pumps
- Managing and controlling gases, liquids, and sometimes explosives
- Operating multi-million dollar machinery using the latest technology, both computerized and mechanical.

"I love being part of the drilling industry. It is growing all the time and there are so many paths I can take."

The Rig Technician trade is the same across all provinces that offer it. Information can be found on the following provincial apprenticeship websites:

Alberta - www.tradesecrets.org

B.C. - www.itabc.ca

Sask. - www.apprenticeshipworks.ca

For information about getting started in the Drilling Industry, visit

www.caodc.ca



Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors

800, 540 – 5 Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB

Thank you for sharing your photos:

Akita Drilling Ltd., Chinook Drilling, Ensign Resource Service Group, Stoneham Drilling Ltd., Nabors Drilling

Questions? Comments?

Email: trades@caodc.ca



Joining the trade

Earn Your Journeyman Ticket on the Rigs!



The drilling industry plays a vital role in the search for crude oil and natural gas in Canada. It is on the "front line" of exploration and is growing both in size and in sophistication.

Drilling has evolved into a very technical and innovative industry. Canada's drilling contractors are multi-million dollar businesses and employ thousands of people on hundreds of rigs.

Rig crews operate and maintain the drilling machinery. To do this, each crewmember is required to master a unique skill set so that the rig crew gets the job done efficiently.



Who Should Inquire?

Individuals looking to start a new career or build on existing skills.

Experienced drilling rig workers wanting to challenge the program to obtain their journeyman certificate.

Experienced drilling rig workers wanting to challenge a portion of the program and complete the program sooner.

Usually a rig crew is structured as follows:

		Rig Manager		
RIG TECHS	Driller	Driller	Driller	Driller
	Derrickhand	Derrickhand	Derrickhand	Derrickhand
	Motorhand	Motorhand	Motorhand	Motorhand
	Floorhand	Floorhand	Floorhand	Floorhand
	Leasehand	Leasehand	Leasehand	Leasehand

Rig Tech Apprentices

The Rig Tech trade includes:

- Oil and Gas Rig Technician Level 1 (Motorhand)
- Oil and Gas Rig Technician Level 2 (Derrickhand)
- Oil and Gas Rig Technician Level 3 (Driller)

There are two components to each level:

- On-the-Job Training (1500 hours over 12 months)
- Technical Training (4 weeks at a technical school)

Prerequisite:

- Floorhand experience is required to work as a Motorhand.

Benefits

- A full-time paycheck while apprenticing!
- An exciting and rewarding career path!
- Being part of Canada's trade's community!

"I'm 22 years old and have my career set. I just bought my first house. None of my friends can say the same thing."

For more information on drilling rig crews, go to www.caodc.ca or request the brochure *A Career in the Drilling Industry*.

