



## EPISODE 16: SHOW NOTES AND ACTION ITEMS

In Episode 16, we heard how vitally important it is for technicians to gather data, present information, and balance the technical aspects of a project with the business considerations as well as perform what are considered more traditional technical skills. They also must be able to work in cross-functional teams. Matthew Carter from Cook Medical, <https://www.cookmedical.com/> notes that medical device manufacturing is not different from other industries in at least one regard: as quality demands continue to increase, the consistency of the product is very important. He adds that the data, the technology, and the people work together like gears interacting with one another. Additionally, as companies become more global, team members aren't in the same room or even the same country so collaboration becomes a crucial skill.

Use this podcast as a springboard for this episode's action item. Develop a project for a cross-disciplinary/cross-functional student team. (The project can be anything that requires collaboration for problem-solving or critical thinking.) If your program is in automation, make contact with other faculty in departments like IT or Biotechnology. Collaborate as faculty to form joint project-based teams. This might even be easier today in the world of online and Zoom interactions. Importantly, ask an industry partner to serve as an advisor with the specific idea of integrating the business implications into the project. By doing this you will be preparing students for today and the future.