

## Telecommunications Student Profile

~ Mike Oberholtzer ~

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My name is Mike Oberholtzer and I am a graduate of the SAIT Telecommunications Technology program. I really enjoyed my college experience at SAIT. I have had a very exciting and rewarding career, ever since I graduated, in 2001.

After graduating high school, I found myself working a lot of dead-end jobs. I wasn't sure what to do with my life, but I knew I was going nowhere. A friend told me about SAIT, and that they had a lot of great programs there. I had always been interested in communications, and when I saw the Telecommunications technology program, I knew this was for me!

**Mike Oberholtzer NorthwesTel Iqaluit,  
Nunavut – SAIT Telecom Grad - 2001**

I learned many valuable skills in my 2 years at SAIT, thanks to the great instruction I received from my teachers. It always felt like the staff had time to help each student with whatever questions they had. The hands-on lab experience, along with the excellent classroom teachings, gave me a great knowledge-base on which to build my career.

I was hired directly out of school, by NorthwesTel, a Bell-owned company that covers all of Canada's North. We have the largest operating area in Canada. I started work as a combination technician. I was responsible for everything from residential and business services, to all network infrastructure including data and satellite communications. I currently work as a Central office/ satellite Technologist. I was given a lot of responsibility right off-the-bat. I've been on many chartered flights into communities that have lost all communications with the outside world, and the person who is going to fix the problem is me! It's very exciting work, and I've never done the same thing 2 days in a row. I've received many training courses, in both Canada, and the United States, through my company.

I would like to thank my instructors, and SAIT, for giving me the skills and knowledge that have helped me get where I am, today.

Sincerely,

Mike Oberholtzer

Telecommunications Technologist, NorthwesTel, Iqaluit, Nunavut