



ETA KAPPA NU

Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society

Jennifer Light-Holets

Technical Project Leader

Cummins, Inc.

Beta chapter, Purdue University



Career Synopsis

Jennifer Light-Holets graduated from Purdue University in 2000 with a BS degree in electrical engineering. She started working for Cummins, Inc as an intern after her freshman year and has continued working for Cummins, Inc. since her graduation. Jennifer spent 8 years working in a variety of roles within off-highway electronics. Currently, she is a technical project leader in off-highway technology. Jennifer also coordinates engineering recruitment activities for Cummins, Inc. at Purdue University and serves on the industrial advisory board for Purdue's student chapter of SWE.

Career Highlights

What do you view as the highlights of your career? These can be in terms of greatest challenges, most satisfying achievements, or most enjoyable projects.

The highlights of my career include:

- 1) Opportunities to apply problem-solving skills to address challenging technical questions and customer needs
- 2) Informally mentoring junior colleagues and watching their successes.
- 3) Completing my first 6Sigma project, using statistical analysis and team work.
- 4) Leading my first team to complete critical deliverables on-time.

Education and Career

Relate your education to your career and current responsibilities.

Knowing how to learn new information as technology changes is critical. My education has also proven useful to me in working effectively within a team, organizing and managing my time, and communicating effectively.

Advice to Engineering Graduates

What specific advice would you offer to engineering students as they complete their education and prepare to launch their careers?

Take advantage of learning opportunities outside of the traditional classroom. Be open to assignments a bit outside of your area of expertise to learn new skills. Participate in mentoring opportunities, both formally and informally, as a mentee and as a mentor.