

December 26, 2018

Hello,

This letter is to express my interest in bringing my enthusiasm and engineering savvy for summer intern position. I am currently a Computer Science graduate student at the University of Southern California, set to graduate in December of 2019.

I hold an undergraduate degree in computer science and have worked for three years as a network engineer in the server virtualization team at Cisco. My role involved troubleshooting large-scale data center networks and scripting to automate bug detection, diagnosis of common misconfigurations and other issues in the network. At USC, some of my coursework includes machine learning, analysis of algorithms, web technologies, operating systems, natural language processing, information retrieval and web search engines.

I was part of CCoEE (Cisco's Center of Engineering Excellence) at Amrita which is a partnership program between Amrita and Cisco Systems sponsored by Cisco TAC. It aims at producing network engineers with a strong emphasis on fundamentals and troubleshooting skills. Over a training period of 6 months, we completed our CCNA and CCNP certifications. The most challenging part of the program was the knowledge checks conducted by Cisco TAC engineers periodically in which we were tested on real-world problems faced by Cisco TAC.

Throughout my journey, I have learned and appreciate the importance of working in teams. This past summer I interned at USC in a small team as a software engineer on a project that involved building a Constructive Cost Model (COCOMO); our small size meant that I was directly helping colleagues with all aspects of product development.

I am very enthusiastic about learning new things and working with people to solve challenging problems. My coursework, projects, prior work experience, my ability to work well in a team, hands-on abilities in Cisco products and networking, and passion for the field make me a strong candidate and valuable addition to your team.

I appreciate the opportunity to be considered and look forward to discussing my application and qualifications in person at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
Rahul Ethiraj

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