



NAME: Uday Natra
COMPANY: AutoZone
TITLE: IT Manager

DEGREE/CERTIFICATION/SPECIAL TRAINING:
 Bachelors in Electrical Engineering & Masters in Business Administration
 Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, India
 University of Memphis

Q: How did you select your college major, certification program, or career path?

A: I always wanted to be an engineer, I was always fascinated of being an engineer as I was told they are the ones responsible for building Aircraft, Tall buildings, massive bridges etc. Later, when I actually started my college, I got fascinated by computer programming and there was no looking back.

Q: What was the biggest influence in your selection of career path?

A: TV/Movies/Parents

Q: If you could go back to high school and select any elective course to take that would have better prepared you for college/career, what would it be?

A: Computer Science Engineering instead of Electrical Engineering.

Q: What is your favorite aspect of your job?

A: Mentoring/Coaching People and Delivering Value to the company.

Q: How do you/your company make a positive impact on society/our community?

A: AutoZone has been involved in a number of community programs including Mid-South Food Bank, LifeBlood, National Civil Rights Museum, St Jude Children’s Research Hospital etc. I am personally involved in St. Jude. Every year I run the St. Jude marathon as a St. Jude Hero. I also make sure to contribute to Mid-South Food bank and United Way.

Q: What’s the most interesting thing you have been able to do in your career?

A: Launching new products for the company has been the most fulfilling aspect of my career. When I was at First Tennessee Bank, I led the development of first online bill payment product for our commercial customers. At AutoZone, I led the development of the next generation eCommerce website back in 2008/2009.

Q: What makes you get up each morning excited about your profession?

A: Being able to help the company grow/deliver value to the customer. Being able to provide a good life to my family.

Q: What advice would you share with K-12 students who are considering your profession?

A: Focus on Math and Physical sciences. These can be intimidating at times but the more you practice/spend time on these subjects, the easier it gets.



Herff College of Engineering

memphis.edu/herff