

MARJAN JAVANMARD TRANSCRIPT

Segment 1 - Introduction

>> **MARJAN:** My name is Marjan Javanmard. I'm originally from Iran. I came here about twelve years ago. I work for Solar City and I'm a building auditor.

Segment 2 – What Does A Building Auditor Do?

>> **MARJAN:** What I do is somehow try to make houses a better place for people to live and conserve energy, making it a place that is healthier, more durable and energy efficient.

When we go to a house we look for the insulations everywhere, up in the roof, in the attic, in the crawl space, in the walls, so we look for the areas where the homeowners can conserve energy. They pay less money and they have a better and a safer house. Also we check for carbon monoxide, for the appliances that use oxygen and are burning something, so there are some combustion gases. We want to make sure that the combustion gases go out of the house and people don't inhale it. So we check for the levels of the gases that are not allowed inside the house.

Segment 3 – Building Auditor

>> **MARJAN:** The training I received was in Skyline College. It was part of the HERO program which was the Home Efficiency Retrofit Program. It was a grant originally for Veterans and then for everyone who had some interest in building green energy. The course was exactly one month and then they prepared us for the BPI exam which is Building Performance Institute, so we could take the test and be BPI certified. My classmates were mostly carpenters or people who worked in the construction industry, but they didn't need to be very educated in this area, just have a basic knowledge and an interest to work in this industry.

Segment 4 – What Careers Are Available In The Green Industries?

>> **MARJAN:** I think the number of jobs in this area is growing because first of all government policies are protecting green industries and people are getting more aware of how important it is to conserve energy.

After taking this class where they taught us building science, the jobs that we could do were either auditing commercial buildings or houses to see where problems are or it could be in the installation area, with people that know where there are problems and try to fix them.

There are challenges in this work - sometimes the crawl space is too small, the attic is too small, the places where we have to get information or take pictures of are not easily accessible, but when you find a gas leak next to the place where kids are playing and you inform the homeowner and make the place safe for everyone, you feel really good.

Segment 5 - Would You Recommend This Job?

>> **MARJAN:** I really like what I do. It s a very fun job because you go to different houses, you see different people. It is amazing what you see. People usually don't open their houses to you, but the job that I have, I get to go to every closet, every corner of the house. And the homeowner is happy and smiling and then we talk to each other and because they think that I am helping them, they welcome us. I am really enjoying what I do. I would recommend it to people who want to see different cultures, different people, to know their area well, because I have co-workers who have been born here and have been living in the area all their life but there are parts of California that they haven't been to and it is interesting to them.

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