IBM Poughkeepsie, New York Road Trip

AITP had a great turn out for the IBM trip. Around fifteen students were in attendance. During the trip, students enjoyed a tour of the manufacturing floor for IBM's System Z as well as the testing floor. IBM was in the process of shipping out their current batch of System Z platforms, so there were only a few available for students to see. Technicians walked students through each step of production as well as the components put into the system at each step. Students were shown the rigorous testing that each system goes through before being put into the field. These tests included extreme heat, extreme cold and shaking. One technician informed the group that System Z is so reliable that after the earthquakes in Japan in 2012, one of the System Z platforms was found knocked over by debris, but was still fully operational. IBM strives to keep 100% uptime through their System Z platform and have proven that they can do just that.