

We call it *Jacksonesque*

Just the job

Peter Elliott – Site Quantity Surveyor

“I think that being able to see an end product to your work is important and that is very true with civil engineering.”

Peter’s interest in quantity surveying was raised by a relative who worked in the profession. He also wanted a job in a financial and commercial environment with variety, opportunities and the possibility of getting out and about.

A Quantity Surveyor provides commercial and financial support to site teams. This includes making sure the company is paid on time, managing finances by forecasting costs and values, agreeing and measuring additional project work, protecting the company’s commercial position and selecting and paying sub-contractors.

After his A-levels Peter went to Nottingham Trent University to study Civil Engineering Commercial Management otherwise known as Quantity Surveying. He is now working to become a graduate member of the Institution of Civil Engineers and regularly takes courses to increase his knowledge which counts towards CPD (Continuing Professional Development).

“My job has allowed me to achieve a huge amount of both personal and career development.”

Peter says the satisfaction in his role comes from seeing the finished job.

“I enjoy working with different people and being out and about on different contracts solving problems and ensuring the company is in the best position commercially and financially. Every project is different but seeing the end result is important.”

Being a Quantity Surveyor can involve a great deal of travelling and therefore long hours which can be tiring. Peter is able to keep his travelling to a minimum because Jackson Civil Engineering aims to employ local people.

“I would recommend this job – it is an exciting industry”

Peter plans to build on his site based experience before moving into management as an Area Quantity Surveyor. He certainly has no regrets about choosing the profession and recommends it for the variety and opportunities available. He says it is an exciting industry where you meet different people and learn how to rapidly form productive teams.

Summing up Peter said: *“My job has allowed me to achieve a huge amount of both personal and career development, it has given me confidence in my own abilities and has provided, and will continue to provide, opportunities to continue my progression.”*

1

Next steps: Still at School

It will help if you take post 16 subjects to prepare for higher education. Useful subjects would be mathematics and physics. Some colleges and universities will require these subjects while others may offer entry from a wider choice including geography and economics.

2

After School

After school you are likely to progress your academic qualifications by full time study at college or university. Alternatively part time study at a college or university on day release from your employer.

Choosing what, where and how to study is a big decision. It is important that you choose a course or programme recognised by the Institution of Civil Engineering and Surveyors who will help you gain the professional qualification you seek.

3

Gaining Professional Qualifications

Once you have completed your academic education you are well on your way to achieving a professional qualification as a Commercial Manager. A professional qualification is recognised as a mark of quality and establishes your credentials in your profession.

The process of qualifying can involve work assessments, written work and interviews. Jackson Civil Engineering will support and encourage you to achieve these goals.

For more advice and information visit the
Institution of Civil Engineering and Surveyors website:
www.ices.org.uk



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