

We call it *Jacksonesque*

Just the job

Troy Doherty – Sub-Agent

"It has given me a perspective on the environment around me."

My family has always worked in construction and civil engineering so it was the natural choice. I looked at other career options but the sheer variety of work and challenges plus the call of the outdoors clinched it.

I joined the company as a Trainee Site Engineer and was enrolled in the second year of a day release ONC course in Civil Engineering followed by a two year day release HNC. This allowed me to gain on-the-job experience, qualifications and progress to Site Engineer, Senior Site Engineer then my current job.

As Sub-Agent I make sure a project is finished on time, within budget and to the client's satisfaction. I organise plant, labour, materials and sub-contractors, liaise with clients, the public and third parties. My responsibilities include the planning and management of construction work and writing and implementing the health, safety, environment and quality plan. I also produce weekly work programmes complete with resource allocation, write method statements and hazard and risk assessments incorporating quality and environmental issues.

"Civil engineering is a career for life"

I enjoy working outside and no two days or projects are the same but best of all is the buzz from helping to shape the environment and finding solutions and a sense of *"I built that"* when a project is complete.

The hours can be long and involve a lot of travelling. Being outside during the winter months can be tough and if you have fumed at road works you will know that not everyone appreciates the work of civil engineers. Being a diplomat comes in useful.

I have achieved a lot from my job including helping members of my team to overcome personal problems and difficulties, developing my personal skills and also work related skills. I have become a respected employee and gained a lot of friends on the way but I have also realised that even when you finish school or college you still have much to learn.

In the future I want to progress to Site Manager then Project Manager and perhaps Regional Director. I would also like to work on large high profile projects like a major bridge, tunnel, dam or motorway, all this is possible. It is definitely not a 9-5 job but it offers excitement, challenges and rewards plus a wide range of opportunities anywhere in the world. Civil engineering is a career for life.

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 Engineers 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 Civil Engineer. 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 Engineers website:
www.ice.org.uk



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