

Wendy Patton

Project Engineer, Magnox



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MEng Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (July 2011)

I started my career off on the 'Nuclear Graduate' programme which allowed me to work for different companies within the nuclear industry including Sellafield, Atkins, Rolls Royce and Magnox. This resulted in a number of job opportunities and I accepted an offer from Magnox and became Project Engineer within their disposability team.

My current life role is a wife, Cadet Instructor, STEM ambassador and IMechE Young Member Panel member in addition my profession is a Project Engineer. At first it was daunting to join an industry I knew nothing about. However, the graduate scheme equipped me with a PGCert in Nuclear Technology which broadened my knowledge. My role can include a wide variety of day to day tasks including the design of specialised containers, the disposal of waste, writing technical reports, completion of trial tests at various locations and peer checking colleagues work. When I applied for my job I knew nothing about the nuclear industry but I am glad I discovered it, and I have never looked back!

If you feel that in the work place you are not getting enough experience to become chartered - put together a case for your manager to get more relevant work! Usually companies want you to become chartered as it gives them a better name too!