



Armed Forces Covenant Case Study 2

About me

I grew up on the Isle of Wight where opportunities were quite limited during the 80's. I was not terribly academic and I left school at 15 with a handful of low level qualifications. I served in the RAF for 9 years, mostly based on Hercules transport aircraft serving in Central America, The Gulf War, Angola, Former Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Somalia, Iraq and many others. It was a busy time.

My career path

When I left the RAF I had no help, grants or support from anyone. I used to spend my evenings writing letters to companies from addresses in the yellow pages. Only when I had an offer could I leave.

My brother had worked in the local shipyard and I managed to get an interview driving a forklift before later moving onto the shop floor and then into a role in the office.

In 2002, I went to work for NEG Micon (forerunner to MHI Vestas) who had just opened a production facility on the Isle of Wight. I managed to get a job in buying.

I went on to work for Gurit (composites), before working in 3 different companies developing wind farms.

My advice to anyone looking to join the industry is to listen to and trust those around you regardless of age, gender and seniority. We all have an important contribution to make. We need to keep a positive working environment where we are all equal.



My current job

I look after UK supply chain management, local content engagement for Europe and the procurement of onshore civil works.

The people I work with are the main reason for doing this role. We are very lucky to have a great culture. It feels like we are doing something positive and making decisions in the correct way.



Transferable skills

I make use of so many skills from being in the forces. Dealing with pressure is a key ability, as well as being able to communicate and work in a team with flexible working locations. A sense of humour is key.