

## Ben Watson MDes (Hons) LCGI IEng MIED

I currently work as a design engineer for PIPS Technology Ltd, one of the UK 's fastest growing technology companies and a recent recipient of the Queens Award for Innovation. I am responsible for designing and developing the mechanical architecture within character recognition systems, which requires me to manage third party manufacturers and geographically dispersed product development teams.

The products I have worked on range from subterranean and in-vehicle computer systems, to explosion proof pipeline inspection equipment, highway furniture and mobile law enforcement technology. Factors I have had to consider include the demands of harsh environments, such as extreme temperatures and driving rain / wind loading, not to mention the likelihood of vandalism by everything from baseball bats to blowtorches, which certainly makes for an interesting job.

I studied for my academic qualifications - an HNC in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters Degree - while pursuing my career as an engineer. I am currently working towards a PhD in Design Ethnography.

A member of the Institution of Engineering Designers, I became an Incorporated Engineer (IEng) in 2004. I am now applying for Chartered Engineer (CEng) status, via the technical report route. I am keenly aware of the value of professional recognition to an individual's portfolio and the high regard in which it is held by employers.

A career in engineering and the work I do shaping and supporting new product development may sometimes be frustrating, but it is never boring. The challenge of creatively exploring not just technical problems but also a product's context of use and its likely impact on the environment is uniquely rewarding.

Ben Watson MDes (Hons) LCGI IEng MIED  
Registered 2004



‘I am keenly aware of the value of professional recognition to an individual's portfolio and the high regard in which it is held by employers’