

Simon J. Leeming IEng AIMMM MRICS

CASE STUDY

My name is Simon Leeming and I am a 29 year old Chartered Mining Surveyor employed by the civil service at The Coal Authority in Mansfield. I am one of 6 Mining Information Managers that cover the UK. My area of responsibility covers the North East, Cumbria, Ingleton and North Wales. I manage and maintain the accuracy of the GIS database that is used to produce coal mining reports for house buyers. The information derives from sourcing mine workings and entries from over 100,000 abandonment plans on many scales and orientations, then calculating their current positions in relation to the surface as we know it today. As this legacy is at times contentious I deal with, and give advice, to MP's, solicitors, consultants and members of the public on a daily basis.

I started my career as an underground surveying apprentice for UK Coal Mining Ltd (Formerly RJB Mining Ltd). After 4 years of college and work based training I was able to take and pass the MQB (Mine Qualification Board) certificate of competency, which is a statutory qualification required to become an underground surveyor in coal mines in the UK. After 4 years as an Assistant Colliery Surveyor, dealing with surveying and mining engineering aspects underground, I left UK Coal to take up my present role at The Coal Authority.

I joined the Institute of Mining Engineers, now part of IOM3, to help broaden my mining experience and was elected as junior representative of the Nottinghamshire branch. I gained Chartered status through RICS and this year upgraded my IOM3 (Institute of Material, Minerals and Mining) to that of Associate with IEng Accreditation.

These qualifications are vital when dealing with third parties. They are well recognised throughout the industry and add weight to any advice or views that you offer. By holding professional qualification such as IEng and RICS shows that you are not only academically able but also have a working knowledge of the subject. It also shows that you are interested in keeping up-to-date with new ideas which makes you attractive to future employers.

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Based at 'The Coal Authority', Mansfield , England
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