

Dr Graham Coates BSc, PhD, CEng, FIMechE, MRAeS, MIED, CMath, FIMA, FHEA**CASE STUDY**

In my view, registration should be pursued by all engineers and it is extremely important for a number of reasons. For example, it clearly demonstrates to an employer (and potential employer) as well as colleagues that you are a recognised professional engineer who has met the high standards, both academic and industrial, required to attain this qualification. Further, registration shows you have a commitment to the engineering profession. For me personally, it has been an extremely important aspect of my career development.

I have worked as a lecturer at Durham University since 2003, and currently have three key areas of responsibility - research, teaching and administration. On the four year MEng programme in Durham University's School of Engineering and Computing Sciences I teach a variety of subjects including Aircraft Structures, Stress Analysis and Quantitative Decision Science. I am also involved in the supervision of six researchers working in a number of areas, including computational agent-based simulation and optimisation in the context of application areas such as aeronautical engineering, energy, and emergency response. Amongst the key administrative roles I hold in the School is Course Director of the MSc in Design and Operations Engineering.

CEng registration has, I believe, been of great benefit to both my industrial and academic career. In fact, when I moved from industry to academia in 1997, being registered was cited as a key reason why I was offered the position as a research associate at the University of Newcastle.

My career began - after graduating with a BSc (Hons) in Mathematics II(i) - with seven years working in industry. On graduating, my first role was with British Aerospace where I spent two years on a recognised engineering graduate training programme. I then gained significant industrial experience in various positions of responsibility within British Aerospace, then Aerospace Systems & Technologies Ltd. This led to my registration as Chartered Engineer in 1997, through the Royal Aeronautical Society.

As my career has progressed I have registered with relevant professional institutions such as the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Institution of Engineering Designers. My current goals are to further develop my relationships with these institutions, while building up and supporting a team of researchers to make leading contributions in their respective areas of work.



I am also encouraging undergraduates and postgraduates to pursue membership with an appropriate engineering institution, with the aim of eventually becoming a Chartered Engineer.

Dr Graham Coates
University Lecturer, Durham University
Registered 1997

‘When I moved from industry to academia, being registered was cited as a key reason why I was offered the position’