

## Michael Hodgson IEng MinstNDT GCGI

### CASE STUDY

In 1981 I began a welding apprenticeship with ICI. Keen to develop their apprentices, the company offered me the opportunity to study for an advanced welding engineering foundation degree as well as a number welding inspection qualifications.

Having successfully passed these I went onto study various qualifications in non-destructive testing (NDT) and inspection through PCN and ASNT. These qualifications were to be the springboard to my career as an Inspection Engineer and gave me the confidence and opportunity to pursue professional registration as an Incorporated Engineer.

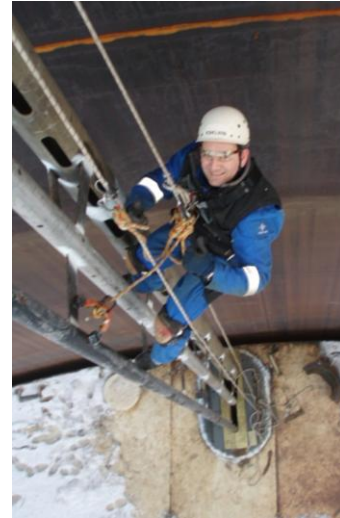
Having already been registered as an Engineering Technician (EngTech), I had experienced first-hand the benefits of holding a professional qualification. But unlike before where I met the academic criteria for EngTech, I did not for IEng and therefore had to apply via the Individual Route. My Institution, British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing (BINDT) recommended the technical report option.

This allowed me to present a technical paper I had already produced for work on 'Inspections of Steam Generation', to a panel of BINDT members. This paper was approved as demonstrating my knowledge and understanding to the level required and I was then invited to attend a technical report interview followed by a professional review interview. In November 2010, I became registered as an IEng.

Gaining IEng status was a way of getting myself noticed at the level to which I was capable of. Professional registration provides assurance to both employers and individuals that the person holding the registration has a high calibre of knowledge and experience.

As a result of becoming an IEng, I have been promoted and now enjoy far better prospects. I have also been involved in some very large projects involving storage tank refurbishments/repairs and boiler rebuilds. One particular project was written up by the HSE as a bulletin on boiler failures.

I am currently working for Oceaneering as an Inspection Engineer based in Teesside. The company is very supportive of its engineers' professional development, paying course fees and providing mentors when required.



Oceaneering not only recognises the benefits to the individual but also the value to the organisation in employing professionally qualified engineers and technicians.

So what does the future hold for me? I am now working towards gaining Chartered Engineer status, researching data for a technical paper. This may take a couple of years, but I am determined to give it my all. My advice to anyone considering registration is, get stuck in and push yourself, the rewards by far outweigh the effort!

**Michael Hodgson IEng MinstNDT GCGI**  
**Registered 2010**

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