

Suresh Simon Mathew BEng (Hons) IEng MIET

CASE STUDY

I currently work for The New Zealand Refining Company Ltd as an Instrument Engineer. I am responsible for providing instrument engineering expertise and technical services in the fields of engineering, construction, operation and maintenance, with the prime focus of assuring asset integrity and reliability of the refinery.

Prior to this, I worked for CCM Chemicals as an Electrical, Instrumentation and IT Manager. It was here that I first learnt about professional registration. My mentor and several colleagues were registered as Chartered Engineers, and following discussions with them, I realised that I too could benefit from professional registration as it would enhance my career and networks.

In 2008, having been a member of the IET for four years, I was encouraged to attend the institution's seminar 'Route towards Professional Registration' in Malaysia. I was introduced to IET members who carried out an initial review, looking at my CV and supporting information and advised me that I did not have the academic qualifications or the right amount of experience required for CEng registration. However they explained that my BEng (Hons) met the academic criteria for Incorporated Engineer (IEng) registration and that my experience was more than sufficient. This was all the encouragement I needed. Knowing that I was half way to gaining the professional recognition that I worked so hard for, I set about applying for IEng registration.

Later that same year, I attended a Professional Review Interview and was informed shortly after that I was successful and that I could now call myself an Incorporated Engineer. Although I have not yet been able to see the benefits directly, I certainly feel more confident in the job market. In addition it has provided me a great level of satisfaction and recognition amongst my employers and peers.

My future goal is to achieve Chartered Engineer status. I believe that being registered as an IEng first puts me in good stead, not only does it show my commitment to the profession and my career, but also it gives me confidence in my own ability, and proves that I am a competent and professional engineer.



I have been fortunate that my employers over the years have been very supportive, not only by paying fees, but also by providing mentors and even allowing me time off to attend the interview.

My current employer recognises the importance of registration and CPD and has confirmed its support of my progression to CEng.

For some budding engineers, registration may seem to be a lot of work and effort, but it pays off. Like me, you may not have sufficient academic qualifications or experience for Chartered Engineer registration, but CEng is not the only professional qualification available to you. IEng is just as valuable and just as rewarding and the benefits are the same. Why wait to be a Chartered Engineer when you can be professionally qualified sooner?

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