

Andrew Houston IEng MIWater

CASE STUDY

Andrew Houston has worked as an engineer within the water industry for over 10 years, working on a wide variety of clean and dirty water projects with varying degrees of complexity and roles ranging from contractor to designer. He also has engineering experience in a number of other areas but none of this was recognised in a professional qualification. When Andrew accepted a job offer in Western Australia he decided to rectify this by pursuing registration as an Incorporated Engineer (IEng).

“I have enjoyed the many projects I have been involved in over the years and have developed into areas out of my original field of expertise. However, I realised that my achievements were not recognised professionally by the Industry.

After undertaking further studies in Health & Safety and being accepted as a Technical Member of IOSH (Institute of Safety & Health) I was looking for a new challenge within the water industry.

For me, the Institute of Water (IWater) is the benchmark for the industry and the IEng qualification was the right route to accreditation and professional recognition.

I initially thought the process of being recognised professionally would be out of my reach (because I have an HND not a degree) but this route places considerable emphasis on appropriate experience rather than simply qualification.

I had accepted a job offer to work in Perth, Western Australia, specialising in Water Infrastructure projects and it was important for me to gain registration as it effectively demonstrates my technical capabilities as an engineer, as well as my ability to manage budgets and personnel. The Institute was extremely accommodating and approachable throughout the whole process and this definitely made it less daunting. For people who are intimidated at the thought of interviews, I would encourage them to apply, since the Professional Review Interview is completely different to a job interview. The focus is on relevant experience the applicant has stated in the evidence submitted that they already have in the Industry.



The feedback from the process has also been invaluable, identifying areas that I need to develop more effectively and allowing me to redefine my CPD goals for the immediate future. More importantly, this feedback has made me re-assess the way in which I record and evaluate my CPD experiences, in order to develop effectively as an Engineer and Manager in Australia

Since getting awarded IEng via the IWater I have further enhanced my development and professional recognition by tackling and being awarded:

- International Engineering Technologist via the IWater
- IEng via the Institution of Mechanical Engineers

With my combined registration I have been granted Chartered Engineering Technologist in Australia via Engineers Australia to bolster my Australian career; however I feel the professional recognition I hold in the UK is globally accepted and recognised.”

Andrew Houston IEng MIWater
Site Construction Manager, CTEC, Merredin,
Western Australia
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