

Ed Peate

I am originally from Manchester and then went on to study a Masters in Electrical Engineering at the University of Nottingham. Over the four years at university, I spent three summers working at Control Techniques on a variety of different projects. In my first year I worked in our Electro Magnetic Compliance (EMC) department setting technical demonstrations to display various EMC phenomena for a series of video lectures. I then went on to do a teardown of some filters in my second year and worked in sustaining engineering in my final year, looking at how to save money in our products while maintaining all the same performance.



The summers spent working as part of the E3 Academy were great: I got to know a large number of the employees in quite a relaxed setting, which really helped when I needed advice on how to carry out certain aspects of a project. Work aside, the social life as part of E3 also added to the experience, as I met other people on my course at university, both in my own year and the years above and below. At Control Techniques we were all put up with host families who gave us ideas on places and pubs to visit over our time there with the other students.

Once I had completed university, I began work full time as a Graduate Engineer where I completed four rotations in different departments. One of the earliest projects I worked on was to verify a thermal model, which involved taking a large number of thermal readings with sensors and a thermal camera and then calculating the power loss within the devices to determine if the model was correctly predicting the temperature. It was good to be given this level of responsibility early on and trusted to test something that, if incorrect, could cause the products to break or even set on fire. After two placements in R&D I then took the opportunity to work in Global Technical Support where we were answering questions from our local sales offices all over the world and recreating customer setups to help troubleshoot any issues they might be having. With this experience I was then lucky enough to be sent out to work in Italy for my final placement. Here I spent more than half of my working weeks on customer sites getting to see some of the products I had helped design first-hand. I also took this opportunity to travel around as much of Italy as I could while I was living there.

Since returning to the UK, I completed the graduate scheme and went on to become a Power Electronics Design Engineer. In this role I have taken on much more design responsibilities for specific sections on entire new product ranges. I have also taken on some management roles by leading the development of specific frame sizes in a next generation project. This involved getting together engineers from various different disciplines to look at the whole solution to a problem and not just focus on the electrical side.