

Learner Case Study

Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing, including Food Manufacturing and related Industrial Chemistry

Stephen's Story

Stephen started employment at Carrington Wire in 1999 and began an ONC in Metallurgy and Materials Science at Bradford College with the aim of achieving a good understanding of the metallurgy involved in the ferrous wire industry. After completing the course he decided to continue his studies and progressed onto the HNC, then HND and onto his current course, the BEng Honours Degree.

Stephen has found his studies to be invaluable in his employment at Carrington Wire, the course focuses on the needs of his employers by using work-based projects to make his studying more bespoke to his industry. His continued learning has given him an excellent understanding of the industry he works in and has given him the skills and confidence to progress in his career as a metallurgist.

Stephen is currently working as a Laboratory Supervisor and is responsible for four Laboratory Technicians. Thanks to his studies he is able to continually pass knowledge onto the technicians and has been heavily involved with training employees from other departments to give them the necessary understanding of the technical aspects of the business.

Stephen has acted as an industrial mentor to colleagues who have attended similar courses and being fully aware of the commitment it takes to study on a part-time basis whilst in full-time employment he has been able to offer his support. After completing the BEng, Stephen hopes to progress onto a Masters Degree.

In June 2009 Stephen was awarded a highly commended learner status at the West Yorkshire Work-Based Learning Awards.