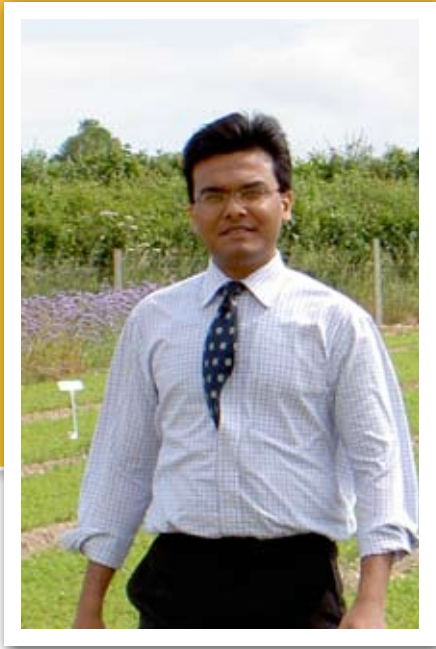


Knowledge
Transfer
Partnerships

Graduate Case Study

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Associate Profile: Amitsinh Kumpavat

Name: Amitsinh Kumpavat
Qualifications: BEng Hons Mechanical Engineering, MPhil
Knowledge Transfer; NVQ level four in management
Current Role: Improvements Engineer, Vitacress
Location: Hampshire

“It was my job to make things happen, and I was given the times, resources and attention to achieve this”

IN MY KTP I...

My KTP, with the University of Bath and Vitacress Salads Ltd, aimed to introduce a design engineering capability to tackle the issue of insects in the salad and to implement new processes to deliver a cleaner product. On a day to day basis, this meant that I was responsible for understanding the manufacturing process; identifying potential areas for improvement; developing a commercially sensitive design solution using CAD; developing a prototype for testing and finally rolling out the new design technologies across the company. This was a very successful KTP and the work I delivered has since been implemented across a number of the Vitacress sites, which is a great achievement. It also involved me working closely with the senior management in the business, in order to gain their sign-in and investment, which was good experience.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT...

This KTP was a technical challenge, which I took a lot from. The resources available to me were excellent – I worked with some very senior and experienced academics – and I also got the full commitment of the company. I felt that I was working on something which was core to the company. It was a good opportunity for someone so young to be given that level of management.

THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A KTP ASSOCIATE IS...

KTP is a great combination of the academic environment and the commercial exposure. I felt that I was taking responsibility for an important project – it was my job to make things happen, and I was given the time, resources and attention to achieve this.

FROM KTP I HAVE LEARNT...

Through KTP my confidence has increased significantly. I was chairing meetings, giving presentations, gaining buy-in from the senior management team, managing projects and budgets. It was a great learning curve for me. I used my training budget for courses on leadership and personal development, which were very useful. It's important to make the most of these resources.

LIFE AFTER KTP IS...

I am now employed in a full time position with Vitacress. The role is more complex and the challenges greater than my KTP, but I feel that the KTP project provided me with the skills and experience I need to successfully meet my new objectives.

I WILL RECOMMEND KTP BECAUSE...

KTP is a win-win situation for graduates. You are given the commercial challenge whilst benefiting from academic support. Your role is strategically important to the company – that's the whole point of a KTP. It has definitely fast-tracked my own career.

To turn your career options into great career options visit www.ktponline.org.uk or email graduates@ktponline.org.uk

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