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Graduate Case Study

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Associate Profile: Ewa Katarzyna Maj

Name: Ewa Katarzyna Maj
Qualifications: BA Accountancy and Informatics, AAT Diploma Level Four, currently studying towards CIMA qualification
Current Role: Management Accounts Assistant
Location: Deeside, Flintshire

“You have everyone’s support at your disposal. There will be times when things don’t go smoothly, but this is expected, and you learn from experiences quickly.”

IN MY KTP I...

My KTP project focused on identifying and planning the successful delivery of a new costing system for Worldwide Marine Technology (WMT) in conjunction with Deeside College. I have a background in finance and computing and it was my role to research, identify, procure and develop the best available software package to meet WMT’s operational requirements. As well as providing financial reporting/auditing requirements, the system needed to establish a basis by which all operational and non-operational costs could be accurately managed and budgeted for years to come.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT WERE...

There were a number of highlights for me. Having a regular reporting item on the Board and at management team meetings made me feel my efforts were appreciated and what I was undertaking was vital to future business success. I consider being regarded as a valuable team member from the outset, very significant. I was conscious that being a KTP Associate might be viewed as someone just passing through with no permanent role to play. How wrong that proved to be! By quickly developing key relationships, being flexible and supporting colleagues, I became valued. My hope was that on completion of my project I would be made permanent - my wish came true.

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

I needed to gain first-hand experience of management accounting with a small company, and the KTP project was exactly what I was looking for. I’ve always needed to take ownership for what I do, and meeting targets and having the freedom to act to deliver the best system, really motivated me. I think being a KTP Associate provides the rare opportunity for you to develop your management skills in a relatively risk free environment. You have everyone’s support at your disposal. There will be times when things don’t go smoothly, but this is expected, and you learn from experiences quickly.

FROM KTP I HAVE LEARNT...

Being supported to pass AAT and move on to study CIMA, while completing my project, was essential to developing a financial career. I certainly learnt that agreeing to and meeting targets, in any line of business, are key.

LIFE AFTER KTP IS...

I now work for the company as a Management Accounts Assistant. No matter what I achieve in future, the need for me to have listened and learnt from others was critical to the success of the project. KTP has given me valuable job experience, and I consider it as the first stepping-stone in my financial career.

I WILL RECOMMEND KTP BECAUSE...

KTP has been a great success for me. It gave me an opportunity to work with people at different levels and in different environments. I had big challenges, but had academic support available to me at every stage. You do not feel lonely with your project and everyone around wants you to be successful!

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