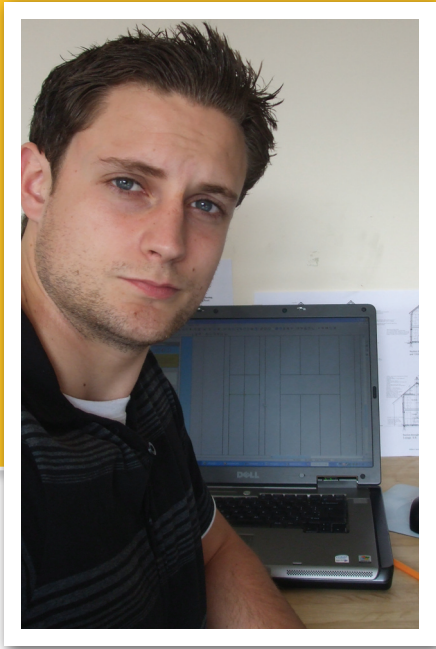


Knowledge
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Partnerships

Graduate Case Study

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Associate Profile: Rhydian Hoddinott

Name: Rhydian Hoddinott
Qualifications: BSc Hons Mechanical Engineering
Current Role: Design Engineer
Location: Llandybie, Wales

IN MY KTP I...

My KTP was with Broadleaf Timber Designs and the University of Glamorgan. The aim of the KTP was to introduce a new product design process to improve development of the product range and to offer new products. This involved updating the existing basic CAD software which was limiting the design opportunities and productivity of the company. Following a review of software on the market, SolidWorks was chosen as the preferred option. Using this, I was able to design all fundamental joinery pieces eg doors, handrails and stairs and make templates for Broadleaf's bespoke items. With the additional purchase of a laptop, this enabled us to take designs to the customer, making it possible for decisions to be made on site with only one follow up visit to show materials and production drawings.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT...

I enjoyed the challenge of making the new design system work. The flexibility of the software allowed structural engineering to be considered, improving timescales and suitability of products for both the company and customer. I had complete ownership of the whole project and reported only to the Managing Director and Head Timber Manufacturer.

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

KTP is a trusted scheme within the business community. The structure gives you a plan to ensure the project moves forward efficiently but also gives the flexibility to make changes, or add tasks that are beneficial to the project. It opens you up to opportunities and challenges you wouldn't otherwise have had. The funding that is available enabled me to purchase reference books and subscriptions that have been useful for my personal and professional development.

FROM KTP I HAVE LEARNT...

I have been given excellent training through the KTP. Since the installation of the new CAD SolidWorks software I have attended two week-long courses and consequently can use the software to its full potential. I am studying for an MPhil in my own time and the KTP helped me to identify a valid subject that was approved by the University. I am also hoping to complete the NVQ level four in management. The opportunities for personal development are a real bonus and my communication skills and confidence have improved greatly.

LIFE AFTER KTP IS...

The project identified a clear role for me with Broadleaf Design. I have been employed full-time as a design engineer and am looking forward to future challenges. I have already expanded on the KTP by developing a 3-D model that can be useful for larger companies to test products and building designs eg fire routes, lighting schemes.

I WILL RECOMMEND KTP BECAUSE...

Being under the umbrella of KTP gives you support from academics and access to training. KTP is a recognised scheme and having it on your CV alone is an advantage. I think having been an associate with KTP improves your chances of employment as you have been exposed to so much useful and positive business experience.

To turn your career options into great career options visit
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“The KTP allows you the support from academics and the experience and knowledge from professionals to take complete ownership of a project and make a valuable difference.”