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Graduate Case Study

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Associate Profile: Matthew Lomax

Name: Matthew Lomax
Qualifications: BA Honours Business Management
Current Role: Self-employed Environmental Consultant
Location: Bath

“KTP is the best thing that I could have done after university and has given me the skills, experience and confidence to take a big step forward in developing my career.”

IN MY KTP I...

My KTP was with the Royal Bath and West of England Society and University of the West of England, Bristol. The aim of the project was to implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) and get it certified, with the objective of producing cost savings for the organisation. This involved developing a full understanding of the Society's business position and key operations, enabling the organisation to operate effectively and efficiently with the new infrastructure, processes and systems. The Society is the first agricultural society to have implemented and obtained external certification for an EMS, making it a market leader in the agricultural society industry. EMS implementation has resulted in cost savings and some income generation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT WERE...

The highlight of the project for me was the development of the new EMS. Using mapping techniques and quality management theory from the academic team, I researched different management schemes and possible accreditations, carried out an initial environmental management review of the Society and created an EMS team from staff. The EMS was implemented and the Royal Bath and West of England showground is the first in the UK to gain EMS certification. We have also recently received EMAS registration, which is the highest level of accreditation; there are only 160 organisations in the UK that have it, so I am very proud of this achievement. I also presented at the Society's first EMAS Statement with the Countess of Wessex. This was a great way to finish off the process and all the hard work!

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

The best thing about being a KTP Associate is seeing a project through from beginning to end and making a strategic change. You get to manage a real project and you have responsibility from day one. You get the opportunity to have a real impact on the way an organisation works and improve processes to make it run more efficiently.

FROM KTP I HAVE LEARNT...

You are constantly learning with a KTP; you apply what you learn in your project and your project feeds your learning. I completed the Diploma in Management, the Foundation Certificate in Environmental Auditing and I am now an Associate Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (AIEMA). As well as the formal qualification, I have gained knowledge and experience of change, project and environmental management that I doubt I would have been able to develop so quickly in another graduate scheme.

LIFE AFTER KTP IS...

Before my KTP, I had no environmental knowledge and now I am a self-employed Environmental Consultant. My KTP really helped me identify a career path and hopefully a successful career!

I WILL RECOMMEND KTP BECAUSE...

KTP is a fantastic opportunity to gain real world experience in a supported environment. There are so many development opportunities which can really help you set up a career. KTP is the best thing that I could have done after university and has given me the skills, experience and confidence to take a big step forward in developing my 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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