

# In the pipeline

Meet **Phil Rawson**, a Project Engineer for pipeline technology specialists Atmos International.

Engineering is in Phil Rawson's blood. With both his father and grandfather having had long careers in the sector, it was almost inevitable that Phil would follow in their footsteps. Being stronger in maths and science subjects also helped steer him into a career with a global impact.

Having an interest in aviation, Phil achieved his master's degree in aeronautical engineering at the University of Salford. His natural passion and ability for IT was a perfect fit for a career in this sector, where he could combine his engineering knowledge and IT skills to solve complex problems for his clients.

Ten years ago Phil joined Atmos International. A global leader in leak detection systems for pipelines, Atmos' software and hardware is used on over 1,500 pipelines in over 60 countries, with clients including major oil and gas companies such as Shell, BP, Exxon-Mobil and Total.

## No two jobs are ever the same

The range of projects and applications at Atmos means that no job is ever the same. Operating globally means working with colleagues from the company's offices in Costa Rica and North America, along with representatives in countries such as Indonesia, Vietnam, Columbia and Canada.

"Most people are completely unaware of how many pipelines there are around the world," says Phil. "These pipelines are used to transport products over

vast distances – distribution by road would be much more difficult and have all sorts of environmental impacts."

While at Atmos, Phil has continued his professional development and is a member of the IET as well as the Association for Project Management. Speaking about his membership of the IET, Phil recognises the value of the networking events and lectures available.

## Benefits of IET membership

"It's opened up a wealth of additional information to help my development and my knowledge of engineering. I'm growing my own network and that interaction with other engineers is highly valuable."

Recently Phil has qualified as a Chartered Engineer (CEng), which is already proving beneficial in his current role.

"It's the next step in my engineering journey and demonstrates that I've achieved a higher level in my engineering and leadership skill set. I've also found that our clients appreciate it too. They instantly recognise the qualification and it helps show that I'm capable of understanding complex technical solutions. The help the IET's professional registration advisor gave me was invaluable too."

Reflecting on his journey to date, Phil has some advice to share with those considering engineering as a career option.

"Engineering can provide you with both interesting challenges and opportunities. You're positively contributing to solving complex issues and problems, plus it's been a great way to see the world too," he points out.



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