Some Years On!

IET Power Academy Seminar
19th July 2019

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• How Power Academy helped me
• Getting the most out of Power Academy

Andrew Berndes
Primary System Design Engineer
Some Years On!

About Me

• Year in Industry scheme before university with National Grid

• 4 Year MEng Electrical Power Systems Degree at University of Bath

• Power Academy scholarship from first year at university with Western Power Distribution

• Graduate scheme at Western Power Distribution

• Started job as Primary System Design Engineer
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Where I am now

Primary System Design
- South West 132kV and 33kV network design team based in Bristol
- Designing new generation and demand connections above ~5MW
- Assessing the existing 132kV and 33kV network and identifying reinforcement
- Manage delivery of new connections and reinforcement projects
- Providing technical expertise on earthing and power quality issues

Outside my main role
- Operational switching and standby duties
- IET & CIGRE webinars and conferences
- Working towards Chartership
- STEM Development
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How Power Academy helped me

At WPD Power Academy summer placements are structured so you are out on site for the first summer and then fulfil more professional engineer roles in subsequent years.

• Understanding of the Industry

• Practical application of university knowledge

• Confidence & business skills

• Useful contacts and networking
Getting the most out of Power Academy

Everyone’s placements are different, some teams are ready for a PA scholar and have a set plan for what you will be doing, other teams allow you to be more flexible within your placement.

- Set objectives and goals for your placement
- Review objectives and goals at the end of your placement
- Talk about non-work related topics
- Identify Role Models from the people you work with and learn from them