

Careers Information Guide

This guide is mainly aimed at graduates and experienced engineers looking for jobs in the mechanical engineering field, although some sections may be useful for those who are studying engineering or planning to enter the profession. The aim is to highlight sources of information available in the library, information available from IMechE, and useful websites to aid you in your search. The guide covers useful library materials, where to look for vacancies - including recruitment websites and agencies, graduate schemes and recruitment fairs - as well as work placements and volunteering, apprenticeships, training courses, salary surveys, finding company details for mail shot purposes, and sources of careers advice.

E-books

Available to IMechE Members via the Books24x7 service in the [IMechE Virtual Library](#)

Career development (Institute of Personnel and Development, 2000)
Career success in engineering: a guide for students and new professionals (Kaplan, 2007)
Finding square holes: discover who you really are and find the perfect career (Crown House, 2005)
The five-minute interview: a job hunter's guide to a successful interview, 3rd ed (Wiley, 2002)
Handling tough job interviews: be prepared, perform well, get the job, 3rd ed (How to Books, 2007)
How to write a CV that works, 3rd ed (How to Books, 2006)
Make your contacts count: networking know-how for business and career success, 2nd ed (AMACOM, 2007)
Manage your career: how to develop your career in the right direction (A&C Black, 2006)

The current [list of Books24x7 titles](#) is available on the IMechE website

The current [list of Knovel titles](#) is available on the IMechE website

E-journals

4,000 leading full text journals are available via the EBSCO Science and Technology Database and EBSCO Business Source Corporate in the [IMechE Virtual Library](#).
[A list of EBSCO Science and Technology Collection titles](#) and [a list of EBSCO Business Source Corporate titles](#) are available on the EBSCO website.

Useful books

Available for IMechE Members to borrow by postal loan or in person - search the [IMechE library catalogue](#) to locate these titles or look for more.

21 things every future engineer should know : a practical guide (Kaplan, 2006)
201 best questions to ask on your interview (McGraw Hill, 2002)
Brilliant CV: what employers want to see and how to say it, 3rd ed (Prentice Hall, 2007)
The engineer's career guide (Wiley, 2010)
The five-minute interview: a job hunter's guide to a successful interview (Wiley, 2002)
Great answers to tough interview questions, 5th ed (Kogan Page, 2001)
How to get a job you'll love, 2011-12 ed (Mcgraw-Hill, 2010)
How you can get that job! Application forms and letters made easy, 3rd ed (Kogan Page, 2003)
How to write a CV that really works, 4th ed (How to Books, 2009)
High-impact interview questions (AMACOM, 2005)
IMechE engineers' careers guide (Wiley, 2010)
Interview skills that win the job (Allen & Unwin, 2005)
Manage your career: how to develop your career in the right direction , rev ed (A&C Black, 2009)
Perfect CV (Random House, 2007)
Practice psychometric tests (How to Books, 2005)
Rebound : a proven plan for starting over after job loss (Prentice-Hall, 2009)
Ultimate CV, 2nd ed (Kogan Page, 2008)
Ultimate job search, 2nd ed (Kogan Page, 2008)
What color is your parachute?: a practical manual for job-hunters and career-changers (Ten Speed Press, 2009)
What every engineer should know about career management (CRC Press, 2008)
You're hired! CV: how to write a brilliant CV (Trotman, 2009)

Where to look for vacancies

The current issues of the following magazines are all available in the library for you to browse for vacancies: *Professional Engineering*, *Automotive Engineer*, *The Engineer* and *New Scientist*. The following papers advertise engineering vacancies *The Telegraph** (*Tues/Thurs*), *The Times** (*Thurs*), and *The Guardian* (*Thurs*) *available in the library

The Times <http://jobs.thetimes.co.uk/>
The Daily Telegraph <http://jobs.telegraph.co.uk/>
The Guardian <http://jobs.guardian.co.uk/>

General engineering vacancy sites

Professional Engineering/Automotive Engineer vacancies
<http://www.topengineeringjobs.com/>

Covers latest job announcements from the leading engineering vacancy sites:
<http://www.techxtra.ac.uk/onestepjobs/>

UK engineering vacancy site: <http://www.thecareerengineer.com>

London based engineering recruitment agency: <http://www.beechwoodrecruit.com/>

Vacancies from the Engineer magazine: <http://www.theengineer.co.uk/Jobs/Home.aspx>

Vacancies from the Engineering magazine: <http://www.engineeringnet.co.uk>

Engineering vacancies site: <http://www.justengineers.net>

Jimfinder jobs in manufacturing and engineering: <http://www.jimfinder.com>

Worldwide automotive jobs: <http://www.fisitajobs.com>

UK rail industry vacancies: <http://www.railjobsearch.com/links.aspx>

Agency specialising in vacancies in the railway industry: <http://www.justrail.net>

UK oil and gas industry vacancies: <http://www.oilandgasjobsearch.com/links.aspx>

Oil and gas worldwide vacancies: <http://www.oilcareers.com/worldwide/>

Thomas Telford - official recruitment agency of the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE), and the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE): <http://www.ttrecruit.co.uk/>

General vacancy portal covering various engineering sectors: <http://www.jobsite.co.uk>

Recruitment and Employment Confederation – has a searchable directory of member recruitment agencies
<https://www.rec.uk.com/membersarea/directory/default.asp?dir=1>

Graduate sites

Engineering graduate recruiters, placements and jobs: <http://www.insidecareers.co.uk>

Employer profiles, advice and vacancies: <http://www.milkround.co.uk/s4/jobseekers/>

Graduate jobs and courses information: <http://www.prospects.ac.uk>

Gradunet is an online graduate recruitment guide: <http://www.gradunet.com/>

Jobs in science, research, academic & related sectors <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/>

Graduate recruitment bureau specialist graduate recruitment agency:
<http://www.qrb.uk.com/>

Graduate schemes and employers

The IMechE has a list of some of the top graduate schemes for engineers on its website at <http://www.imeche.org/students-and-apprentices/students/career-development/grad-schemes>

Engineering Opportunities <http://engoppps.com/> is a free publication produced by the imeche. It covers university courses, engineering career insights, postgraduate courses, graduate employers and sponsorship opportunities. We can also provide print copies on request.

Find out about the benefits of IMechE student membership, career development and the Formula Student competition.

<https://www.imeche.org/students-and-apprentices/students/welcome>

Executive Engineers Programme is part of the Royal Academy of Engineering's Best Programme. The scheme supports top engineering graduates through an accelerated professional development programme to chartered status and is aimed at those who wish to achieve senior management level on the fast track

<http://www.raengbest.org.uk/schemes/eep.htm>

IMechE produces a list of accredited in company training schemes that operate on the Institution's Monitored Professional Development Scheme.

<http://www.imeche.org/membership/professional-registration/working-toward-registration/mpds/register/accredited-registered-organisations>

The Times top hundred graduate employers <http://www.top100graduateemployers.com/>

Recruitment fairs

The National Engineering & Construction Recruitment Exhibition offers employer stands, free careers seminars covering topics such as CVs and interview techniques:

<http://www.engineerjobs.co.uk/>. To find out about other careers fairs please see

http://www.prospects.ac.uk/cms/ShowPage/Home_page/Careers_fairs/p!epkgf

Executive job sites

Executive appointment recruitment agency covering various sectors including engineering:

<http://www.exec-appointments.com/>

Executive appointment recruitment agency covering various sectors including engineering:

<http://www.executivesontheweb.com/>

All Executive Jobs - executive job listings website <http://www.allexecutivejobs.com/>

Job sites for the older or more experienced worker

Careers advice for the over fifties <http://www.over50s.com/>

The Age and Employment Network provides careers advice <http://www.taen.org.uk/>

Work placements and voluntary work

The following sites are useful for those seeking student work placements or voluntary work

UK work placements

Gap Work - vacancies and providers: <http://www.gapwork.com>

Justjobs4students

Work placements and graduate vacancy site: <http://www.justjobs4students.co.uk>

National Council of Work experience

Work experience vacancies – advice on finding placements: <http://www.work-experience.org>

Royal Academy of Engineering: Schemes for Secondary School Students

<http://www.raeng.org.uk/education/preuniv/default.htm>

STEP

Shell Technology Enterprise Programme work placement provider: <http://www.step.org.uk/>

Talent Work

Specialises in finding student placements and vacation work: <http://www.talentladder.com/>

Year in Industry Scheme

Helps students find fulfilling work experience for gap years: <http://www.yini.org.uk>

UK volunteering opportunities

Do it <http://do-it.org.uk/>

REMAP <http://www.remap.org.uk/>

Time Bank <http://www.timebank.org.uk/index.php>

Volunteering England <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/>

Work placements / volunteering opportunities abroad

AIPT (Association of International Practical Training) <http://www.aipt.org>

Christian Engineers in Development <http://www.ced.org.uk/>

Engineers against Poverty <http://www.engineersagainstopoverty.org/>

Engineers without Borders <http://www.ewb-uk.org/>

IAESTE: International Association for the Exchange of Students of Technical Experience
Arranges paid course related vacation abroad on an exchange basis. 020 7389 4774
<http://www.iaeste.org>
Practical Action <http://practicalaction.org/>

Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org.uk/standard.asp?id=40488>

RedR <http://www.redr.org.uk/>

Skillshare International <http://www.skillshare.org/>

UN Volunteers <http://www.onlinevolunteering.org/index.htm>

VSO - development charity offers volunteer placements: <http://www.vso.org.uk/volunteer/>

WITEC (European Association for Women in Science Engineering and Technology)
Arranges grants and work placements for female engineering students across Europe:
<http://www.witec-eu.net>

Apprenticeships

For information about engineering apprenticeships please see the apprenticeships section of the [IMechE Library EngTech Information Guide](#).

Salary information

Freely available online salary surveys

Engineering UK 2012 - report on the state of engineering in the UK, including salary levels - fulltext download (free registration required) and background information on the report is available at

http://www.engineeringuk.com/what_we_do/education_&_skills/engineering_uk_12.cfm.
(The report is also available to consult in hardcopy in the IMechE Library).

The Engineering Council's 2010 Survey of Registered Engineers is available at <http://tinyurl.com/3ywjuyk> - a summary of findings is at <http://www.engc.org.uk/news-list/professional-engineers-still-in-demand>

Office of National Statistics Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) (provides information by industry and occupation) – search for *ASHE 4 digit* at <http://www.ons.gov.uk> – latest table for occupation by 4 digit SOC code (i.e. including mechanical engineers - code 2122) is table 14 at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm:77-200444>

Payscale <http://www.payscale.com> - enter your job details, salary and skills and receive a free summary of the average salary for your peer group.

Aberdeen and Grampian Chambers of Commerce Oil and Gas Survey
<http://www.agcc.co.uk/oil-and-gas-survey/>

Annual Hays / CIBSE Journal survey (building services) – p42 in May 2011 issue at <http://content.yudu.com/A1rx9/CIBSEMay11/resources/42.htm>

Hardcopy salary surveys held in the library - tables from these can be copied and sent to IMechE Members if they are for their personal use. Otherwise they are available to consult in the library.

EEF Professionals' pay benchmark 2010-11: managers and professional engineers [2011-12 ed, just published and on order] (details at <http://www.eef.org.uk/publications/surveys/Professionals-Pay-Benchmark-2011-12.htm>)

[Engineering Rewards - June 2011](#) (Croner)

Pay and conditions in engineering 2012 (IDS Limited, details at <http://www.incomesdata.co.uk/Catalogue/ProductDetails.aspx?recordid=4799&productid=498259>)

M&E Services Engineers Fees, 2011 ed: a survey of the fees charged by consulting M&E Services Engineers (Fees Bureau, details at <http://www.feesbureau.co.uk/ME.asp>)

(CELRE/Remuneration Economics Salary Survey of Engineers - last held is from 2005; publisher refused to sell it to a library thereafter.) Details of the survey that replaced it are at http://www.celre.co.uk/salary_surveys/engineers_technicians.html

Training course information

IMechE publishes details of forthcoming technical short courses at <http://events.imeche.org/EventListMain.aspx>

IMechE CPD short courses are advertised <http://www.imeche.org/training-and-professional-development/overview>

IMechE publishes details of IMechE-accredited undergraduate degree courses at <http://www.imeche.org/membership/professional-registration/eligibility/academic-requirements/accrediteddegrees> and accredited graduate courses at <http://www.imeche.org/membership/professional-registration/eligibility/academic-requirements/further-learning/further-learning> - click on 1. An accredited academic route (updated x4 a year)

Hotcourses - a database of degree and non-degree courses: <http://www.hotcourses.com/>

IET maintains a current course database: <http://www.theiet.org/events/calendar/>

Learn Direct - search for Learn Direct courses <http://www.learnirect.co.uk/>

UCAS - search for degree courses by subject, institution, region or course code: <http://www.ucas.com/search/index.html>

Underoak - a database of 29,000 short courses in the UK. Registration is required: <http://www.underoak.co.uk/>

The following websites also provide information about UK short courses:

[Cranfield University](#) – short courses

Oil and gas, manufacturing and soft skill courses: [MCP Consulting and Training](#)

Engineering, CAD and management courses: [OakCAD Training](#)

Offshore engineering courses: [Petrofac Training](#)

Power engineering courses: [Eon Engineering Academy](#)

Pressure systems courses: [Matthews Engineering Training Ltd](#)

Railway courses: [goSkills](#)

Renewable energy courses: [Garrad Hassan](#)

Company information

The library subscribes to the Mint and Dash company databases and can carry out searches for UK companies by product/service, location and size of company. We can also provide financial and other data on individual companies. Results can be emailed to IMechE Members. Please [contact us](#) to request this.

The [web links for specific industries](#) include websites of trade associations which often list member companies or relevant suppliers.

The Mintel and EBSCO databases are available to Members via the [Virtual Library](#).

The Association of Consultancy and Engineering produces a directory of its members: <http://www.acenet.co.uk>

Applegate UK provides a directory of engineering companies by name, town, and postcode. Contact names are provided for many companies <http://www.applegate.co.uk>

Process Industries Supplier Directory <http://www.processregister.com>

The Kelly's directory can be used to search for companies by product/service and location: <http://www.kellys.co.uk>

Hemmington Scott provides brief market/financial profiles of companies <http://www.hemscott.com>

Other free company directories which cover the UK include Kompass <http://www.kompass.co.uk/> and FreeIndex <http://www.freeindex.co.uk>

The Directory section of the library is where you will find company information in hardcopy.

Careers advice

Chiumento

Chiumento (<http://www.chiumento.co.uk/>) can provide free practical support and advice to IMechE members who are looking for a new job or alternative career path. Members should contact the Support Network to access this service:

<http://www.bfime.org.uk/index.asp?contentid=4>.

The [IMechE career development web pages](#) include tips on applications and interviews, and the [IMechE industry insight pages](#) include overviews of key sectors. [Engineering Opportunities](#) and [Tomorrow's Engineers](#) also provide advice on becoming an engineer

SEMTA (Science, Engineering, Manufacturing Technologies Alliance) careers advice listings page: http://www.semta.org.uk/careers_qualifications/more_advice_guidance.aspx

General careers advice

Careers guidance in England <https://nextstep.direct.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

Careers guidance in Scotland <http://myworldofwork.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/>

Careers guidance in Wales <http://www.careerswales.com/>

Careers guidance in Northern Ireland <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers>

Direct Gov – careers advice for young people www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/index.htm