

Q&A with our apprentice, George Stamp, on why he feels apprenticeships into a career, are the way forward



Published by Schenck Process UK Ltd, Lisa Thomas, Marketing Manager

Learn why our latest UK addition, George Stamp, feels that apprenticeships are a rewarding method for kick-starting a new career.

George Stamp, a young man endeavoring on a career in engineering, decided that the best route to achieve this, wasn't necessarily through full time university studies and instead recently joined Schenck Process as an Apprentice Manufacturing Engineer. To help other individuals, considering this 'route in', we thought we'd share some of his views and experiences in his new role.

Q: Let's learn a bit about you first George. What are your hobbies outside of studies and work?

A: Outside of work and studies, I spend a lot of time at home tinkering, often working on the engine and systems of my car or motorbike. I love finding out about how things work and ways I can improve them. It also allows me to relax and develop my practical capabilities and knowledge, which helps me during my apprenticeship as well. Living on a farm, I enjoy outdoor country pursuits such as shooting and fishing. I take part in the local young farmers club attending social events and educational evenings, which has been a great organisation for socialising and meeting new people.



Q: Were there any particular topics you enjoyed while studying engineering at college?

A: Not surprisingly, I thoroughly enjoyed leading a project with some friends, where we converted a small motor-bike into a fully functioning electric bike. This allowed us to work independently, using what I've learnt at college as well as utilising and developing my practical skill set. We engineered the bike from design stage all the way through to testing.

Q: Why did you decide not to plunge straight into university full time?

A: Although I gained offers from my university choices to study Mechanical Engineering, I felt that the opportunity and advantages of a degree apprenticeship would develop me to become a highly skilled practical engineer, who will have a firm understanding on all aspects of a manufacturing business and how it operates. I believe this will make me a more valuable employee in the future at Schenck Process, but will still provide me with the opportunity to develop academically and bring new ideas to the business. To me, this far outweighs the option of leaving university with huge debts and little hands-on experience.

Q: What interested you in taking your apprenticeship through Schenck Process?

A: Schenck Process appealed to me due to the vast product portfolio of a large professional German founded company and its operational presence worldwide. Working for a global company with a strong brand and product brands presence, will hopefully present me a variety of experiences and opportunities during my apprenticeship; developing me into a versatile employee and helping to achieve the long term strategy of the company.

Q: Can you describe what your first couple of months have been like and what has been your biggest learning outcome so far?

A: My first couple of months have been an exciting time in my life - starting my new career within Schenck Process. Schenck Process is an excellent employer and all the employees are very experienced and are always willing to help me learn and develop, wherever I am in the business. The biggest challenge has been familiarising myself with the large variety of technical products and creating a sound understanding of how they operate. To help me with this, I was lucky enough to be able to visit a Steel Plant and see Schenck Processes pneumatic conveying systems in operation within industry.

The biggest learning outcome so far during only the early stage of my apprenticeship, are the practical knowledge and skills I've already gained working closely with the assembly of the pneumatic conveying vessels and I already feel like a valued part of the team at Schenck Process – which from a self-confidence point of view, is great.



Photo of George and two other new starters, in marketing and sales.

Q: Have you any advice for other individuals considering an apprenticeship or a more hands-on-start to a career?

A: If you feel passionate about a subject and prefer a practical approach to learning, an apprenticeship can be a great foundation to a successful career in your chosen industry. Apprenticeships still give you the opportunity to gain relevant qualifications required for your specific job and also benefits the company, as you can provide a fresh and different perspective on aspects of the business. From my own experience I believe that apprenticeships are the future to providing a balanced learning environment and providing a step on the ladder for a successful career, thereby increasing your employability in the future.



Photo of George and two other apprentices.

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Thank you to George, for sharing some of his early career experiences and advice. If you would like more information on a career at Schenck Process, or to get in touch with the team on any other matter, please email: info@schenckprocess.com

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