

THE VALUE OF WORK EXPERIENCE



Student: Igor Novikov
University of Kent
Placement: Seismic Stuff
Role: Computational
Design Analysis

"Using the skills picked up at university in a real-life environment to gain confidence from your knowledge is both challenging and exciting."

What is the subject of your PhD?

Computational Astrophysics

Describe a typical day on placement:

The working day starts in a friendly way with tea and coffee followed by brainstorming sessions of what work is going to be conducted on that day. We work at a small company where we get to see the whole production cycle from sketch to assembly and testing. This job is very exciting and means all participants do different tasks that in the end results in a high-tech product. Everyone involved is driven by the same goal.

What skills and knowledge do you feel you have learned during the placement?

Working outside the university environment, building a network of people from academia and industry. Doing various tasks such as data compression and CAD design, learning new software and theory, creating reports about the work.

How do you think doing a placement has benefited you for the future?

Doing a summer placement has provided me with a broader scope of interest outside academia.

What advice would you give a PGR student who might be interested in seeking a placement?

Using the skills picked up at university in a real-life environment to gain confidence from your knowledge is both challenging and exciting. I would recommend this to all PGR students.

Employer perspective:

Igor worked on an algorithm for data compression of onedimensional hydrophone data, assisted with subsea wing design and an energy harvesting impeller. Igor's scientific and mathematically rigorous perspective, coupled with dedication and enthusiasm, resulted in design and engineering product development of the highest calibre. We thank all within SEPnet for making this experience possible and look forward to future placements.

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