

Case Study



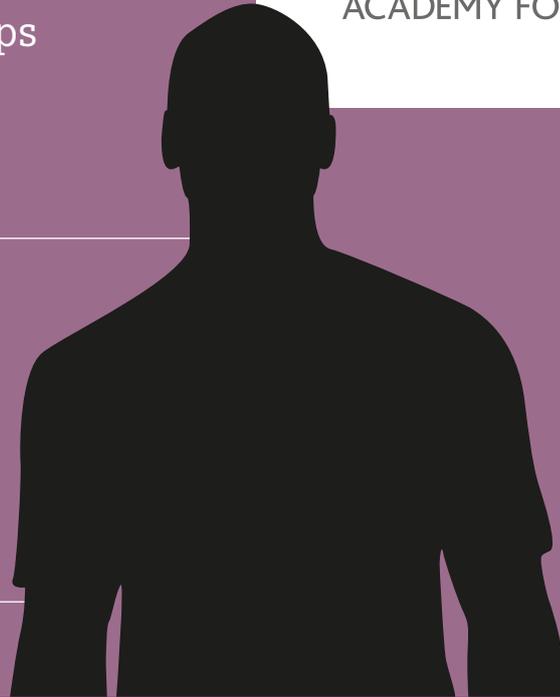
Name: Aaron

Served with: Royal Logistics Corps

Company: Siemens

Role: Project Management

"My resettlement advisor had been quick to highlight that the Rail industry was regenerating and that Rail companies offered great opportunities for career development, allowing you to progress in the same way that you can in the military."



Having worked as a Communications Specialist in the Royal Logistics Corps for more than 11 years, I knew that my Telecoms background could prove to be a great fit with the direction in which the modern Railway infrastructure is heading.

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When Jennifer Walpole, Head of Business Development, at the National Training Academy for Rail (NTAR) visited Phoenix House, Catterick, to talk about 'A Second Career in Rail' and to invite resettling personnel to attend the Open Days that NTAR was running, I saw this as my chance to take responsibility for my future.

Attending an NTAR Open Day enabled me to network. I made contact with Nathan Ibbotson, Lead Engineer for Bids & Tenders, at Siemens, who was able to organise a work experience placement for me, tailored to my skillset.

Siemens has a company-wide initiative aimed at helping service-leavers 'Step into Transport' in order to develop their future careers. They were keen to place me with Nathan as he is a veteran, understood any concerns I might have, and was able to ensure my smooth integration into the Siemens workforce.

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My eight weeks work experience at Siemens has benefited both parties. I have been able to gain a true understanding of the full-time Project Management role that interested me and Siemens was able to use the work experience as a cost-effective probation and training period. Following my work experience, I am delighted to have a firm offer of employment and Siemens has a work-ready employee.

The programme at Siemens is comprehensive and you are given responsible tasks from day one. I was asked to take day to day control of a £2.5 million, medium-sized, Telecoms project and also to tidy up and close down two smaller projects. I feel that my skills were well utilised.

"When Aaron was introduced to me by Jennifer at NTAR, I agreed to discuss his application for work experience with our Head of Engineering", said Nathan".

Getting the correct talent into Rail is a struggle and NTAR provides an ideal route into rail".

Aaron's work experience was approved by our Engineering Manager, Ian Holmes, (himself a veteran). Ian welcomed Aaron's request to undertake work experience with us at our design house in York."

Nathan continued, "I could see that Aaron was a skilled and confident communicator, who was focused, motivated and organised and I was impressed by the way he had organised his visit to NTAR and sort me out, taking control and ownership of his future. These are all skills that we value and look for over and above technical competencies."

Furthermore I would like to congratulate Aaron on his seamless transition between his "resettlement phase" and securing employment with us in York."

Aaron

