

Jason Smith, Jointing Power Apprentice

What has been your career journey so far?

Since leaving school in 1994 I have taken a variety of roles from Warehouse Worker, Delivery Driver, Coldstone Operative, to Operations Manager at a family theme park which I left to begin my career in the utilities industry. I've been at Ipsum since 2018.

What course did you study?

I have completed my Jointing apprenticeship. I studied at the UCT training centre in Carrington, Greater Manchester. Over 18 months I learnt all aspects of jointing from service jointing to Low Voltage (LV) jointing. I have spent several 5 weekly blocks at the training centre before carrying on my learning back on site alongside the experience, qualified Jointers I work with. My course concluded with a face the end-point-assessment and i am now a qualified Jointer myself!

How did you find the course?

I thoroughly enjoyed my apprenticeship, especially the on-site learning where I was able to put what I had learnt at UCT into action.

What did your role involve while studying?

My role was to assist the jointers, gathering tools, equipment and keeping work areas clean, safe and tidy. I also carried out duties such as preparing materials, putting equipment together and conducting risk assessments.

What are your aspirations for your future career?

I qualified as a Jointer and am now continuing my career journey in Ipsum's power division and hopefully one day be guiding someone else through their apprenticeship!



What is your favourite part of the job?

My favourite part of my job is the variety of work which we receive. Every day is different and I learn new lessons all the time, by observing more experienced colleagues on the job and understanding the different approaches to the work we do.

How are you finding Ipsum?

I really enjoy working at Ipsum. My previous career path was unsuitable for my family life so I decided to make a change. Ipsum are much more accommodating to family life. Just being able to sit down and have a family dinner, on time, each day is very important to me. I am thankful for that environment at Ipsum.

Would you recommend Ipsum?

Absolutely. As a more mature apprentice I was worried about stigma. But I did not receive that at Ipsum. I was welcomed as the oldest member of the team who needed to learn arguably the most at the time. I now have a great friendship with the people i work with.