



WELL-SAFE
SOLUTIONS

CASE STUDY

Graduate: Charan Raj Shankar, Graduate Engineer

Charan moved from India to the UK to pursue an engineering career in the decommissioning sector.

He tells us more about the challenges and attractions of decommissioning and the Well-Safe Exceleator scheme.

Tell us about your journey to date - what did you study, for how long and where? Which qualifications did you receive?

My story is a little different to that of some of my colleagues! I completed a four-year degree in Petroleum Engineering at Presidency University of Bangalore, India, earning a Bachelor of Technology (BTech) qualification. I then moved to Aberdeen to study for a Masters in Petroleum Production Engineering, delivered by Robert Gordon University.

I wanted to push myself in an unfamiliar sector and challenge myself to learn something new. Whether it was through coursework, research projects or internships, I've worked to broaden my knowledge and skills in preparation for my career. I really enjoy exploring and learning about the lesser-known aspects of the industry, driven by a curiosity to understand and tackle the unique challenges in the world of well decommissioning.

What attracted you to apply for the Well-Safe Exceleator scheme?

With my engineering studies background, I knew that decommissioning is a growth sector in mature oil and gas sectors worldwide before starting this role. I saw the Well-Safe Exceleator scheme as the perfect avenue for a graduate to gain more in-depth, practical knowledge and experience in this field.

The things I've learned so far have given me a solid foundation to build on, while my curiosity and eagerness to tackle new challenges has really increased my interest in the world of well decommissioning.

I am grateful for the chance to learn in both onshore and offshore environments which, I feel, has enabled me to learn faster and in more detail than in a purely classroom-based setting.

Why Well-Safe Solutions?

- Decommissioning is a fast-growing sector with decades of international work ahead.
- We provide a direct route into the industry, giving you the chance to 'earn while you learn'.
- Accelerate your career, networking and skills development with us.
- Learn with like-minded peers



Charan's goals have taken him from India to the UK



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Which theoretical skills from your studies have you been using in your role?

My studies at both Presidency University and Robert Gordon University have really developed my analytical, conceptual and technical skills, which have enabled me to hit the ground running in my role at Well-Safe Solutions.

Some of the theory which I've learned is directly applicable to the challenges we explore solutions to in well abandonment. For example, many of our clients are looking to effectively manage reservoirs at the late life stage, with a view to decommissioning oil and gas wells as safely, smartly and efficiently as possible. It's vital that we pay attention to the unique challenges of our client's well stock when we are recommending the right options available to them for effective decommissioning.

What would you like to see from the decommissioning industry to attract graduates into this growing sector?

It's essential to create a working environment which is both challenging and rewarding - and I think this is especially important when companies are trying to attract graduates, who likely have several options available to them. In my experience, graduates are more likely to be drawn to a sector offering opportunities to face and overcome technical challenges, which are key to personal and professional growth.

The opportunity to take on new and varied training and support in my Graduate Engineer role has also been a big help in building up my professional confidence and competence so far.



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You're the future of well decommissioning.

We partner with schools, colleges and universities to showcase the many opportunities for career and skills development at Well-Safe Solutions.

Your career can have a positive impact on everyone's future as we work to assist our clients through the energy transition. Be part of the change and challenge yourself with Well-Safe Solutions.



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