

A vertical splash of water on the left side of the slide, featuring large, clear bubbles and smaller droplets against a blue background.

What's the Surrey EngD programme ever done for me?

October 2012

Dr. Gareth Rice , Head of Environment, O₂

Industry's journey towards sustainability



“Sustainability is the single biggest business opportunity of the 21st century... it will be the next source of competitive advantage.”

Lee Scott, former CEO of Wal-Mart

Gareth's journey towards sustainability

EngD projects:

- RTZ Borax
- The British Oxygen Group

Since then;

- Environmental Resources Management – senior consultant – 2 years
- Panasonic (UK, Europe & Japan) – Environment Manager, Head of CSR, Sustainability advisor – 8 years

Now:

Telefónica UK (O2) - Head of Environment – 5 years... & counting!





The Surrey Eng D Doctorate;

What did the sponsoring and subsequent companies get out of it ?

And (more to the point) what have I got out of it?

What did they get out of it?

1 The EngD Sponsoring Companies

- The ability to develop and in-house expert
- Access to academic support and a credible stakeholder
- Access to leading-edge sustainability thinking & techniques
- A financially attractive resource in tough economic times



2 The Subsequent Employers

- Competency in a sustainability specialist field which they previous lacked (With an appreciation of the wider sustainability context)
- Specifically the ability to apply LCA/LCT techniques in multi-contexts
- An external representative with necessary presentation/communication skills
- New EngD resource



3 The Current Employer

- A sustainability network
- Delivery of innovation based on EngD founded knowledge
- Sustainability expertise that's enabled commercial opportunities
- Continued access to academic institutions and stakeholders



But what did I get out of it?

1

THEN - 1993 – 1997

Genuine work experience from Day 1

And that's relevant today as it was in 1993. Maybe moreso.

Genuine academic rigor from Day 1

A great work ethic?

And EngD is not a Walk-in-the-Park

An ability to traverse both the academic and commercial linguistic landscapes!

A fantastic peer network

2

NOW – 2012 +

Still using the research, theories and techniques I learnt in 1993

Life cycle thinking is key to all that we're doing in O2 ; it's the foundation to our Think Big Blueprint

Still maintain strong links to Surrey

Invited one of their professors on our expert stakeholder panel

Still using the EngD network

15 years since the 1st EngD walked off the podium; that's a network of close to 200 doctorates



O₂

Thank you

A *Telefonica* company