

SCOTT ARMSTRONG



ENJOY YOUR CAREER. PROFILE No 9



Course: **Certificate III Electrotechnology**
GTO: **The Apprenticeship & Traineeship Company**
Host Employer: **Kevin McGregor Electrical Contracting**

Scott, is there one piece of career advice that somebody's given you that stood out and made an impact on you?

Follow your goals and dreams, have a future plan and pretty well do what interests you. Don't stay with something that's not for you. Find something that you're going to try your hardest at and enjoy it.

What's interesting about your career and why do you enjoy it?

I like moving around, I don't like being stuck in the same working environment every day. I like meeting people along the way. We do different types of work like housing maintenance, dairy's, anything that comes up, it's that variety I like.

What happened after you left school?

I actually left school in the first term of year twelve. It was either finish school or take the apprenticeship. Pretty tough call but I haven't looked back and I think it's all worked out in my favour. I did a vocational course at senior high school, it was to do with hand skills like wood, metal, mechanics, general sort of work shop. I tried a few other trades but I took a liking to my electrical work with my current employer and he offered me an apprenticeship, so I took that.

How has your Group Training Organisation helped you since then?

They've been very good with any information I've needed, they keep in touch and on the odd occasion when I forget to put my timesheets in and things like that, they're straight on the phone working out what's happening, holidays, everything's been easy. Anything that comes up they sort it out quickly.

Was there a Group Training Organisation that helped you in this process?

Yeah, Group Training South West. They signed me up and then signed me to my host employer. He took me through Group Training because he had his previous Apprentices that way and he found it easier. Takes the pressure off him.

And what's the best thing about the career that you've chosen, and where do you think it might take you?

It uses a lot of my skills, like creativity, I get to draw circuits, get to travel around like I said before, get to different environments, people skills. I've been left on my own with a lot to work, which has given me a lot of self confidence.

And where do you think it might lead in your life, will you have your own business in ten years?

That's what I was planning, I always wanted to travel so I might get that out of my system. Then I plan on starting my own business, probably in my home town, I'd like to do that.

How important is it to have a good work life balance?

Very important. I don't think anyone wants to be stuck at work. You also don't want to get to the stage where you don't have any hobbies.

So what do you like outside of work?

I race yachts, which is pretty my main sport. It's pretty expensive, but it's good fun, I love it. I also play hockey in winter. I try to keep fit, go to the gym a bit and whatever's going, anything to do with the ocean, that's the way down here where I live.

That's it Scott. Good luck with your career and sailing.

Scott chose to do a manufacturing and industry vocational course in Year 11. Excelling in these vocational programs, Scott was offered an electrical apprenticeship whilst still at school. His decision to take on the apprenticeship has been rewarded with his host employer now trusting him to manage a project from beginning to end, including working with clients and trouble shooting problems.



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