

5 QUESTIONS WITH...

Gemma Bland, an engineer undergraduate at The University of Surrey, who has joined Lincad for a 12 month internship.

LEARNING AT LINCAD



1 What is Lincad's connection with The University of Surrey ?

Lincad has partnered with The University of Surrey engineering faculty for a number of years now for its in-house internship scheme. I have completed the first two years of my electronic engineering degree and for my third year work placement I applied for this opportunity at Lincad. I have an interest in software engineering and the defence sector. Lincad specialises in the manufacture of defence batteries, chargers and power management systems, so I felt it was a good fit.

2 How long is your Lincad internship and what will it involve?

The internship is for 12 months within the Lincad engineering department. I will be working on real software engineering projects with the Lincad engineering team. This is what is so exciting for me, I am actually doing real work and learning every day.

3 Were you always interested in STEM subjects?

Yes, at school I excelled in STEM subjects and I knew from an early age that I wanted to be an engineer. After my A-levels I accepted a place at The University of Surrey.

4 Would you say that you are a firm advocate for greater diversity in engineering and want to encourage more women into engineering careers?

I hope more women look to follow engineering careers. I encourage more young women to consider engineering careers and all the different types of engineering roles out there. I truly believe that the schools need to do engineering career talks earlier in the curriculum. In my school we had various engineering career advice talks around our A-levels and by that time most students already have an idea of what career path they want to follow.

5 What advice would you give young women looking to pursue a career in engineering?

I would suggest they look to do an internship or a work placement of some kind. This way they can experience engineering and perhaps get exposure to the variety of opportunities within engineering. There are many forums and talks available on the internet whereby you can get lots of information about engineering careers. Women should feel confident to apply for any engineering job they wish to pursue. ●

