

Matthew Artherton

The Mason Trust helped me with funding a training course for a computer aided design software, Solidworks, this is an advanced CAD software focusing on Mechanical and product design. I was working as a CAD Technician for an independent Structural and Civil Engineering consultant. Although I enjoyed the work I was doing, there was no progression within the company and after 7 years and feeling I was not achieving much, I decided to change my career focusing on product design.

This proved rather difficult as the software itself was very expensive to self-teach myself (which I had done for my previous job using the software AUTOCAD). I then decided to put myself through a course for Solidworks again proving difficult as the training course was almost £4000. The retailer for the course had given me a big discount as I was a single applicant and not doing the course through a company.

This was great and I was very grateful, although still too expensive. A family member knew about The Mason Trust and helped me contact them and fill out the relevant paperwork. They kindly and generously helped me pay for the course.

I completed the course over a few months and completed the first exam that Solidworks have to become a Certified Solidworks Associate. I then proceeded to apply for relevant jobs which gave me some job interview experience, yet had no luck securing any of the jobs on offer. I then decided to take a step back and think about some more training evening doing an open degree.

I was contacted by a recruitment agency which had found a job that was well suited to me and I managed to secure the position. It is not exactly what I had trained for but with my experience with CAD and the training help me within the job. There are also progression opportunities which I am currently negotiating a new role as a BIM co-ordinator which manages a team within the office on all things CAD. The certificate also lasts for a lifetime which means I can always move on to something else with help from the course.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Mason Trust for their generous help and giving me the opportunity to achieve my goals. I am very grateful.

Matthew.