

WorkCover's Hero

Joshua Kent graduated from Sydney University in 2004 with first class honours in Engineering, and was awarded a post-graduate scholarship to undertake research into combustion systems for a Masters Degree. He worked as a research assistant at Sydney University to supplement his scholarship.

He began working at TestSafe/WorkCover in 2006 as a graduate engineer where he was involved in mechanical equipment testing and accident investigations. In 2007 he applied for the vacant Mechanical Engineer position, and was successful. Josh was recently interviewed as being part of the Graduate Engineering Program, interview below.

(a) What is WorkCover?

"WorkCover's primary objective is to work in partnership with the NSW community to achieve safe workplaces, effective return to work and security for injured workers."

(b) Why did you choose to become an engineer at WorkCover?

"I was looking for aboriginal identified positions and applied for one with WorkCover. It sounded like an interesting opportunity with great pay, a good location, job security, interesting and varied work, and good working conditions. There are great opportunities for promotion and learning and development. WorkCover actively encourages their staff to undertake further training and education as relevant to their area of work."

(c) What do you like about your job?

"The work I do isn't typical engineering, a lot of the work is hands on and graduate engineers are put forward for more management type work fairly early on as our knowledge is required to provide quality assurance to the work. I do a fair bit of practical work but I oversee the tests that are done within my area to ensure they are done correctly. The work I do is varied - there really is no average day. I am involved in testing mechanical equipment for safety, which means running tests and at times designing new tests and equipment to accommodate new equipment or machinery that has been developed that now needs to be tested. The work is interesting, fun and rewarding and involves communicating with a variety of people and managing a variety of current projects."



(d) What do you believe makes you good at your job?

- Can do attitude
- Good interpersonal and people management skills
- Good Communication skills - both written and oral
- Analytical skills being thorough and careful
- Hands on
- Team oriented
- Interpreting legislation and policy correctly.