

WENDY BEATTY

William & Henry Alexander (Civil Engineering) Ltd.



TRANSFERABLE SKILLS LEAD TO A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN CONSTRUCTION

After working in the food industry, Wendy was able to transfer her skills and knowledge of quality procedures to the management systems in the construction industry, moving firstly to the quarrying industry and then into a civil engineering company. She has now been in the industry for 14 years and works as the Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Manager (HSQE) for William & Henry Alexander (Civil Engineering) Ltd. Early in her construction career, Wendy attended Doncaster College and won the Top Student Award at the Institute of Asphalt Technology from the Worshipful Company of Paviers. The course she completed, on Bituminous Materials Testing, enabled her to gain her first promotion to Laboratory Manager with a previous employer. She found it beneficial to have a knowledge of the quarry products and materials being used on construction projects prior to seeing them being put to use during contracts. Wendy currently holds a NEBOSH Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety and a NEBOSH Diploma in Environmental Management. She feels her training has helped her to progress and says, "I would encourage women to develop their skills where possible to advance their careers by engaging in further training. Undertaking training, particularly where exams are required, can be challenging, but also very rewarding when you achieve your goals, which can ultimately lead to promotion within your field."

Wendy recommends working in the construction industry as every day is different, the working environment is always changing and there are opportunities to travel to different parts of the UK. Wendy also loves being outdoors on construction projects, meeting a wide range of people, and gets a great sense of achievement when construction projects are completed.

In her current role as HSQE Manager, Wendy is responsible for managing the company's Health and Safety, Quality, and Environmental Management Systems. She provides advice to Senior Managers and other staff on site and also arranges and delivers training to staff on site. She is also responsible for auditing and inspecting construction activities within the company and to do so must constantly keep up-to-date with the latest developments in her field of expertise. As a result, her company has been awarded a Distinction in three consecutive years from the National Irish Safety Organisation / Northern Ireland Safety Group Annual Occupational Safety Awards. The company also won a Green Apple Bronze Award for Environmental Management on the Dunmore Wind Farm project. The project has also won the Silver National Award for Considerate Constructors and was a finalist in the CEF Constructing Excellence Awards.



CASE STUDY