The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Bristol has strong links with a large and diverse set of world-class engineering and technology companies. The **Industrial Liaison Office** (ILO) is a dedicated team who manage and develop these industrial relationships to ensure that you are engaged with industry from the start of your studies. If you choose to study engineering here at Bristol, you will benefit from the wide range of ILO activities including our **Inside Track lecture series** where engineering industry insiders provide a first-hand insight into their industry, a regular **newsletter** highlighting opportunities and events and the **Industrial Mentoring and Internship Scheme** designed to enhance your employability.

### First Year Industrial Mentoring Scheme

The scheme provides first years with a mentor from a relevant industry to:

- Provide insight into real life work in engineering and technology industry
- Provide support and guidance with your career development
- Give you the opportunity to explore a range of career paths
- Give you practical advice on the job application process
- Help you start to develop a good network of contacts

As part of the Mentoring Scheme you will get the opportunity to visit your mentor’s place of work or an engineering site to find out exactly what goes on in the workplace. You will meet other people from the company to help shape your ideas about future career options.

**What do students say about the scheme?**

“The mentoring scheme has given us the opportunity to get a good rounded view of a large-scale project. It was great to see how the things we are learning are applied in the real world. And I found it really helpful to talk to a non-academic person for a different perspective.”

**Guy Cox, Civil Engineering student**

“I feel that this has been a fantastic opportunity and I have been very fortunate to have had such an active industrial mentor. I have definitely had an insight into how large companies such as EDF are run and have seen first-hand the role that engineers play. I am now genuinely more motivated in pursuing my career as an engineer.”

**Sam Valantine, Mechanical Engineering student with EDF Energy**
Industrial Liaison Office Internship Scheme

An internship is a short, paid work experience placement. The ILO has arranged for companies to provide internships specifically for Faculty of Engineering students to undertake during the summer vacation.

There are many benefits to students, including:

- Provide you with relevant work experience during your studies to enhance your employability
- Allow you to experience an industry and company for a short period of time and help you make decisions about the type of industry or role you might wish to pursue when you graduate
- Give you an opportunity to develop your practical skills and to see how your studies can be applied in the working world
- Help you begin to develop a network of industrial contacts
- Provide good practice in the recruitment and selection process to help you in your search for other internships or a job after graduation

The internships typically last 6-12 weeks and the ILO manages the application and interview process to help support you.

You could apply for an ILO internship every year of your studies!

What do students say about the scheme? 

“My internship was with a leading supplier to the global aviation industry. It gave me a great experience of full-time work. The project we worked on was very business relevant, and we all gained significantly from participating on it. The internship helped us to develop our communication skills and we experienced working in a very professional business environment.”

Andy Salmon, Aerospace Engineering student

“I have truly gained a huge insight into the workings of engineering firms such as LICenergy: the projects they do, how they apply for them, the different roles within the office and of course the main engineering skills they use to complete their work. It has been great to talk to the people who work here about their experiences as engineers, both within LICenergy and in previous jobs, and it will help me choose the paths, both on my course and in my career, that I may take in the future.”

Nick Finney, Mechanical Engineering student

Visit bristol.ac.uk/engineering/ilo for more ILO activities and to read the full case studies.

We also provide international opportunities for our overseas (non-EU) fee paying students.

What do employers say about the scheme?

“GKN continues to support Bristol’s internship scheme and we see it as a key element of our graduate development pipeline.

We have been impressed with the calibre and enthusiasm of undergraduates in the Faculty of Engineering and we have been happy to provide placements across multiple aerospace sites and technical disciplines.”

Max Brown, Head of Engineering, Technology & Quality - Aerostructures Europe. GKN Aerospace Services Limited

Students on their placement at the National Composites Centre

During an Internship at GKN Aerospace