**Euan Ronald**

**Degree studied:**
Open Access  
PG Certificate in Environmental Engineering

**Year of graduation:** 2012  
(PG Certificate)

**Background before undertaking the course:**

After studying applied biology at undergraduate level, I served 7 years as an officer in the Royal Navy where I undertook environmental management responsibilities on a variety of different ships and shore establishments. When I left the RN, I wanted to continue working in an environmental position and have since held a variety of different EHS positions in a variety of different industries (Consultancy, Manufacturing, Construction etc). In the latter of these roles I identified a gap in my technical knowledge that I wanted to further develop and so I decided to undertake some further studies in Environmental Engineering.

**Why did I choose Strathclyde?**

Both the course content offered by Strathclyde and the lecturers came highly recommended by several colleagues working within the environmental industry and it had the added bonus of the Open Access scheme which enabled me to fit the studies around my full time work.

**Particularly good things about the course;**

The flexibility of the Open Access modules allowed me to pick and choose my modules based upon my knowledge gaps and also allowed me to accrue credits towards a Postgraduate Certificate. The course content was very interesting but it was the support and diversity of staff that make up the department that allowed me to get the most from the modules and also allowed me to explore other related avenues of interest.

**How has it helped my career?**

The modules have helped me to broaden my environmental knowledge and obtain Chartered Environmentalist status through the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment. In addition I am due to take up a new role working for ERM CVS undertaking environmental certification and verification in high risk industries.

**Would I recommend Open Access to other students?**

Absolutely! If you hold a full time role and are unable to attend the course in any other manner or even if you just want to undertake a specific module to develop your skills, then open access is the way to go!