Karen Higgins

Engineering Manager, BE Aerospace



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MEng Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, (July 2007)

MBA (Master of Business Administration) Queen's University Belfast, (2013)

I started out in B/E Aerospace as a Manufacturing Engineer in August 2007. I have been given great opportunities to work on a wide range of projects and improvements within Lean Manufacturing and also systems such as MRP (Materials Requirements Planning). B/E Aerospace Kilkeel has long been recognised as one of the highest quality aircraft seating suppliers in the world. Their commitment to quality has earned them a variety of internationally acknowledged accreditations, including that of the highly regarded British Standards Institution. Their client portfolio further reflects their success and includes the world's biggest and most prestigious airlines, including British Airways, Lufthansa, Qatar and Emirates.

I was promoted to Engineering Manager in May 2013 and I now manage a team of design engineers, manufacturing engineers and engineering administrative staff. I thoroughly enjoy my job in B/E Aerospace as it is fast paced and throughout the day I am interacting with many different functions and facing new challenges.

The advice I would give to others considering or starting out their career in Engineering is to be proud of the fact that you are a woman in an Engineering Environment. We bring something different to the table and most of the ladies I have studied with or worked with in Engineering have been very successful.