



Graeme Pollock

Process Capability Manager

What does your job entail?

My role has a number of aspects but key amongst them would be delivering innovation projects into the packaging organisation be that new liquids or formats. Secondly I would be responsible for using techniques such as six sigma to critically analyse our processes and identify areas of process improvement and cost saving.

Outline your career to date

After leaving university my first job was with a company called Montupet which was an aluminium foundry making alloy wheels and cylinder heads for Ford and Peugeot/Citroen. I started as a process engineer and was there for 4 years before starting with Diageo in the Marshalls road packaging plant. I have been here now for 16 years starting as a Line engineer and progressing from there to become the site improvement manager. I then moved department to take up a role as quality manager and after three years progress to be the Governance Manger responsible for all compliance activity (health safety and environment) on site. My next role took me to Runcorn in England as the Improvement manager based in Belfast but responsible for two site and from there into my current role.

What are your qualifications?

I went to school in Belfast and left Methodist College with 3 levels before moving across the road to do a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering. I have undertaken many training courses with ranging from safety qualifications (NEBOSH), food safety (CIEH), Lean Six Sigma (Green and black belt) although with many functional and leadership programmes.

What qualities are required for your job?

The key qualities for any of the roles I have had would be the ability to work with people, to listen to them and build relationships and well as strong communication skills. Once you have mastered that, things become much easier. One of my key strengths would be analytical problem solving and by the way I have never engineered a chemical in my entire career.

What is the best advice you have ever received?

Never change who you are always be yourself but with skill. What this means is to take the things you enjoy and are good at make them the best they can be.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I have been married to Judith for 16 years and have two boys Andrew (11) and Alistair (7) so much of my spare time is as a taxi driver!! Outside of that I am a keen, if mediocre, cricketer and I play Euphonium in a brass band both of which I enjoy very much.

Who has inspired you most in your life?

Justin Welby- The Current Archbishop of Canterbury. His story is inspirational. He started is career after leaving university working in the oil and gas industry in Africa. When he decided he wanted to join the church was told that they wouldn't have a place for him. Despite this he persevered.

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself

My musical taste is second to none. The first album I bought was Banarama's Greatest Hits and Judith and I first bonded over a shared love of the band Steps.