



Chris Nicholson

IEng MIET

Authorising Engineer HV/LV (Designate)

Summary of Qualifications

- Foundation Degree – Marine Systems Engineering (University of Portsmouth) – Merit
- Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (MIET)
- 18th Edition City & Guilds NVQ Level 3
- Inspection and testing and initial verification City & Guilds NVQ Level 2
- CMI Level 5 Award in Management and Leadership (Chartered Management Institute)
- City & Guilds Level Award in F Gas ODS Regulations: Category 1
- Refrigeration Technicians Part 2
- NVQ Level 3 in Engineering Maintenance (Electrical)
- NEBOSH Certificate in Fire Safety
- NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
- NEBOSH HSE Introduction to Incident Investigation
- Institution of Engineering and Technology registered Incorporated Engineer (IEng)

Work Experience

November 2023 – Present

Authorising Engineer HV/LV (Designate)

- Authorising Engineer (Designate) for electrical disciplines: Low Voltage, High Voltage
- Working to support compliance with Safe Systems of Work, Statutory Requirements and Company Safety Rules and Procedures.
- Assisting with the implementation, administration, monitoring, and auditing of the above.
- Engaged by maintenance organisations, commercial FM organisations and NHS Trusts in the UK.

February 2022 – November 2023

Maritime Capability Trials Assurance (MCTA) Trials Manager

- Manage Harbour and Sea Acceptance Trials (HATs and SATs) ensuring that state of the art ship electrical and mechanical systems remain operational and fully effective whilst trials are being conducted.
- Authors complex technical and non-technical documentation and reports using appropriate language and communication style detailing defects, machinery operation, material states & technical improvement guidance.
- Go-to individual and specialist in vibration analysis, working on multiple UK Naval assets to assess and supply Vibration Data to identify and mitigate early degradation of machinery and systems.
- Liaises closely with the ship's Head of Engineering as well as the yard refit Engineering team to trouble shoot, reduce, and remove potential conflict between on-going and sometimes conflicting engineering projects.
- Continues to demonstrate commitment to his own professional development. Latest qualifications awarded include 18th Edition City & Guilds NVQ Level 3, NEBOSH Fire Safety.

May 2020 – February 2022

Naval Engineering Falklands Islands Deputy Officer in Charge, Squadron Health and Safety representative and Senior Quality Assurance Co-Ordinator

- To act as the Squadron Quality Assurance Coordinator liaising within a tri service organisation to ensure all work activities were conducted in accordance with MOD policy.
- Unit fire safety manager, acting as the focal point for all fire safety within the unit, conducting monthly fire training alongside daily rounds and weekly inspections. Escalating multiple concerns for remedial works and mitigating the risk to life.
- Unit Health and Safety manager, acting as the focal point for all health and safety matters ensuring that all risk assessment were conducted and remained relevant to the task, reporting any accidents or incidents conducting investigations to reduce the risk. Maintaining all PPE on site whilst ensuring all personnel were suitably qualified to use and wear.
- Liaising closely with visiting Vessels, planning, and organising work request and support for the ship with both civilian and naval engineers. Managing Maintenance periods in a remote location ensuring that all personnel and stores are available enabling the task to be conducted.
- Departmental co-ordinator managed and controlled all incoming and outgoing personal arriving and departed and conducted their relevant training packages prior to arriving.

July 2018 – April 2020

Defence Crisis Management Centre Plant Supervisor – Whitehall London

- Responsible for correct operation, availability, defect management, planned preventive maintenance (PPM), and recovery plans for all systems and related equipment.
- To lead and conduct fire and damage control training to all staff both permanent and visiting and can act in accordance with site standing orders in emergency.
- Responsible for the training and mentoring of new joiners, conducting both site walk-arounds and oral boards to ensure all personnel are trained to a high standard.
- Control the access, brief, and record all personnel entering the plant room areas. Ensuring all have the permits and have informed the plant team of any work been conducted.
- Issuing of permits for contractors and the isolation of mechanical and electrical equipment to make the equipment safe should an incident arise utilising the LOTO system.

April 2018 – July 2018

Maritime Support Unit – Lead High Voltage Authorised Person

- Senior point of contact for High Voltage (HV) Propulsion Systems and associated machinery with responsibility for training, as well as producing and endorsing all electrical documentation to allow for HV work or switching. Re-invigorating the HV logs, in the process enabling them to be earmarked for use across all HV ships in the fleet.

- Utilised in the removal and replacement of various controls and HV equipment components for the use on seagoing units.
- Selected to take part in the development and upgrading of the current platform management system hosted by a forum of developers of the system.
- Taking on the additional roles of auxiliaries' section head due to gapping, ensuring all logs and equipment were up to date and presenting the section for an assurance visit,

April 2017 – March 2018

Fishery Protection Squadron – Auxiliaries Section Head

- Acting as Marine Engineer Officer of the watch Responsible for the safe operation, availability, defect management, planned preventive maintenance (PPM), and recovery plans for propulsion systems and related equipment.
- Given responsibility to lead and manage highly skilled and multi-disciplined team of engineers, monitoring progress, and facilitating professional development, mentoring, and offering training in areas of under-performance.
- Reported to the Head of Engineering. Responsible for creating work packages and making sure critical logistics were validated and procured on time, so that the ship ran to schedule.
- Appointed Damage Control and Fire Fighting Specialist, conduction weekly training and exercises to ships operating procedures, ensuring all personnel were safe and suitably qualified to conduct their duties.
- Appointed Lead Engineer for Sea Boats, Hydraulics systems (Davits, cranes, and Capstans), Heating and Ventilation System, Sewage treatment plant (including toilet and bathrooms), High pressure and Low-pressure water systems, all automated doors and valves, Refrigeration systems, and ship's hull. Ensuring all equipment was readily available, rectifying defect ordering stores and conducting training and PPM on all machinery.

June 2015 – April 2017

Propulsion Group Section Head – High Voltage and Controls

- Responsible for correct operation, availability, defect management, planned preventive maintenance (PPM), and recovery plans for propulsion systems and related equipment.
- Given responsibility to lead and manage highly skilled and multi-disciplined team of engineers, monitoring progress, and facilitating professional development, mentoring, and offering training in areas of under-performance.
- Lead Authorised Person High Voltage for HV Systems and associated machinery with responsibility for training, as well as producing all Switching schedules and an in-depth endorsing program for all AP under training ensuring all Permits to work were issued on time to allow work to commence in an efficient and timely manner.
- Invigorated the Power & Propulsion documentation to include normal operating & emergency procedures.
- Set to work Propulsion Converters, Advanced Induction Motors and Integrated Platform Management System and played a vital role in the development of Standard Operating Procedures in the event of machinery failure.
- Appointed Lead Engineer for High Voltage (HV) system including Advanced induction motors, VDM2500 Converters, HV Filters, HV-LV Transformers, HV alternators and Platform management system and Electrical Propulsion management system, Water auxiliary cooling system and all remote operated valves. Ensuring all equipment was maintained and all defects reported and rectified to achieve maximum operation capability.

Professional Skills & Experience



Multi-skilled Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Manager



Committed to personal and professional development



Comprehensive knowledge of PPM



Health and Safety Practices including NEBOSH qualification



Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) qualification



Competent Authorised Person in LV and HV



Experienced Electrical and Mechanical maintenance Technician



Having worked with AC/DC motors, Drive Converters, Inverters, Transformers, PLCs



Plus , Pumps, Hydraulic systems, HVAC, and refrigeration



Planning, organisation and delegation