



Graeme - Mechanical technician

## Graeme assembles key components for the largest experiment on earth

Graeme's job is to figure out how to maintain, upgrade and assemble cryostats - chambers that keep the Large Hadron Collider's superconducting magnets colder than out of space.

Managing a team of five, he works in French and English to figure out the best ways to take apart and reassemble equipment that can weigh up to 32 tonnes. He also creates instruction kits so that other teams can put together complex components and provides technical expertise to ensure engineering designs work in the LHC 100m below ground.

"When I was at school, I wasn't that academic to be honest with you, but I enjoyed physics - it was the only science lesson I enjoyed. I found it really exciting. Fast-forward it's really odd that I'm working in a science environment!"

Graeme has worked on projects on the forefront of science throughout his career, so what is his greatest achievement? "Coming out to CERN and working abroad in French on an enormous project. When I was young I never thought I would be working abroad, but as I got older I liked the idea and it's something I should have done sooner - it's something I would encourage anyone to do."

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1982-1986  
Completed a four-year UK atomic energy apprenticeship

1986  
Became an instrument maker

1985-2005  
Spent 20 years working on nuclear fusion projects in Oxfordshire

2005  
Leading technician on the Diamond Light Source experiment

2012 - Present  
Mechanical technician at CERN department

