



# Case Study: CEng

## Jon Symons



I am an experienced software and systems engineer, developing capability in system architecting and Model-Based Systems Engineering, to enable the Rolls-Royce Defence engineering organisation to develop optimum solutions to meet customer needs. I joined the UK Chapter of INCOSE because I moved into a role where I wanted to learn more about Systems Engineering and to build up a network of like-minded individuals.

### Congratulations on transferring Chartered Engineer (CEng) title to INCOSE UK. What inspired you to move your registration?

I have been an INCOSE UK member since 2017 and have participated in the MBSE Interest Group as well as taking a keen interest in INCOSE conferences and papers. My employer actively encourages professional registration and up until 2019 was willing to fund membership of two such institutions. My reasons for transferring were two-fold; firstly I felt that INCOSE UK was a better home for my professional registration, I have enjoyed collaborating with INCOSE members and can associate with the philosophy and objectives of the UK Chapter. Secondly, driven by financial challenges of the pandemic, I decided to transfer my professional registration to INCOSE and consolidate my memberships into a single 'home'.

### How did you find the application process? Was it challenging to document all your work experience and did it take a long time?

It took some time, however it was good to reflect on some of the recent work that I have done and document this against the Chartered Engineer criteria. I was able to read across information from my initial CEng application.

### How easy was it to track down supporters and references in support of your application?

I was able to identify a few colleagues who were familiar with my work to review my application. I also took advantage of the use of an INCOSE UK mentor, kindly provided by the secretariat. This proved extremely useful and gave me some good tips for improving the application to ensure that I had covered the required criteria.

### Tell us about your experience of the assessment process?

The assessment process went very smoothly. The time spent on the application meant that I did not have to provide any additional information or go through an interview process.

### In what ways has registration benefited your career?

Becoming a Chartered Engineer was a key milestone in my career, recognising that I have proven competence as an engineer. It has given me confidence, not only within my organisation but also in engagement with partners and customers.

### How does your employer benefit from your professional registration?

It gives my employer the confidence that I can deliver what is expected of me in a professional way.

### Do you participate in any other career-related activities, such as mentoring, volunteering or membership of other engineering groups?

I play a role in the core engineering group which means that I act as a subject matter expert in my discipline (system architecting). This means I have frequent interaction with deployed engineers in a coaching and supporting capacity. I have also acted as a mentor to new engineers joining the team including interns and graduates.

### Is there any advice you would pass on to someone considering professional registration?

Do not be afraid to ask for help and support from colleagues and take up the offer of having a mentor review your application or even just to get some advice to get started. Use information from your previous CEng application as a basis for the evidence in the transfer application, focusing on the UK Spec A and B competencies.