

# GRADUATE PROFILE

NAME: Thomas Miles

JOB TITLE: Graduate Fire Engineer

QUALIFICATIONS: MPhys (Hons) Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics With a Year in the USA

EDUCATION: University of Kent



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## EDUCATION / CAREER PROGRESSION

Although my degree title may suggest I spent 4 years sitting at a telescope, it allowed me to build on my fundamental knowledge of Physics and its applications. I began studying at the University of Kent in 2012, before spending my third year at the University of Kansas and finally graduating with First Class Honours in July 2016. Shortly before finishing university I was fortunate enough to be offered a Graduate Fire Engineering role with Trenton Fire, and I began work in early September.

## WHY FIRE ENGINEERING?

As part of my Master's research project, I investigated the accuracy of a hydrocode for the purpose of simulating hypervelocity impacts involving spacecraft. You might think how this ties in to Fire Engineering, but in fact Complex Fluid Dynamics (CFD) is a handy tool involving simulations, which help build structures that might not directly meet certain regulations. It definitely serves a different purpose to my research project, but when I began looking into what I wanted for a career, then simulation modelling was one part that I wanted to be involved in.

## HIGHLIGHTS

I am still new to the job, but the company wasted no time getting me involved in projects worth millions of pounds in construction value. In fact, in my first two weeks I was helping in drafting up a fire strategy for a multi-million pound house, which isn't something that you would imagine yourself doing when sitting in a university lecture only a few months earlier.

## WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT WORKING FOR TRENTON?

My favourite thing about working for Trenton Fire, without doubt, is the relaxed working atmosphere. Everyone at the office is approachable and willing to help, which is definitely of great benefit to a new graduate. Over the next couple of months I'll be travelling to the University of Leeds for a week to sit a Masters-level module on Fire Safety Design, which I'm sure will be priceless in terms of progressing my career quickly, while also it says a lot about how the company want me to progress. Hopefully in a year's time I'll be in a position close to making the step up to becoming a fully-fledged Fire Engineer.