

Get to Know the Team

Please introduce yourself and your role at Integration Technology?

My name is André Nicholson, and I am a Research and Development Engineer for Integration Technology. I am somewhat of a jack of all trades and can be involved in anything from product development, testing our products to technical support.



How long have you been at Integration Technology, and has your role changed?

I joined integration technology as a Graduate R&D engineer in November 2017, and 20 months later I was promoted to R&D engineer. November 2021 will mark my fourth year at the company. As I have progressed and developed my technical expertise I have been given more autonomy and responsibility.

What do you like about working at Integration Technology?

As a research and development engineer my work is varied, no two weeks are the same. I could be working on anything from a plc program, designing a test jig, to doing a remote install in America (thanks pandemic).

My job role occasionally gives me the opportunity to travel and I have gone on visits to Denmark and our group headquarters in Germany.

What is your background?

I am the first engineer in my family (my dad is a minister of religion and my mother is a nurse). However as a child I would take things apart and put them back together (my mother didn't appreciate this).

When I went to secondary school I was fortunate that our school had arguably the best school workshop in Birmingham and the teachers sacrificed their time to run an after school Design & Technology club.

Needless to say I thrived in this environment making everything from bokkens (they were cut up upon completion 😞) to model steam engines, we even restored a go-kart.

It got to the point where the head of the department (shout out to Mr Keane if your reading this) would give me his keys and leave me to my own devices, which once

meant he went home leaving me with the keys to the department (apparently I could have got in to many interesting places with that bunch of keys) and I had to come in early the next day to let the teachers in.

I then went on and did two years of an aeronautical engineering degree at the University of Glamorgan, before switching courses to Mechanical Engineering graduating with a BEng from the University of Derby in 2017.

What are your favourite books/films?

I am somewhat of a bookworm and devour books (It takes me 3 days to read Lord of the Rings). My favourite genres are science fiction, space opera, fantasy and LitRPG/Xanxia, though I am always up for a good book no matter the genre. Some books that I particularly enjoy are:

- The Starforce Universe series by Aer-ki Jyr
- Inheritance series by Christopher Paolini
- Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling
- The Bible
- the Golden Age of the Solar Clipper series by Nathan Lowell

What do you enjoy when you are not working?

I love music, holding grades on both the piano and the cello, and regularly played in various church settings for services and choirs (pre Covid-19).

I enjoy various sports particularly badminton having played since the age of 7 and competing in various leagues and like to keep physically active.

I volunteer at a local pathfinder club (similar to scouts) and enjoy camping (especially international camporees) and all the fun that comes along with the great outdoors.

My wife was born in Germany and speaks German, Tamil and English with native fluency, I am currently relearning German (I once did German AS level) and will then attempt to learn Tamil (wish me luck guys).