

Get to Know the Team

- John Vaughan
- Production Planner
- “The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary”



What do you do at Integration Technology?

As Production Planner it's my role to ensure production scheduling is kept in good order, it's my responsibility to convert Sales Orders to Production Orders and maintain MRP. I liaise with both Sales and Purchase to create as smooth a flow as possible from the order coming in, to the items being built on the premises. I also have responsibility of certain Supplier Purchase Orders maintaining and ensuring the timely placement of orders and delivery of goods for the business.

What are your credentials for working in your position?

Having worked in Warehousing for a few years, my previous company re-located their wine & spirits franchise to Yorkshire and I joined the company still fairly in its infancy in February 2004 under the instructions of “they're looking for someone with a fork lift licence” and quickly realised they had a fork lift truck that was used on very rare occasions! I began my life here in stores, Goods In and Despatch with pen & paper and learned the hard way. Some 6 months later computers were installed and eventually I was able to redesign stores and introduce bin locations to make picking parts a simpler process.

About 2 years later SAP was introduced and a year or so later I was asked if I could take on the newly created role of Production Planner and develop it further.

What do you like about working at Integration Technology?

Having been in my current role from its inception, I have been tasked with developing and evolving the role in all its diversity and streamlining to

increase output as the company has evolved and grown. I have expanded my knowledge and put it to good use and it's good to feel that all the hard work to get to this stage is acknowledged and appreciated.

What's your background?

I spent my early years in South Manchester and at the tender of 6 my parents relocated to Oxfordshire. After leaving school I worked in an Ironmongers for 4 years before joining the Royal Air Force, mostly based in Uxbridge Middlesex working in a section where we would investigate near misses (aircraft - Joint RAF/CAA). It was an incredibly interesting job, it would take around 6 months to fully investigate each case, on average there were around 200 per year and once a month a working group would take our evidence and convene to try and find root cause. Occasionally they would make recommendations to make the skies safer. Listening to some of the pilot audio and air traffic controllers was a good insight and, in most cases, had to be quoted for evidence.

After leaving I joined some of my colleagues who had moved on to Cornwall for a while, driving delivery vehicles, mostly dealing in the livestock industry. Mad Cow disease in the mid 90's devastated the industry and while it was a nice area it proved difficult to find work.

I moved back to Oxfordshire, obtained a forklift licence and worked in Car Headlamp Manufacture and a Wines, Spirits & Cigarettes warehouse before joining my present company/

What are the values that drive you?

I'm a firm believer that any issues that arise is a challenge to be solved. I like to think I can make a positive difference whilst also thinking of others at the same time/how can it affect them? Production Planning is a very detailed job which demands time to focus and concentrate. I like to take ownership and understand the team core values and try to influence voices around me to do the same. We are in this together.

Your top 3 favourite Podcasts/Books?

I enjoy reading, I'm interested in history which can cover a wide range of topics and sport. History in particular makes us what we are.

I like the Last of the Tzar's and other books referencing the Russian Revolution, The Romanov's and Bolsheviks – perhaps because it takes me into a very different world and gives a good insight into how brutal some societies can be to affect change.

Other books that particularly interest me, The Great Fire and the 2nd Anglo Dutch War of the 1660's, and Waterloo by Tim Clayton. I try to put myself in their position at the time and understand how really tough life was and how the British people of the time overcame adversity.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

My 2 children keep me very busy; my daughter is slightly easier, I can drop her at Girl Guides once a week and let her get on with it. My son devours more of my time, he plays football for a local under 16 team for which I am also the assistant coach. Once a week I assist with the training, we are quite successful, so I feel I am doing something right. During the season we can travel quite extensively throughout Oxfordshire and Warwickshire almost every weekend. I also maintain the website for the Under 16's and write up every match report.

During the week I use some of my spare time helping out the Ambulance Service getting patients to and from their hospital appointments. This varies from week to week from 4 to 8 hours.