

Get to Know the Team

Mike Common - Quality Systems & H&S Manager

What do you do at Integration Technology?

I like to think that my job is all about ensuring that everything obeys common sense. But what it boils down to is ensuring that all systems within the company are safe, stable, and will minimize the risk of error or accident.

I do this by creating procedures and templates for how the company completes its many functions, ensuring compliance with the law, with accredited standards such as ISO:9001, and ensuring ease of use for all staff members.



What are your credentials/past experience, for working in your position?

After my degree, I entered the electronics industry as a hard-working engineer. I worked my way through production, test & repair, and quality for many years until I made the jump to quality systems management.

Later adding in expertise in the fields of Health & Safety and Environmental management and designing and implementing entire systems for these areas. The benefit of this journey was that I am uniquely placed within this company to understand and help each department, as I have experience working within all areas and aspects to a greater or lesser degree.

What do you like about working at Integration Technology?

Integration Technology is a company with passion and technological interest. It allows me to bring my skills in quality & H&S to use, but also to flex my interest in technology and electronics. It has interesting interdepartmental dynamics to explore and help refine, and some very talented individuals to work with.

What are the values that drive you?

I am a firm believer in maximising the potential of those around me. In any company, every individual will bring a unique set of skills, drives, and experience to the table. And I believe in finding the voices that each have and using their knowledge and influence to help me make the workplace a safer and more productive one. Where the whole workforce can help us to work smarter, better, and more successfully to achieve our goals, both individually and as a company.

What are your favourite books/films?

I am a real movie buff, so they are usually my go-to form of entertainment. My collection is around 3,000 strong across the various physical formats, and I have converted my study to be a full movie library.

As for favourites, I am a huge fan of Wes Craven's *Scream*. I adore the way it both deconstructed a genre and simultaneously reinvigorated it.

In books, I read a lot of Stephen King, and King's *IT* is my favourite book of all time. And despite its near 2,000 pages, I re-read it about once a year.

What do you enjoy when you are not working?

I got into martial arts as a way to stay in shape, joining a local Kung Fu club. Nearly two decades later and I have five black sashes (belts) in Lau Gar Kung Fu, and (until the recent pandemic) taught a club of my own.

With a mostly adult and experienced group of fighters, our club has been a place to learn and train in some of the more dangerous elements of the form. Including many weapons such as swords, staff, butterfly knives, and spears.

Many is the session in which we would set up tournament competitions consisting of one-on-one or sometimes even multiple opponents against a single fighter.

But outside of the fighting, I find the passion in Kung Fu lives in the form and fluidity of the style. And simply the joy of training, learning, and teaching a new skill.

