



Nathan Pearson



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| Name: | Nathan Pearson | Age: | 35 |
| Business: | Pearson's Engineering Services | Service: | Rail maintenance |
| Website: | www.pearsonengineering.com | University: | University of Derby |
| Degree: | Civil Engineering in the Built Environment (Foundation Degree) | Graduated: | 2008 (now started BEng in Engineering) |

After working for a freight haulage company, Nathan decided to use his expertise to start his own company, and embarked upon a Foundation Degree course to support this. He took part in the NCGE's East Midlands FlyingStart Programme in February 2008, which supported him through the process of turning his idea into a trading business.

The Business

Pearson's Engineering Services offers a fully inclusive rail track patrol and inspection service for privately owned railways. Services also include an engineer's report, vegetation control, and project and facilities management. The company also provides consultation for track remodeling and improvement in order to increase traffic flow and solve problems in departure and train acceptance times.

How NCGE has helped

The NCGE provided invaluable support throughout the process of setting up the business. Nathan commented "The NCGE provided a library of useful information on starting up businesses from drawing up a business plan to sourcing funding.

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| At a glance... | |
| Started Trading: | 2008 |
| Investment | £3,500 |
| Number of employees: | 2 |

"I also feel that having someone there to offer advice and with whom to sound out ideas provided a huge confidence boost and really gave me the drive to keep going with it. Having someone behind me really makes a difference to my resolve to turn my business idea into a reality."

Business Growth

A £3,500 grant from the East Midlands Development Agency enabled Nathan to set up the business at the start of 2008. Pearson's Engineering Services began trading in early 2008. The company currently works on one major contract and is pursuing more. After successfully completing his Foundation Degree, Nathan has returned to the University of Derby to begin study for his BSc degree in engineering.

About the FlyingStart Programme

This 12-month business start-up programme for new entrepreneurs is delivered by the NCGE and supported by the UK Government's Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) and the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS). An intensive three-day residential training course is followed by 12 months' specialist mentoring and support. The aim is to have 66% of all graduates trading within one year. FlyingStart ensures all new graduate businesses have a ready-made national and regional network, a dedicated mentor, appreciate the 'know-hows and know-whos' of practical business, and understand how to make money.