

Plant engineering and the IPlantE

(Institution of Plant Engineers)





Plant engineering – an introduction

Plant engineering is one of those key professions that provide us with the standard of living to which we are accustomed. In these times of ever-increasing environmental and competitive pressures, more than ever, we need all plant operating at peak efficiency.



What is plant?

Plant is typically a site of machinery and equipment operated for industrial or manufacturing processes. Examples of plant are cranes, chemical plants, heating and ventilation plants, mills, mobile plant, power plants, quarries, railways and water treatment plants.



What do professional plant engineers and technicians do?

They use their skills to ensure machinery and equipment can operate safely, efficiently and in an environmentally sustainable way. They work in an extremely broad range of industries, but typically a plant engineer or technician will work in organisations where machinery and equipment operates, including buildings' facilities, manufacturing, for military purposes, for mass transport (such as railways), or in utilities (such as the power and water industries).

Plant engineering skills include specifying, designing, evaluating, acquisition, commissioning, operation, management, inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, refurbishment, development and disposal of machinery and equipment that is typically used in industrial, manufacturing, military and utility processes.



Why plant engineering?

Plant engineering offers an incredible amount, both for society as a whole and those who make it their career. It is through the work of professional plant engineers and technicians that most people can take for granted the products of plant engineering; for example, safely travelling in a lift, using electricity from very efficient power plants and having our sewage treated in plant operating in an environmentally sustainable way.



What is the IPlantE (Institution of Plant Engineers)?

A Professional Sector of the SOE (Society of Operations Engineers), the IPlantE provides an independent professional body for plant engineers and technicians who want to develop their skills, share best practice and demonstrate their professional competence in plant engineering to current or prospective employers, engineering service providers, plant and equipment owners, or the community at large.

What does the IPlantE do?

Promotes and encourages the advancement of professional plant engineering for the benefit of everyone, through supporting those engaged, or who wish to be engaged, in plant engineering to continually develop their skills and competencies.

IPlantE members benefit from:

- Networking opportunities and forums to share best practice
- Broad technical guidance and information through the industry-leading magazine, Plant Engineer, and online at www.plantengineer.org.uk
- Seminars and events
- Assistance in registering with the Engineering Council at EngTech (Engineering Technician), IEng (Incorporated Engineer) or CEng (Chartered Engineer) levels
- SOE's Industry and Academic Partner schemes.



Reasons to join the IPlantE

1. Enhance your career prospects:

- Continue to develop and improve your professional plant engineering skills and competences
- Broaden your plant engineering knowledge
- Keep up-to-date with evolutions in professional plant engineering.

2. Demonstrate your professional competence and experience through membership:

- Post nominal letters (FIPlantE, MIPlantE or AMIPlantE)
- Engineering Council registration (EngTech, IEng or CEng)

3. Get involved:

- Promote and encourage the advancement of professional plant engineering
- Share your knowledge and experience by supporting continuous improvements in plant safety, efficiency and environmentally sustainable performance.

4. Access the wider resources of the SOE:

- www.soe.org.uk hosts the IPlantE Discussion Forum and job vacancies from Plant Engineering disciplines
- Events and activities from SOE's two other Professional Sectors, the BES (Bureau of Engineer Surveyors) and IRTE (Institute of Road Transport Engineers), are available to you
- Receive post nominal letters (FSOE, MSOE or AMSOE)
- Technical information and best practice guides.



Want to know more?

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