



George Payne is a Naval Architect at Steller Systems. He joined the team in 2016 after graduating from the University of Southampton with an MEng in Ship Science, and has just completed the Steller Systems Graduate Scheme. We asked him to reflect on his time in the scheme.

What originally attracted you to work at Steller Systems?

I liked the idea of working in a small company and as part of a close team. Being part of a small company you get to be involved in all areas of the business, which has given me a rounded view on company activities – not just engineering work. The wide variety of work offered by Steller Systems was also appealing, with the advantage of getting experience in different areas of naval architecture. I wasn't sure of exactly what I wanted to do after finishing university, but I did know that I didn't want to be stuck doing the same thing day-in, day-out. Because of this Steller was the best choice for me.

How have you used your naval architecture training at Steller Systems?

During my time at Steller Systems I have conducted structural design and analysis, as well as inclining experiments, surveys and much more. I have worked on both concept designs and in-service vessels. Steller Systems has been really supportive of my Continuing Professional Development (CPD), giving me a wide variety of experiences both in and out of the office as well as a short internship at MOD. All of these tasks have involved different aspects of my degree and allowed me to develop my understanding in these areas.

What is the best thing about working at Steller Systems?

Being able to travel is definitely a great perk! During my short time here I've visited both Thailand and South Africa with work, and was able to take leave out there in order to explore and sample the local delicacies! Back in the UK I've been given lots of opportunities to visit dockyards and customer sites which has given me a broad view of the industry. Back in the office it's a really collaborative environment – the team are really friendly and there's never a dull moment.

What advice would you give a graduate leaving university?

Always say yes, take every opportunity to gain experience and learn something new. You never know where it might take you or what you will discover.