Case Study: Alumni

Ivan, Mechanical Engineering (PhD)
Graduation Year: 2006
Job Title: Business Manager
Employer: Deepsea Engineering & Management

What has been your career path up until now?
I started as a Project Engineer and after three months moved into the role of Business/Client Accounts Manager.

What does your job involve?
My typical day starts with a business development meeting, talking about the opportunities that we intend to pursue. After that I meet the project teams to discuss the progress, which I then communicate to the clients.

Can you name three things you like about your job?
1. Dynamics
2. Diversity: I have been involved in a number of different projects and the learning curve is the most interesting part
3. Helping clients to achieve their aims

Is there anything you are less keen on?
1. Fine tuning the T&Cs of a contract
2. Dealing with very short deadlines
3. Getting up at 4:30 to catch the 7:00 flight to Aberdeen

What part of your course did you particularly enjoy?
Being part of a team that did top level analysis for Rolls-Royce and helping to develop various tools. Also knowing that our results were used in developing new engines and improving existing ones.

Were you involved in any extracurricular activities?
I was a part of the basketball club.

“Be confident in interviews and make sure you are well prepared, having a clear aim you are about to achieve”
- Ivan
Did you use the Careers Service or go to Careers events (e.g. job fairs, employer talks)?
I met with an ICL Careers Advisor.

Could you give us one or more career tips for Imperial graduates?
You should believe in yourself and in the knowledge that you possess (coming out of ICL you have plenty of it), even though you sometimes feel that you don’t know very much. Be confident in interviews and make sure you are well prepared, having a clear aim you are about to achieve.