

# Richard Penn

Founder and director of Penn Engineered Solutions

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## Experience:

I have ~ 30 years of experience in transport engineering, specialising in propulsion systems and emissions. Over the past 5 to 10 years I have been working on topics such as biofuels, electrification and alternatives to fossil fuels such as hydrogen and ammonia.

## Pathway to current role:

Completed A-Levels in Maths, Physics, and Chemistry. Studied Mechanical Engineering with Automotive at Brunel University, London. This course provided a 'sandwich' approach of industry experience (with Ford Motor Co) as well as academic.

## Speciality:

Propulsion systems, things that make things move – the main motive power. Whether it's a car, a truck, a bus, a train or an aeroplane it is usually the main mechanism for motive power. Traditionally this has been combustion engines such as diesel, however these are now transitioning to some form of electrification. Therefore, most of my work is now in the alternative propulsion sector, whether its batteries, hydrogen, or alternative fuels.

## Achievements that have brought in results

We've won the best Propulsion Consultancy Company 2023 for Derbyshire. This award positions us well for future work and the recognition of our work by our peers is appreciated.

## Professional career goals

Continued success and growth. We teamed up with an Ofsted Outstanding rated Training Provider last year and we deliver apprenticeships for Lean and Six Sigma. This is something I'd like to continue to grow as part of our business.

## Top 3 aspects that you enjoy most about working in your current role:

1. Variation and diversity of the work.
2. Technical challenge with new technology.
3. The recruitment and retention of people during a time of large churn across the industry.

## Key words used in job listing

Commercial acumen, good business credentials, inspirational thinking, self motivated and driven.



## Current Employer

Penn Engineered Solutions is an engineering consultancy specialising in the engineering of propulsion systems.

## Experience level:

Executive

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## Hard skills:

I think for my position you need a sound technical background, not only mechanical but in recent years a mix of mechanical and electrical engineering as well as increasingly, chemistry.

## Soft skills:

The ability to be eloquent and confident in situations where you're having conversations with a client. Presenting yourself and the company with confidence.