

CMI APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR 2022 - WINNER



John Dodd,
Director of Maritime Safety Services Inmarsat,
Senior Leader Apprentice

On his manager's suggestion, John embarked on the Senior Leader Apprenticeship with Henley Business School to accelerate his management and leadership capability. John's work at Inmarsat - a leader in global mobile satellite communications - is focused on protecting the lives of people working on board ships around the world.

LEADING GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION

In the early stages of the Senior Leader Apprenticeship, John realised that programme would provide him with the necessary Management and Leadership skills to advance an ambitious project on next-generation maritime safety satellite services with a multidisciplinary team.

“ As a former sergeant in the Forces, I had some understanding of managing people and projects. But, the Apprenticeship has accelerated my capabilities far beyond this.

It has enabled me to adopt a more effective approach to leading my team, enhancing my collaboration with colleagues to implement changes that save lives on a daily basis. ”

John also found that having a more solid grounding in Management and Leadership has opened up new directions for business.

“ The changes we've initiated have attracted interest from the United Nations and government agencies. The opportunity to expand my knowledge and capability through the training has been instrumental in building these external relations. I have been able to lead interactions with new sectors, and these relationships have catapulted our project to a global scale. ”

INNOVATING WITH LIFE-SAVING TECHNOLOGY

By maximising this training opportunity, John applied his learning directly in his work.

“ The Apprenticeship programme has opened doors in my brain, and I have used this to go further, deeper and wider than ever before. ”

For John, an important take-away from the Apprenticeship has been the ability to contribute new skills and knowledge to the safety of lives at sea.

“ The impact of the programme has been incredible for Inmarsat safety services. It has played a huge part in the successful transformation of how maritime satellite safety technology is utilised.

Where this matters most is for the 1.6 million seafarers on 120,000 vessels sailing the oceans, often in remote areas and unimaginably treacherous conditions.

These innovations mean that ships in distress now have almost instantaneous access to their nearest rescue centres, offering the best possible chance of survival. This will save countless lives for many years to come. ”

DISCOVERING CONFIDENCE AND PURPOSE

As John progressed through his SLA training, his friends, family and colleagues noticed a marked difference in John's confidence and sense of purpose.

John highlights that these changes emerged from his direct action in the Apprenticeship.

“ I have been astonished at how the Apprenticeship programme has changed my business and personal life with significant positive outcomes.

During the training, I reflected that I apportioned very little time and energy for myself. Since then, I have developed a more healthy work-life balance and allow myself dedicated time for mental wellbeing.

This has had huge benefits for my professional life, with reduced stress levels and increased productivity and focus in my work. ”

Having excelled in his Apprenticeship training, John wants to pursue further development opportunities that will continue to transform safety at sea.

“ Overall, I hoped that the Apprenticeship programme would improve my own capability. But, the benefits have far exceeded this. We, as a company, are making life-saving changes to the world thanks to this training opportunity. ”

ABOUT THE AWARD

The CMI Apprentice of the Year is awarded for significant progression and consistent commitment to personal and professional development, providing a positive impact for both their employers and fellow apprentices. Find out more by visiting this [webpage](#).