



A day in the life of an Aldermans employee

Paul Weeks

What is your job at Aldermans?

I am an estimator/technical engineer. My daily tasks include customer enquiries and developing designs. I'm also involved with manufacturing processes on the shop floor when required.

What's a typical day at the office?

There isn't a typical day, if im honest. It's all varied on a day to day basis, for example: estimating for different customer enquiries, creating designs and getting the clients' ideas into shape. If there are engineering problems or something about the manufacturing process being unclear, I am there to help and talk it through with my colleagues. Sometimes my day can consist of meeting new/existing customers, discussing future work in the pipeline and coming up with the best way to manufacture.



Paul Weeks, estimator/technical engineer at Aldermans

What kind of education did you have?

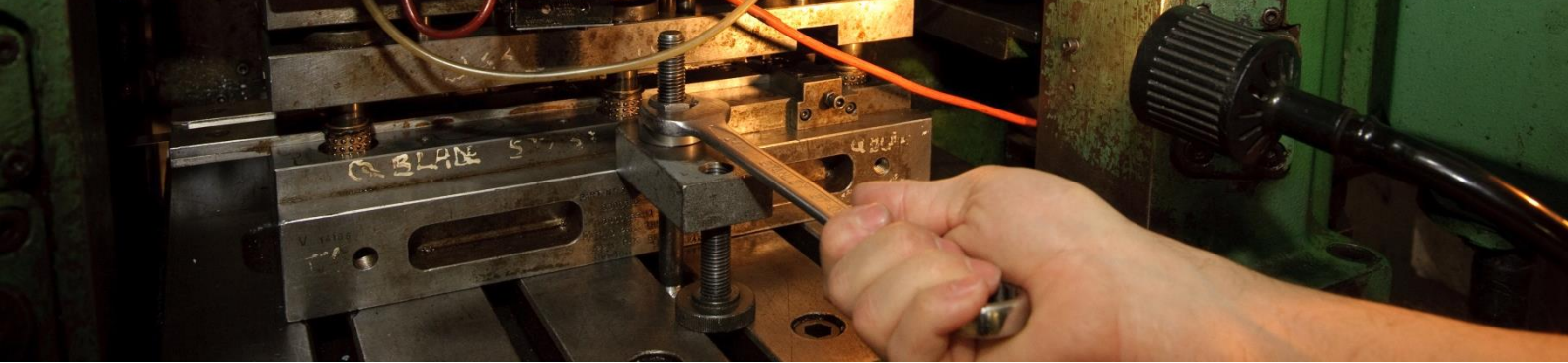
I successfully completed my apprenticeship over five years to become a toolmaker. The apprenticeship took place at Aldermans and sometimes in college for the paperwork side of things.

When did you start to work at Aldermans?

Has your work always been the same?

I started with Aldermans in 1985 as a toolmaker and actually left in 1994 for another toolmaking job before coming back in 1996. I progressed to the drawing office in 1999, getting more involved with estimating and developing designs.

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What do you like about being an estimator/ technical engineer?

It's a varied job, no day is like the other because no customer, no order is the same. With new orders come new ideas that want to be put into practice.

If you weren't an estimator/technical engineer, what other job would you like to do?

When I was younger I wanted to be a carpenter. So I've always had something practical in mind.

Who do you work with?

What role does teamwork play?

I work very closely with the sales team, as well as the production manager and the production supervisors. Teamwork is essential to keep the work process running smoothly.

What changes did you experience in your job?

The biggest change in my way of working was probably getting used to the extensive use of computers. And you never stop learning because technology never stops evolving.

Were you inspired by anyone in particular to do this job?

My father worked in a dockyard, so I was brought up in a relatively technical environment which most likely influenced my career.

How do you spend your free time?

Apart from spending my time with my family, I enjoy the usual: sleep, eat, drink, repeat!

About Aldermans

A family firm, established in Plymouth for over 45 years, we're one of the region's best-known and respected metal fabricators.

Combining traditional skills with the latest technologies, we offer our clients an integrated metalwork service, from design and prototyping to small or large-scale production runs.

Our technologies include press tooling, pressbrake folding, CNC machining (lasering, punching, milling, turning), cutting, welding, assembly and kitting, and powder coating.

We are proud to hold the EN ISO 9001 quality management certification.

As well as investing regularly in the latest technologies, we also invest in our staff through training in manufacturing management techniques, such as lean manufacturing and Six Sigma.

We are an active member of PMG, the Plymouth Manufacturers' Group.