

DOMESTIC RETROFIT

COORDINATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Graduate Case Study: How an Energy Consultant Added Another String to Her Bow

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Six Cylinder are based in south-west London and specialise in building performance consultancy, with the primary aim of improving the environmental and energy performance of buildings. They also support design, construction and building management teams in holistically addressing their built environment projects to ensure that buildings work efficiently. Additionally, Six Cylinder provides services that span the delivery and operation of new, retrofit and low energy buildings, including Retrofit Coordinator.



Why did you decide to take the Retrofit Coordinator Diploma?

"I've been involved in monitoring and evaluation of retrofit, in the past, and whilst I could identify significant problems with how work was being done, I wasn't entirely comfortable with suggesting better alternatives. Retrofit is such a complex topic in terms of technical performance and risks. It's difficult to have confidence that you're making a good choice, unless you have either decades of experience in it, or specialist training. It's great to have formal training to help win work in this sector."

Have you managed to apply learnings in the real world to date?

"Yes, I've recently completed the development of a risk assessment process for large-scale retrofits for the GLA's RE:NEW Programme to help triage ECO-funded retrofit projects in terms of technical risk. RE:NEW is a London-wide home energy efficiency retrofit programme designed to overcome problems presented by solid wall properties, conservation areas, and high-rise blocks and significantly increase the scale of domestic retrofit."

Which of the training modules was your favourite and why?

"I quite liked the risk management unit. That tends to be my role on projects - identifying and resolving technical risks as a specialist consultant. I felt that it was a very robust module for understanding the nature of retrofit risks in terms of both technical design, project management and site execution."

Do your clients see the value in your Retrofit Coordinator service?

"So far, I believe they do. The need to address technical risks in retrofit is widely acknowledged by the client side of the industry, especially with larger landlords. I feel the qualification will certainly be valued by future clients."

Would you recommend the Retrofit Coordinator Diploma to others?

"I would certainly recommend the Diploma to others. It's excellent value, and I believe there is a distinct need for many architects to formally specialise and receive specialist training, the way that the industry is evolving. I think this is an excellent qualification for someone who's working in the retrofit sector."