

# A CAREER IN Land-Based Engineering



Careers in this area have the potential to be fast-moving, with lots of opportunities to progress and work in different environments.

There are a number of different industries you could work in, including food and drink, agriculture and forestry.

You'll need problem-solving abilities and should be able to come up with innovative solutions when working with the latest in technology.



## Career Options

There is always a demand for new entrants into the sector, and there are a number of different pathways available. You could specialise in agricultural machinery, forestry, marketing and demonstrations or maybe you would prefer a research and development post. Take a look at the examples of typical jobs below for some inspiration.

# LAND-BASED ENGINEERING



New entrants to the land-based engineering industry are needed to help create new technologies and address the problems of an increasing world population and global food shortage



You need a whole variety of skills for this industry, including science, technology, geography, mathematics, and good communication skills



A fully qualified technician can earn up to £40,000 and there are plenty of opportunities to develop your skills throughout your career

# Routes into a career in Land-based Engineering

Depending on your current skills and experience, you could enter at different levels.

JOB LEVELS	WORK-BASED	SCQF LEVEL	SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
Director Level		12	Doctorate
		11	Masters
Managerial Roles		10	Honours Degree
		9	Degree
		8	HND
Supervisory Roles	Scottish Vocational Qualification	7	Advanced Higher HNC
	Modern Apprenticeship	6	NC in Land-based Engineering Land-based Technology Extended Diploma Higher
Supervised Roles	Scottish Vocational Qualification Modern Apprenticeship	5	National 5 NPA Rural Skills
Entry Level		4	NC Land-based Engineering: An Introduction National 4 Skills for Work: Rural Skills

**USEFUL LINKS**

Borders College  
SRUC

[www.borderscollege.ac.uk](http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk)  
[www.sruc.ac.uk](http://www.sruc.ac.uk)



People with the right transferable skills can find work across Scotland and the world



Qualified land-based engineers are in demand in agriculture, horticulture, trees and timber and many other industries



There are lots of jobs in sales, in parts and administration too.



## Our Stories



### Don Martin

Although not from a farming background, Don decided to become an agricultural engineer and change career at the age of 33. After doing an NC in Land-based Engineering Agriculture at college, he then joined HRN Tractors as an apprentice engineering technician.

*“The main draw to enter agri-engineering was the huge variety of machinery that I would be working on. From chainsaws, all the way up to tractors, ploughs, telehandlers, grain-dryers and combine harvesters. There’s a need for skilled people to maintain and to fix all this equipment, so lots of employment opportunities and the chance for career progression too.*”

*“I feel very privileged to be a part of Scotland’s engineering and farming heritage, and to know that customers and my company will come to rely on me makes my hard work and commitment to study worthwhile. There are jobs out there for those that want them. Even if you don’t have the best grades from school, there’s always an entry route into the industry.”*

### William Muir

William did a Modern Apprenticeship with Kerr Farm Engineering in Ayrshire and now works as a land-based engineer.

*“Growing up on a farm and being fascinated by the ways in which mechanics managed to fix things gave me a driving passion to get into agricultural engineering.*”

*“One of the most rewarding things about my work now is being able to arrive at a job in my own van, suitably prepared and equipped to carry out a successful repair and then producing a happy customer.*”

*“A highlight was completing my first clutch job on a tractor, as I had to really push my technical skills to the limit. There are lots of paths open to you in this industry, so I’d encourage people to try as many things as possible. The possibilities are endless and extremely rewarding professionally and personally.”*



Some photos courtesy of Paul Saunders Photography

## Find out more

If you would like more information on training or qualifications, email [scotland@lantra.co.uk](mailto:scotland@lantra.co.uk) or call **01738 310164**.

[www.scotland.lantra.co.uk](http://www.scotland.lantra.co.uk)

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