



## Meet Jo Torkington

Chief Process Engineer

Bechtel

Image courtesy of Bechtel

**BCECA members provide engineering, design, procurement, project management and construction services to the process and energy industries worldwide. Bechtel's Jo Torkington shares her thoughts on her career journey with a global company that combines expertise and partnership to deliver long-term success.**

Bechtel is a trusted engineering, construction and project management partner to industry and government, having completed over 25,000 projects in 160 countries. Bechtel has been in the UK for over 70 years and is currently active in many sectors including infrastructure, energy, and nuclear power. Jo is based at Bechtel's UK HQ in London. Her global role embraces leadership across five essential engineering competencies: Process Engineering, Project Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Process Safety and Materials Engineering Technology.

### Desire to build

"I always wanted to build things and be challenged every day. I took A-levels in physics, maths, and chemistry. Chemical engineering was the obvious choice for me. I studied at the University of Manchester and was blown away by the many career options that were open to me. After graduation, I joined the Unilever management development scheme before moving to Bechtel as a process engineer in 2007. I progressed through various roles working on projects in Canada, India, South Korea, the UAE, the US and the UK. In 2019 I gained a Master's Degree in environmental law from the University of London."

### Diverse role

"My role at Bechtel is a diverse one. It covers technical quality and innovation, project oversight and problem-solving, leadership, and people development. I make sure that our project teams are fully trained and ready to take on new challenges – anywhere in the world. It's a brilliant role for me because it combines the ideal mix of technical and people skills. It's my job to develop great teams, and as a bonus, I get to see them create wonderful projects."

### Future opportunities

"There are tremendous opportunities right now. We have an accelerating shift away from conventional energy. Engineering contractors are at the forefront of the global energy transformation. We are on the cusp of a new industrial revolution. Professional engineers, scientists and technicians will be in big demand. Throw in robotics and automation, changing legislation and a public that increasingly demands transparency and accountability where big infrastructure is concerned. You can see that there will be plenty to keep our sector busy."

"After five years in functional roles, I'm looking forward to getting my teeth into projects again. There are lots of decarbonisation and clean energy opportunities coming down the track. Given my love for getting things built, I'm really looking forward to playing a big part in the energy transformation."

**For more information about career prospects in the engineering contracting sector, contact BCECA at 10th Floor, Camelford House, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE17TP**

t: 0207 0918652 e: [office@bceca.org.uk](mailto:office@bceca.org.uk) w: [bceca.org.uk](http://bceca.org.uk)

