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Join us to build on your existing experience and study criminology, security and risk management or try something different with a qualification in archaeology, marketing or management.

Forces veteran Scott Carnie joined us after leaving the military to study an MSc in Risk Crisis and Disaster Management.

"Upon leaving the military I realised that, despite a wealth of professional experience, a credible academic qualification was vitalto making a successful transition and longerterm career progression. After researching myoptions I chose Leicester because they offereda solid foundation in risk managementtheory combined with an emphasis onpractical, real world, applications."

We understand that the transition to civilian life and a new career can be challenging so we have trained advisers on hand to help find the right course for you. Our advisers will support you through the applications process and tell you everything you need to know about studying via distance learning including introducing you to our online community of students around the world.

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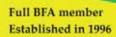
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At the age of 15, Belfast born John Davidson became an apprentice electrician, acquiring the practical skills that, three decades later, would prove vital in setting up one of the country's most successful franchise operations, gas-elec.

Gas-elec was born in 1996, offering a testing and inspection service for both gas and electricity that could be performed by one engineer in a single visit, saving landlords, tenants and homeowners time, inconvenience and money. Back then, the idea of a combined safety inspection was nothing short of revolutionary – so revolutionary, in fact, that one year after opening its doors for business, the company still didn't have a single competitor. At which point John investigated the possibility of establishing a franchise operation.

He split the UK into 20 different regions with each region franchised to a regional manager who looked after sales and marketing and work flow for the region's engineers, who also became franchisees. He invested heavily in putting it all together. It was just a few years out of the recession and many people told him he was crazy – who, would invest in this type of venture when the country was on its knees?

But John's business instincts proved to be spot on: plenty of engineers were prepared to invest in what is now the country's premier gas and electrical safety inspection company. Fast forward 17 years and gas-elec has 100 franchisees across the country (with a good chunk of the engineers earning more than £70,000 a year) and 20 regional offices run by the management franchisees.

Not that joining the company is a get-richquick scheme, or an option for just anyone who wants to run a franchise. First of all, applicants require the appropriate technical qualifications: minimum CCN1 on the gas side, or, if you want to start an electrical franchise, 17th edition and C&G 2394/5 or a time served electrician.

Gas-elec continues to grow and to change and is now also a Green Deal Installer and has recently become a Green Deal Provider.

No invoice chasing

On receipt of customers' payments, gas-elec's bespoke bureau facility pays money into franchisees' bank accounts twice a month. The bureau also sets credit limits for account holding customers, allocates payments and calculates VAT. On average, this system saves gas-elec's 100 franchisees around four hours a week in bookkeeping alone.

Predictability

The services that Darren providesis the same; gas-elec's customers throughout the UK know they can expect – a high standard. Darren points out that 90 per cent of his work is gas and electrical safety inspections and remedials for rented properties. "I like the predictability of it – when I was working entirely on my own unexpected leaks and the like meant some jobs could take hours. Now I almost always fit in six jobs a day."

There is a wider predictability to gas-elec's work too. In a reversal of the traditional trend in the UK, more householders moved from homes they owned into rented properties last year than vice versa. And all indications are that the growing rental sector will account for one in two British households by 2026. Which means, in turn, that some 10 million rented properties across the country will require obligatory annual safety inspections, as well as associated remedial works. Add to that the country's evergrowing safety conscious gas and electrical legislation, and gas- core market is growing at a tremendous rate.

Franchise fee: £16,500 + vat Training fee from: £1,500 + vat Equipment package: £3,750 + vat

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information call 0800 015 2030, email info@gas-elec.co.uk or visit www.gas-elec.co.uk Carol Otway Franchise Director Jay Green Franchise Administrator

Resettlement



There is great variety of work for the qualified Maritime Security Officer (MSO), with plenty of opportunity for travel and career development.

This is a recommended career path for military service leavers and the Flying Fish course is eligible for UK Armed Forces resettlement funding and approved for Enhanced Learning Credits. You need professional qualifications to start your career as a maritime security officer and this MSO course includes the essential training modules to get you qualified and ready for work in just two weeks.

All seafarers employed or engaged in security duties on ships required to comply with the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code must hold a Certificate of Proficiency in Designated Security Duties (CPDSD.) Additionally, all personnel working on vessels over 24m are required to undertake training in personal survival techniques.

STCW 95 Basic Safety Training is an MCA approved course that covers Personal Survival Techniques, Elementary First Aid, Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities, Fire Prevention and Fighting. Flying Fish delivers essential Anti-piracy training, including an overview of the current global situation with focus on the Gulf of Aden, nautical terminology, specialist equipment, familiarisation with standard crew organisation, techniques and tactics to counter specific threats.

The course also includes an RYA radio qualification, needed to operate the marine radio on board any vessel.

If you join Flying Fish with 12 months sea time in the Merchant Navy, Royal Navy or Royal Marines, you are eligible for the STCW Ship Security Officer certificate.

Candidates withoutthis pre-course experience will receive a Certificate of Proficiency in Designated Security Duties (CPDSD.)

On completion of 12 months sea service you will be entitled to your SSO certificate.

What you'll earn

- The starting salary for an SSO is typically £50-70,000 per annum or £200 to £250 per day
- Team Leaders can expect £300 day and will be in charge of a team of 3 or 4 officers
- Most contracts are yearly, with 6 weeks on/4 weeks off or 5 weeks on/3 weeks off

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