



People of energy:

Chris Moody

positive energy



We're delving into the lives of the People of Energy – a network of over 250,000 people in the UK helping power services essential to everyday life.

For the latest in our series we hear from px Limited's Chris Moody, a born and bred Teessider who thinks the region has a bright future when it comes to all things energy.

Although I'm a native 'Teessider', my dad's job in petrochemicals meant that we moved around frequently when I was younger. We spent the first seven years of my life in various places across Europe before returning to Teesside for school and college and heading off to university across the border in Aberystwyth, aged 18, to complete a degree in Finance.

Living abroad for the first years of my life definitely influenced a desire to learn about new and far-flung places and cultures. I'm also fascinated by anything with wheels and an engine – which probably explains why I work in the industry that I do!

My first experience in the energy sector, and what would become the beginnings of a career, was a work placement at the National Grid while on a year out from my studies. It was my first full time job and was a really useful eye opener in terms of how the energy industry operates and the different supporting roles – such as finance and legal.

After graduating I came home to Teesside to take a job at the local power station, which was operated by px at the time. I was one part of a tiny team helping to manage the sale of the business, which provided me with excellent hands-on experience. It was here that my wish to stay in the energy sector was cemented.

Soon afterwards, I moved to join px directly as a management accountant and have just recently celebrated my 10-year anniversary. I'm now 36 and px's Financial Controller, still based in Teesside, where I live with my wife Kim, a patisserie chef, and our son Declan, who's in college. And yes, my wife and I do have quite different jobs!



Broadly speaking, my day-to-day responsibilities involve performance reporting to stakeholders across the business and keeping a close eye on how px manages its financial resources. I also support development and growth projects when I get the chance – which are things I particularly enjoy. The great part about the nature of px’s business is that everyone here can really feel involved in what we deliver as a company – powering homes and businesses, as well as contributing to the industry’s development.

Having worked in oil and gas for over a decade, I’ve been involved in some major operational changes as we pursue innovative, sustainable ways of creating energy. The industry’s response to the challenge of climate change will shape its future and the development of and access to new technology will play a huge part in that, while also creating jobs.

I also think that direct engagement from the industry itself is such a good idea in helping communicate what we are as a collective doing to help the country meet its sustainability goals. We’re on a journey and along the way we’re picking up new ways to operate in terms of skills and technologies. It’s important to realise that oil and gas is an important part of the solution – and not the cause of the problem.

The above efforts are creating a lot of opportunities for jobs across the UK – including here in Teesside, where I’m hopeful that there will be a long future ahead full of support for the industry.

I’d recommend it to anyone who wants to put their skills to use in creating solutions for the future and supporting the local economy.

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