The student was primarily based offsite and interaction with the company was via regular email and occasional meetings.

THE STUDENT’S EXPERIENCE

Nathaniel Forbes Inskip
MSc Renewable Energy, University of Aberdeen

I came from a Natural Science background and I wanted to do renewables as I was interested in them from my first degree. However, I knew that I needed experience to prove that I could do this kind of work.

Also I’ve found over four years of study I prefer doing work that has an end goal. If I have a piece of work that means something, I find I work a lot harder. Because (the project) had a purpose, I was more interested and was determined to prove that I could do a good job.

(As a result of the project) I’ve got experience, something to talk about and a reference to say I’m not a complete dunce at doing work like this!

THE EMPLOYER’S EXPERIENCE

Rod McGovern
Farm Energy Consulting

We benefitted from having a good student who was able to spend time researching a technical area.

Nathaniel benefitted from contact with a commercial company, gained experience of a highly relevant subject area and improved his employability.

We gained access to information that we were not aware of, and techniques that would not have been easy to find, even with Google. The results will be very useful and saved us time.

The student’s access to academia is a valuable resource that we would otherwise not have been able to tap into. The identification of suitable statistical methods will be extremely useful. Additionally, the conclusions about the period it is necessary to monitor for, will be directly relevant to data collection in the field.

This work has also identified areas for future work, which could be addressed by future students.

“This project has been beneficial both to us and to the student. It is clearly desirable to link topics that need studying with students wishing to study them.”

Rod McGovern, Farm Energy Consulting