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## What's it like working in the electronics industry?

I recently graduated with an Integrated Masters in Physics from the University of Leeds. Throughout my degree, I had to do various coding projects, and my interest in software engineering grew from those. It solidified as a prospective career during my final project, which centred around using MATLAB to automate data manipulation.

My first impressions of XJTAG were that the people were so welcoming and kind, and I was really put at ease during the interview process. It was nice that I was given a technical task to demonstrate my abilities as well as having a general chat with the software team manager and recent graduates to show my personality – a chance you don't often get with larger companies. This down-to-earth feeling is what made me want to join XJTAG, on top of the fact it's a world leader in its field, which shows it's forward thinking

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and innovative. It's nice to be able to brag about your job and be proud of the company you work for.

I've been blown away with how supportive my colleagues have been. The learning curve was steep when I joined as I didn't know C# prior to this job but I was supported the whole time. I was taught Python at university but feel I now know more about C# after just a few months than I do about Python, even though Python was taught throughout most of my degree!

I like that XJTAG is a medium sized company. It has meant that, even as a recent graduate, my opinion matters and I can have a say in how we can improve the working environment. Within a couple of months of joining the company, I was highly involved in creating a social committee and arranging frequent virtual and in-person social events, which has been a lot of fun! I have found that we have a really great work culture here.

It didn't matter that I came into my job at XJTAG with very little electronics knowledge; I've learned so much through getting thorough explanations from colleagues and by fixing bugs. I love the way there isn't a rigid structure of job roles, so you're free to take on as much responsibility as you would like, and your efforts are always recognised.

STEM is a great career if you like to solve problems and seek answers as there's always progression in research leading to new ways to develop and learn. For other women wondering about a career in any type of engineering, I would say not to be put off by a lack of representation in certain fields – you will become the representation that others will follow.

