

MS. RUTH BAGNELL

**AERONAUTICAL INSPECTOR
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY
DUBLIN 2**

www.iaa.ie



Education and Training

- B. Eng. (Hons) Aeronautical Eng, University of Limerick, Ireland, 2003
- Dip in Management Studies (Aviation), Dublin Institute of Technology, 2007
- FAA Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic's Licence, FAA, 2007
- EASA Part 66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence, EASA (IAA), 2008

Current Position

Title	Dates	Employer
Aeronautical Inspector	2011- present	Irish Aviation Authority, 11-12 D'Olier St., Dublin 2

Previous Positions

Title	Dates	Employer
Quality Manager	2007 - 2011	SGI Aviation, Santry, Dublin
Quality Manager	2005-2011	Aero Inspection International, Shannon
Quality Manager	2009-2011	Usher Aviation, Sligo
Snr Technical Specialist	2006-2007	AeroTurbine, Shannon
Technical Services Manager	2004-2006	Eirjet, Shannon

"Home" Town(s)/County(s)

Limerick, (Home), Amsterdam (2 years working with SGI Aviation), Dublin (current residence)

Please describe your current job

I am an Aeronautical Inspector with the Irish Aviation Authority. The IAA is responsible for monitoring all maintenance organisations, operators, airlines, approved premises, and aircraft for compliance with regulations.

An Aeronautical Inspector is assigned certain organisations to oversee. This can involve approving changes to their operations, auditing them for compliance and assessing reportable occurrences.

The Inspector gets assigned different organisations every 12 months. This year I am responsible for the oversight of homebuilt, classic & vintage and Microlight aircraft, fuel installations, some maintenance organisations and overfly permissions for visiting aircraft.

Please describe your career path since graduating with your B.Eng. Aeronautical Eng.

I had some casual work experience in aviation through my school and university years. This ranged from cataloguing aircraft parts in a store, to data entry, to summing hours flown by aircraft. When I graduated and work was scarce, this experience stood to me. I was fortunate to get work in a small 'air taxi' service. I became the Technical Services Manager for that airline, with a fleet of 4 aircraft.

I assisted with the establishment of an engine borescope inspection company, Aero Inspection International. This maintenance activity involves inspecting the inner workings of an aero engine with a fibre optic cable. Once the initial start-up was completed, I continued by performing regular audits to ensure regulatory compliance. I perform similar audits for Usher Aviation, a light aircraft maintenance organisation in Sligo.

Eirjet, a Shannon based airline, first operated in December 2003. I joined their Technical Services team in 2004 - where I developed a database to manage aircraft maintenance and technical status e.g. modifications embodied. Unfortunately this airline ceased operations in October 2006.

AeroTurbine, a Miami based engine leasing company, set up a Shannon-based office to manage their engines on lease to European airlines. I joined them as a Senior Technical Specialist, with responsibility for delivering and re-delivering leased engines. My role involved doing physical inspection on the engine and its records to ensure compliance with end of lease conditions.

In 2007 I moved to Amsterdam to join SGI Aviation's team of technical consultants. This was a similar role to that in AeroTurbine, but involved the aircraft 'nose to tail.' SGI Aviation, as promised, set up a Dublin office and re-located me there. SGI Aviation became an EASA approved CAMO and Part 21

Design Organisation.

What made you decide to study Aeronautical Engineering at UL?

I grew up with aviation and was always fascinated by it. It was a natural progression for me to choose Aero Eng.

Are you glad you did?

Yes - I love working in aviation. I am involved in General Aviation (light aircraft) in my spare time - flying a Cessna 172 and 150. I love the variety of my current role.

What did you most enjoy about studying at UL - academically, and also non-academically?

The Students' Union - I was President of the UL Aeronautical Society and sat on Class Reps' Council.

Where did you do your COOP?

I went to Airbus, Toulouse, France on Coop. I was tasked with creating a catalogue for airlines detailing the Optional Modifications they could choose to embody.

Being on coop with Airbus gives a very strong name to the CV of a graduate. The strong links between UL and Airbus allows students to experience one of the biggest entities in aviation, even if just for a short time.

What advice would you give school-goers considering choosing Aeronautical Engineering?

If you can, try to get some exposure to the industry while at school to see if it's where you want to be. While studying, try to get as much experience as you can, even if you have to do it on a voluntary basis. There are hundreds of companies in aviation in Ireland, and lots of airfields.

What advice would you give future graduates of Aeronautical Engineering?

Sometimes, persistence is needed to get that job! It's important to realise the range of opportunities that exist in Ireland alone - production organisations, design, maintenance, spares, leasing, general aviation (light aircraft), engine overhaul, engine inspection, airlines, helicopter operators and search and rescue to name a few.

Graduate Profile, Aeronautical Engineering, University of Limerick, Ireland
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