

MR. GARY MCNICHOLAS

**Warranty Officer
Ryanair Ltd,
Swords, Dublin, Ireland**

www.ryanair.com



Education and Training

- B.Eng. (Hons) Aeronautical Eng, University of Limerick, Ireland, 2012
- M. Eng. (Hons) Aeronautical Eng, University of Limerick, Ireland, 2014

Current Position

| Title | Dates | Employer |
|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Warranty Officer | March 2014 to present | Ryanair Ltd, Swords, Dublin, Ireland |

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

1990-2008: Castlebar, Mayo
2008 - 2014: In Limerick while studying at UL
March 2014 - date: Swords, Dublin

Please describe your current job

Currently work as the Warranty Officer in the Engineering Materials & Provisioning Department at Ryanair.

The day to day role of the Materials Dept. is to oversee and distribute the parts/materials needed to support a fleet of 310 (and increasing!) Boeing 737-800 aircraft which operate from 72 bases across Europe. The department purchases and coordinates the repair of equipment/ parts needed to support daily operations, engineering projects and heavy maintenance.

My day to day role is to ensure that all warranty entitlements are captured. This includes ensuring components are repaired under warranty when applicable and will include working with the Boeing/OEM repair facilities to ensure a given repair is completed within the agreed timeline. This requires frequent communication with repair facility and service representatives.

Graduate Profile, M.Eng. Aeronautical Engineering, University of Limerick, Ireland
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The job also includes capturing warranty on consumable items which were shown to have a warrantable defect. This requires collaboration with Heavy Maintenance and Boeing/OEM.

The job also includes capturing the warranty entitlements provided by Boeing or an OEM associated with incorporating a Service Bulletin or Service Letter.

We also work to identify any trends of increased usage of a particular part. If a trend exists we will collaborate with the Technical Services Department, Heavy Maintenance, Boeing and/or the OEM to investigate why there is a trend and what is the root cause of the defect. This will then require collaboration to mitigate the issue. Ultimately the aim is eliminate the part usage and the associated cost.

It doesn't sound like much, but there is quite a lot involved. It's an exciting company to work for and it's a fast paced environment. It's a very enjoyable place to be, especially when you can play a few games of pool on your lunch break or after work! One of the little perks in the new office.

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

After I graduated I applied for jobs in the aviation industry both at home and abroad. I applied for a few jobs at Ryanair and I was called for an interview in each. The interviews went well and a few days later I was offered the Warranty Officer position. I started in March 2014 and I have been there since.

What made you choose the M.Eng. Aeronautical Engineering at UL?

During the B.Eng. Aeronautical Engineering at UL, I focused on the aerodynamic topics. Before I graduated the B.Eng, I looked into the M.Eng and saw what topics were on offer. I had knowledge of the aerodynamic topics and wanted to gain knowledge of composite & metallic materials. I was interested in studying some of the advanced topics which were on offer too.

I was on the job hunt around the same time but was having little luck. The M.Eng ticked all the boxes for me at the time, and I went for it.

Are you glad you did?

Absolutely. Best decision I have made.

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

UL was the best years in my life. The place has a perfect mix of sport, social, and academic work. The facilities are first class and the people are great. All this combined makes it a great, great university.

There is a huge selection and variety of Clubs & Societies in UL. Thanks to Clubs & Socs, rock climbing is a big part of my life.

What advice would you give prospective students considering choosing the M.Eng. Aeronautical Engineering at UL?

If you're interested in aviation and engineering, then I would say go for it. If you keep on top of the work, the course is not as difficult as it may appear. All you need is the interest and drive to do it. If you have both of these, you are half way there.

The lecturers are excellent and are always willing to help. I thought the balance between exams and coursework was perfect.

What advice would you give future fresh graduates of the course?

There are plenty of jobs out there. As well as applying for jobs advertised publically, I think you need to make contacts with people in your particular area of interest. They will be able to direct you towards jobs which may not be advertised publically and help you in touch with the appropriate people. The insider knowledge is always the best.

I think having the M.Eng on your CV will help catch employer's attention. It shows you are willing to learn new things, and it shows you have the motivation and ambition to progress your career.