UK Electronics Skills Foundation

Jo Gibbins

About me

I joined **CML Microcircuits** in 2003 after graduating from the University of Bath with a First Class BEng in Electronics and Communication Engineering.

I began my career as an RF Design Engineer and, over the years, have built extensive Radio Frequency (RF) systems expertise through involvement in a wide range of projects. I have contributed to some of CML's most successful products over the past 20 years—an experience that has been both rewarding and fulfilling.

The variety of work and the people I've worked with are the two main reasons I've remained with CML for more than two decades!

My career progression within the company has been equally rewarding. I became Systems Engineering Manager in 2020 and was appointed **Head of Engineering** in 2021. In this role, my focus is on fostering collaboration, encouraging innovation, and strengthening our technical capabilities across the UK engineering teams.

I have a genuine passion for engineering and truly enjoy the work I do. I'm committed to helping inspire the next generation to discover that same enthusiasm and pursue careers in engineering.

My strengths

I love problem-solving, whether it's completing a Sudoku for fun or tackling a complex technical challenge at work.

Throughout my education and career, I've learned the value of asking questions and embracing mistakes as part of the learning process.

I'm also passionate about sport, both playing and watching, and I always try to bring a collaborative, team-focused approach to my work. As you progress through different stages in life the best resources are the people around you, so embrace learning from others!

My inspiration

From an early age, I was driven by **a curiosity to understand how things worked and how to fix them when they didn't**. At school, I quickly realised that engineering was the right path for me, with Electronics and Electrical Engineering standing out as the area that most captured my interest. I particularly enjoyed taking things apart and building them, which strengthened my passion.

Fascinating tech

The **rapid evolution of mobile technology and the way we communicate has been remarkable** to witness. It's incredible to think that devices once limited to calls and basic text messages have transformed into powerful, pocket-sized computers that support high-quality video calls, social media, and advanced photography. The pace of this innovation—and how central these devices have become to everyday life—is truly astonishing!

What excites me about the future

Innovation in electronics—particularly in wireless communications—is **advancing at an extraordinary pace**. As demand for high-quality video streaming and reliable data transfer continues to grow, the industry is challenged to deliver market-leading performance and functionality. This constant pressure drives engineers to develop new techniques, refine existing technologies, and push the boundaries of what's possible. It's **an exciting environment that offers significant opportunities for fresh ideas** and new perspectives from the next generation of engineers.

Jo Gibbins, Head of Engineering at CML Microcircuits

UK Electronics Skills Foundation

My aspirations

Over the coming year, we have several exciting projects to deliver, and I'm looking forward to seeing them develop. The additional workload has enabled us to grow our team, which has been encouraging, but it has also highlighted the increasing need for more young people to pursue careers in engineering.

Alongside my day-to-day responsibilities, **I want to explore ways we as a company can inspire and encourage the next generation to consider engineering roles**.

My advice would be to gain as much hands-on experience with electronics as possible. Today, there are many affordable starter kits that allow you to build simple projects at home, and these early experiments can quickly become genuinely useful—such as creating a DIY smart-home system using a Raspberry Pi or Arduino.

Electronics is far more accessible than it used to be, and these practical experiences are not only enjoyable but can also help you discover which areas you might want to pursue in your studies and future career, whether that's circuit design, software engineering, semiconductor development, or many many others.