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John Hughes



John Hughes snowboarding at Morzine in the French Alps

## **Spotlight on John Hughes**

A year after joining MPE as Engineering Manager, John Hughes has now been appointed to the Board of Directors as Engineering Director, having successfully completed in May Liverpool University's Growth Catalyst seven-month leadership development programme.

Setting goals for and managing a team of five engineering designers using Autodesk Inventor 3D CAD, PSpice simulation software and various other predictive modelling tools, he has been reporting as a Manager direct to MPE Managing Director David Seabury.

Going forward, given the necessary mechanical or electrical customisation of many standard products at MPE to comply with the demands of particular applications, the principles of Design For Manufacture and Assembly (DFMA) will be at front and centre of John Hughes's philosophy as a Director. Taking responsibility for decision-making in his area of expertise, he will also focus on the latest internal project developments such as for UL certified filter ranges and improvement technologies, for example laser welding.

Since joining MPE, John has expanded and reorganised MPE's Engineering team, with the addition of a number of new members in freshly created roles, to meet the ever increasing demand the team is experiencing. John has also already successfully delivered several key projects including MPE's new range of Mil-Std-188-125-1A compliant HEMP filters.

John moved to MPE from the Darcy Group factory at Birkenhead, specialist manufacturers of environmental protection products such as aerial and marine oil dispersant spray systems, ATEX environmental alarms, sewer and drain closure devices, and oil spill absorbents. As Group Technical Director he was responsible for four departments – design, spillcare production, technical production and installation operations.

Previously he had been Engineering Design Manager at Ayles Fernie International of Sevenoaks, Kent, system integrators of oil dispersant spray systems who subsequently became part of the Darcy Group.

John Hughes has also worked in design and development in the county of Kent at Kent Modular Electronics of Rochester, Blighline of Canterbury and Hansa GWS of Gravesend.

His B.Eng Honours degree in Manufacturing Engineering and Operations Management was achieved from his course at the University of Nottingham between September 2001 and June 2004.

John's hobbies have included snowboarding in the French Alps, mountain biking, other adventure sports, world travel and listening to many genres of modern music. He has previously participated in open water swimming races and triathlons. Born at Wrexham and a dedicated Wales rugby supporter, he now lives in Chester with Jessica, his partner for 20 years, and their two young children.