



gfirst[®]
growing gloucestershire

the technologist

>> Nigel Cottell

Director of Quality & Service
Excellence, by Moog

As a worldwide designer,
manufacturer and integrator of
precision motion control products
and systems, MOOG is a long-
term success story.

Moog aims to enhance performance in a variety
of markets and applications, from commercial
aircraft cockpits to power generation turbines
and technological medical infusion systems. Their
components also form part of the retractable roof
at Wimbledon's Centre Court and can also be
found in every Formula 1 racing car.

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Nigel Cottell // Director of Quality & Service Excellence, by Moog

As a worldwide business, what made you choose Gloucestershire as another base?

Before Moog established its operations in Gloucestershire, renowned entrepreneurs Bill Moog and George Dowty agreed that Dowty Rotol would manufacture the Moog products under licence back in the late 1950s. So when Moog decided to set up its own operation within the UK in 1963 Gloucestershire was already familiar ground: there was a established and capable workforce in place and the county was a good base for key markets.

How do you rate the Gloucestershire workforce?

Gloucestershire has a talented workforce particularly in the advanced engineering sector. The county has benefited from large manufacturers who invested significantly in training through the 70s and 80s, so there's a large cohort of very capable, experienced individuals. Equally, the younger generation of graduates in the county, many of whom were educated in our excellent schools are leading the technical changes and innovation that characterise so much of what we do well in Gloucestershire.

Being such a niche industry, do you find local skilled staff hard to find?

Usually we are able to source staff locally or extend to the

bordering counties and go as far as Birmingham or Bristol. We do run a successful apprentice programme in order to grow in house talent for the future.

Having created so many jobs in Gloucestershire, and brought so many to the area, what do your employees do here after hours?

There is no shortage of activities out of hours!

Gloucestershire's extremely well-placed to provide access to the wide range of activities necessary for a good work/life balance. We have all the great sporting activities on our doorstep: rugby, cricket, racing and access to fabulous walking and enjoying nature at its best. The number of interesting festivals also provide great interest and enrichment.

How well-equipped is the county for families?

Excellent schools in both the public and private sectors.

What's the best advice you've ever been given?

Measure twice, cut once...

Where would we find you on a lazy day off?

Out in one of the barns on our farm, tinkering with my beloved Triumph TR4A which I've restored inside out.