

Name: Mark Williams, CIWSc, TIMMM

Qualifications:

BS 4978 - Certificate of Proficiency: Visual Strength Grading of Softwoods

City of Wolverhampton College – HNC Computer Studies BASIC & COBOL

Institute of Wood Science -Certificate in Timber Technology 1999

Distributive Occupational Standards Council - Qualified NVQ Assessor for Warehouse and Wood Machinist training to D32 and D33

Fully-qualified Wood Machinist

BS 2482 : 2009 – Certificate of Proficiency in Scaffold Board Grading [2019]

BS 5534 : 2014 – Certificate of Proficiency to Grade Tiling Battens [2018]

CAREER SUMMARY

As an experienced Operations Director I achieved some significant successes and achievements within various Timber Merchanting, Timber Engineering and Modular Offsite businesses. I have introduced and worked within the disciplines for lean manufacture, Kaizen, 5s and Six Sigma, ensuring clarity and full understanding to set processes & procedures and develop training programmes, ensuring continuous improvement across the whole operational aspect; achieving a culture of delivery in full and on time, I set strategies to achieve business aims and ensure clarity on targets and key performance indicators.

Since joining TFT Woodexperts in 2018, working as a fully qualified Wood Scientist and Timber Technologist, I have been able to draw upon a wealth of previous experience within production wood machining, truss manufacture, timber engineering and design. Previous roles have ensured that I have a great depth of understanding in distribution, handling plant, storage systems for stocks of source material for manufacture, including procurement and stock management systems to meet customer demands. I have recently become a member of the UK Timber Grading Committee, am the lead for Woodexperts in our role as approved consultants to the Structural Timber Association, and I regularly attend events, on behalf of the company, such as the Offsite Hub Conference and the London Hardwood Club.

EXPERIENCE

I spent 11 years in the traditional merchant sector, starting out as a management trainee. I gained promotion to various roles and disciplines, during which time I was responsible for assisting the firms I worked for in changing their traditional roles, one from a timber merchant to a fully-focused business supplying the national house builders, which also saw the introduction of MDF window boards and skirtings to the UK, and the other with bringing Timber Merchanting to an long-established family-owned Builder's Merchant. I worked to establish a business supplying both the traditional local trades and the national house builders, this included an agency business supplying other Timber Merchants with Softwoods from the Baltic. Achieving substantial increases in turnover and profit, I was also responsible for all operational aspects of timber supply including sawmills, kilns and treatment plants both in Riga, Latvia, and in the UK, where I also dealt with import contracts and shipping and transport logistics.

More recently, I worked for 19 years for prominent regional timber business where I addressed all operational aspects of a sole-ownership firm that expanded by adding branches across the North East of England, to ensure growth in both turnover and profit. When it had grown to nine, in 2004, a management buyout took place, and I became one of the 4 Directors who took a stake in the company. I developed our own "room in the roof" concept, enabling the retention of highly-skilled wood machinists and engineered-timber experts, to maximise future opportunities, and grow sales and profit through the recession. I encouraged teamwork and leadership skills across Sales, Production, Distribution and Design, and by 2018 staff levels and turnover had increased substantially.

I was Operations Director covering branches, distribution, logistics & production including the Timber Engineering Division, manufacturing and delivering roofing systems to National Housebuilders across the UK. I was also responsible for the company's Factory Production Controls, CE Marking, Chain of Custody for FSC and PEFC, training & timber knowledge, which included environmental policy, and Health & Safety compliance. In February 2018, following a merger with a merchant business in Scotland, the group grew to 15 branches and 2 distribution & production centres.

Since joining TFT Woodexperts I have undertaken consultancy projects in Sweden and Ireland, as well across the UK; and more recently in southeast Asia, where I have carried out site inspections and consultancy projects on wood-based materials, plus quality audits and certification. My "hands on" experience now covers new and historic buildings, flooring and roofs, together with sawmills and other manufacturing plants, including plywood and joinery.

