



SME Higher Education Expectations and the Reality

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The Corrosioneering Group works worldwide through operations in 37 countries. The Group comprises a number of SME's and we have our own research and development team comprising electrical/electronic engineers, mechanical engineers, corrosion engineers and chemists in two of those locations.

We don't require degree level for entry and both graduate and non graduate staff are employed to fulfil our requirements for technical personnel.

The FE (Further Education) system works well in some ways but seems tailored to providing students for specialist work in large conglomerates or within academia and yet SME's provide over 80% of the job market. Innovation is necessary to be at the forefront of Research and Development and this seems stifled in the system in some ways.

From the view point of one SME, what do we get from the FE system and what do we want? These aspects are discussed.