



Fergus Heath

ETCS Operations Specialist

Driver Training Safety and Standards

Govia Thameslink Railway

Driver Training Simulator Manager

Govia Thameslink Railway

Train Driver

Govia Thameslink Railway

Career Journey

Fergus began his career in the Police. After several years he wanted to change his career and followed his childhood passion into railway operations as a Train Driver. From there he moved into Driver Training and Competence Management as a Simulator Manager where he trained and assessed drivers in rules, traction, operational risk, and new routes.

Over time, Fergus became more and more involved with training. Alongside his Simulator Manager role, he also began to work with the operational safety and standards team.

An opportunity arose in the East Coast Digital Programme as an ETCS Operating Specialist within the signalling system. Fergus loves the technical elements of this position and works closely with an engineering colleague to bridge the gap between engineering and operations to ensure that what's

Getting On in Operations

Finding opportunities and having exposure can be difficult in a role like a train driver, where you are not in a head office, so keep an eye out, make yourself available and if you are interested in something, ask if you can get involved. Be proactive, approach line-managers and seek out opportunities for secondment.

Looking back, one of the challenges faced by Fergus was that some wondered if his shorter years of experience would hinder him, however this didn't stop him from pursuing new challenges, knowing that he could serve the

Creating a Career in Operations

Have a go. Go and apply, see what's out there and what takes your fancy.

Don't assume that the role that you enter rail operations in has to be your role for the next 35 years. Be aware that there will be opportunities to do other things, but it's up to you to pursue them.

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