

CASE STUDY

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How did you get to where you are now?

Basically, mine was an unplanned journey. I did my PhD in an energy storage related topic at Cambridge University, during which I came up with an invention to store hydrogen energy safely and efficiently. I then realised that this very technology can potentially, one day, solve energy poverty problems for millions of people around the world. One thing led to another until it grew to the business I run today.

What challenges do you face on a day to day basis?

Running an engineering business is very exciting but can have many complexities associated with it, like any business. Every day brings different challenges, from

fundraising to mitigating technical risks associated to the products that we are developing, while trying to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to competition.

What is the biggest difference you noticed between work and university in terms of engineering?

Work is the real world, college and university is the preparatory stage that gives you the tools and a taste of what you can do with engineering.

Real life example of engineering applied to your work.

We have been working on engineering a plug and play energy storage system that can, for example, keep a hospital running 24/7 on clean power in remote areas where connection is not to be taken for granted because it is either not available or not reliable.

How do you approach these problems?

With a mindset of an engineer; which is that every problem has a solution. We start with a plan of how to solve a technical problem that we might have; for example, how to build a light system that has high energy density so it can provide power for longer. Then we bring in the people who have particular expertise in executing such a plan and keep iterating it until we get to the final solution. It gets more reassuring and exciting from one iteration to another.

What would your advice be to someone who aspires to be like you?

Follow what excites you and keeps you on your toes. Choose a problem that you are not only passionate about but feel you can contribute to solving; whether by having ideas, expertise in the field, or simply the passion to learn - it is a great qualification! This is what I did.

"Running an engineering business is very exciting. Every day brings different challenges"

