

MEET THE MENTORS

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Why do you think the BCO is important? Why did you join?

The BCO provides a platform where the collective knowledge of some of our industry's best minds are collated and shared for the benefit of all its members. Information and research are powerful tools within our sector, and it's this mindset and approach that allows the UK to be at the forefront of commercial development internationally.

I originally joined the BCO as part of the (amazing!!) NextGen committee following the receipt of their Rising Star Award. Having a platform that recognises and celebrates the future of our industry was great to see, not to mention the wonderful range of people you meet both on committees and at the numerous CPD/networking events facilitated by the BCO.

What made you want to become a mentor?

Throughout my career, I've been fortunate to have the support of individuals who played a pivotal role in my growth - both professionally and personally - so I want to give back.

I believe in the power of mentorship and representation. For young professionals still finding their footing, having someone to turn to can make all the difference. I want to help reshape perceptions, to show that success in our industry isn't reserved for a particular background or pathway. By being visible and accessible, I hope to inspire others to bring their full selves to the table, spark confidence, and create space for the next wave of brilliant minds to thrive.

What has been your biggest achievement as a mentor?

It's hard to pinpoint one moment because for me, mentorship isn't about a single grand gesture, it's about the ripple effect. Seeing people I've mentored go on to lead, to mentor others, to walk into rooms they once felt excluded from, that's the real achievement. It's not about being the loudest voice in the room - it's about helping others find theirs.

What are you most proud of in your career?

My journey into the industry wasn't exactly conventional. I started out as a CAD technician, balancing full-time work with part-time university through day release. It was intense, but it taught me resilience, discipline, and how to push forward even when the odds aren't in your favour.

Since then, I've had the privilege of working on some of the most incredible projects both in London and around the world. That's something I'm proud of, of course, but what means even more to me is the positive impact I've made beyond the work itself on society and people. That's the legacy I'm building, and that's what I'm truly proud of.

What is the most useful piece of advice you've received during your career?

Funny enough, and maybe controversial, the most useful advice I ever got wasn't meant to be helpful at all! Someone once told me many moons ago, as a young South London Teenager, "I don't think Engineering is right for you..." And honestly? That was the spark. I didn't want to prove them wrong, I wanted to prove to myself what I already knew deep down ... that I belong here just as much as anyone else, and I had something valuable to contribute.

That backhanded 'advice' ironically became my fuel. It taught me that sometimes the most powerful motivation comes from the doubt of others - your path doesn't need anyone else's permission. For those reading this, you can have that as my first piece of guidance!

