

# 5 minutes with...

## Jason Arkell, Head of Business Improvement and Quality Management at AMEC's Brownfield and Asset Management Operating Unit

**Life at AMEC** is fast-paced. The business has grown significantly over the past three years and quality management has played a big part.

**The major challenge facing the oil and gas industry** is sustainability. Our clients are looking for more cost-effective solutions in a competitive market.

**I've been informing our directors** about the value of quality management. I've defined a set of standardised quality deliverables across all our projects and resourced the function with more than 100 quality professionals.

**I started out in quality** when I was 17. I visited Paisley University's open day and started talking to the Head of Quality. He spoke about quality engineering being the next big thing and his enthusiasm was infectious.

**Improvement in the industry is hard** because people are set in their ways, but you have to persevere. We're doing well and making progress in terms of reducing cost and rework.

**The key to good project management** is continuous improvement. You have to think outside the box, challenge the norm and implement best practice.

**The best thing about my job** is its diversity. There are many initiatives within the business where you can be involved in quality and, as a result, no two days are ever the same.

