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## Case Study - Owen Garbutt - Marine Engineer (funded 2015-16)

**Romica Engineering**

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I started my apprenticeship at the end of June 2015 working at Armstrong hydraulics, since starting the main job my role has included repairing and renewing the winches from HMS Albion. I think this was a good time for me to start as it has allowed me to see the individual parts of the winch, allowing me to get a better idea of what each part does and how it all fits together. I have also been able to see where problems can arise if something is not properly maintained. We are now at the stage where the winches are getting put back together and it has been good to be able to see the process from the drawing the individual parts and then putting it back together, making everything easier to pick up and understand how everything fits together.



Other things I have done include spending time on site which has ranged from replacing hydraulic hoses, removing break cylinders, replacing pipework and repairs. This has been good because I have been able to see how these machines work and fit together in the environment that they would be working, how they can become damaged in and the issues that can come from working around existing parts of the ship when it comes to things like hoses or pipes. I have also been doing smaller jobs with other people around the workshop

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which has given me insight into other things I will likely be doing from repairing cylinders, cranes, davits and power packs, how important it is to keep things clean and use the correct oils, the different types of fittings and their pros/cons and the correct types of seals to use.

I started college in October 2015, for the first few months up until the new year we were going over health and safety in the workplace, what to do in emergencies and the precautions to take to avoid contamination within the environment, which had an exam that I have passed. After Christmas we have started on practical exercises which have allowed me to get used to using various tools and machines. This has covered using milling machines, burning gear, lathes hacksaws and files. Including the correct safety measures to take when using the machines.

Overall I think that my apprenticeship is going well and that I am picking things up at a reasonable pace especially considering this is something that I have never done before and look forward to what I will be doing in the future.