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## MARK BARNETT ENVIRONMENT

Name  
**Mark Barnett**  
Job Title  
**Environmental Scientist**  
Location  
**Brisbane, Australia**  
Degree  
**BSc BSc Environmental Science (Hons), University of Nottingham, UK**  
Joined AECOM  
**2007**



### Q1. Describe your role at AECOM

In a nutshell, my job is to address the potential environmental impacts of development and construction. It involves a combination of field investigation, environmental monitoring and sampling, data analysis and interpretation – all of which help me to understand existing environmental conditions, identify potential impacts and recommend suitable mitigation measures. In addition to my technical role, I'm also Treasurer of the Brisbane office's Young Professionals Committee.

### Q2. Describe a typical working day

There's no such thing as a 'typical' workday – variety is definitely one of the highlights of the job. My tasks depend on the phase of a project, so I could be involved in client consultations, out in the field supervising the installation of groundwater monitoring bores, or at my desk writing up the latest investigative results.

A major challenge for all new consultants is to maintain good client relationships. You have to learn to maintain personal and professional integrity by reporting the facts, even if it's bad news for the client.

In the field, physical challenges tend to dominate, with issues ranging from risk assessment on worksites, to hazardous weather conditions. For me, the most essential "tools" of the job are a flexible approach and a sense of humor.

### Q3. Does AECOM support your career development?

AECOM encourages graduates to take ownership of their personal and professional development. There's a fantastic support network and financial backing in place, combined with twice-yearly skill review sessions, an assigned mentor, membership of a Young Professional Development group, as well as access to colleagues with a wealth of technical experience.

### Q4. What surprised you most about working at AECOM?

The diversity of my colleagues' backgrounds and skill sets – both in my office and AECOM's global network – is extremely impressive. Working with this range of talent and experience is truly inspirational. In fact, I learn something new every day. The real task for me is to make sure I take each new lesson on board and use it to increase my personal value to the company, my team and clients.