

60 seconds with...

Ben Herrett

Business Development Manager



What drew you to your chosen career in MBE?

Having worked for a large organisation for the majority of my career, I had always wanted to switch to a more dynamic and entrepreneurial environment. Partnering with MBE in my previous role, I had seen the type of organisation that they are and had no hesitation in accepting a management role. Being a rapidly expanding company, the business development opportunities are never ending and present a great opportunity to have a real impact moving forward. 2016 has seen MBE expanding our operations into South Africa, with a new office opened in Cape Town and our latest venture is in South Korea where we have partnered with a local consultancy around regulations such as Solvency II and IFRS 4 Phase II. These, in addition to our expanding operations within Europe make for exciting times.

What do you enjoy most about your job within MBE?

I recall a conversation with one of the MBE Directors prior to joining, that they had concerns that the variety of tasks within an organisation such as MBE in comparison to working for an organisation with 55,000 employees might put me off joining. In actual fact this was a major draw, and with MBE focusing on actuarial & risk management, operational excellence and technology no 2 days are the same. This also means that there is always something new to learn which certainly keeps things interesting.

How does the concept of change play a role in your work?

Working in a smaller organisation, flexibility and the ability to regularly adapt and change is key. Clients always appreciate the fact that we are a flexible organisation and able to change to meet their individual requirements. As I recently learnt from our MBE Continuous Improvement courses 'When you've finished changing, you're finished'. Well, the team might have got that one from Benjamin Franklin but I appreciated the sentiment.

How long have you worked in the business?

I have been in the financial services industry for about 15 years, initially on the financial market data vendor side and now enjoying experiencing the same industry from the consulting side.

I'm going to the bar, what are you drinking?

Being from the North of England, it would have to be a good pint of real ale!

What's the weirdest / funniest thing that's ever happened at work (MBE / other!)?

Whilst still at school working for Marks & Spencer I once managed to cause the evacuation of a whole store. I'm not sure the management found it so funny at the time though!!



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