

## David Stenson Case Study

Working through Pertemps as a  
Business Support Administrator



In 2014, Pertemps signed the Armed Forces Covenant pledging our support to the military community. We proudly received Gold Award status from the MoD in 2016, presented by Prince William, for recognition of our contributions to finding work for our current and ex-servicemen.

Pertemps have a dedicated team who exclusively support personnel and reservists who struggle to find work in the civilian world, which is overseen by Major Darren Knight. Below is a story from an ex-serviceman, David Stenson, Business Support Administrator at Northern Power Grid and his experiences of life before and after Pertemps.

*“My experience with Pertemps has been very positive and their relationship with military charities such as Poppy Factory has been of enormous benefit to me finding work since being made redundant.*

*I joined the Army in 1977 and left in 1980 completing my colour service with the Second Battalion Coldstream Guards, serving in the UK and Gambia. I never regretted joining the army as I gained self-discipline, confidence and a passion for fitness. Even with health issues I still managed to exercise, with the mindset from the Guards to never give up.*

*After leaving the Army I did manual work, as having dyslexia at the time was a big drawback. In 2003, I had problems with my legs, and I carried on working for as long as I could. In 2007, due to my health I lost my job, house and my marriage. I could not stand for a long period of time, so I needed a seated job.*

*I did not want to give up, as I still had my two sons living with me. I went back to college and the gym. Once I finished my exams, I went to join an organisation that helps people with disabilities find work and I gained office experience there. They employed me as the branch coordinator and I worked there for five years until we were all made redundant due to the closure of the branch.*

*After being made redundant, I signed up with a number of agencies and I had a number of interviews but had no luck finding employment. I was then told by a friend about the Poppy Factory. I phoned the number I was given and arranged a meeting with Zara, an employment adviser. I found her to be very helpful contacting employers on my behalf.*

*I was encouraged to keep looking for employment and to send my CV to supportive employers, who have signed and made a pledge under the Armed Forces Covenant. Zara assisted me in getting my CV into the Armed Forces Liaison Team within Pertemps, who are an MoD Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award winner. I was interviewed by Pertemps’ Leeds Commercial Branch, who subsequently arranged an interview with the Northern Power Grid.*

*I started work for Pertemps on the 4th of March 2019 at Northern Power Grid’s Keighley Offices as a Business Support Administrator. I am enjoying working with a friendly group of people. I’m very grateful to the Poppy Factory, Pertemps and Northern Power Grid for all the support I have been provided.*

*Pertemps have proven without a doubt that they do all they can to support Veterans like myself. I have received more help and support from the Poppy Factory and Pertemps than any of the other organisations. I could not be happier to be at the Northern Power Grid.*

