

Veteran Profile

Conor Lewis



Name:	Conor Lewis
Military Service:	10 years
Military Career:	Army, Lance Corporal
Joined Fujitsu:	June 2023
Fujitsu Career:	SNOC Shift Lead

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Military background

Despite leaving school with a solid set of exam results, Conor Lewis still lacked direction in terms of where his career path was headed. Initially, he went to college to study an eclectic mix of subjects before realising that academic life wasn't for him. So, he started to explore other avenues before stumbling upon the military. He enlisted to the Army and began his 14-week basic training at ATC Pirbright in 2012, training for what would become a 10-year career as a Combat Medical Technician.

His first overseas operation followed in 2014, in what would prove to be a real eye opener for Conor in the form of Operation GRITROCK, tackling the Ebola virus epidemic in West Africa: *“I was posted to Sierra Leone to set-up and run a field hospital to treat NGO Aid workers infected with the virus through helping locals,”* recalled Conor. Along with his colleagues, Conor was awarded a medal by Prince William to recognise their efforts in the response to this crisis.

Another overseas stint followed in 2016 in the form of Operation SHADER in Iraq where Conor was part of a team tasked with training local forces to provide medical cover and advice in the fight against ISIS. Upon his return, he was promoted to Lance Corporal, and subsequently posted to ATC Pirbright medical centre for a further four years, providing medical cover and training to new recruits, where he discovered a love for mentoring. During this time, Conor had become a father for the first time, but with a new posting and a second child on the way he was faced with a tough decision: *“I was scheduled to be deployed to Mali, which came at just the wrong time for me and my family, so I made the decision to leave and seek pastures new,”* he explained.

Civilian transition

Before leaving the Army, Conor participated in a hackathon and was part of a small team that developed an app for medical personnel on the ground to help update on casualty status. *“IT and cyber security interested me, and the hackathon reaffirmed this, so I started to research opportunities in this area,”* he explained. While his first job opportunity fell through, others materialised and Conor found himself in a sales role, before a couple of life events would deal him a cruel blow: *“I lost my grandad and my long-term girlfriend left me, which was all very tough to take, especially whilst adjusting to civilian life. I also realised that sales wasn't for me!”*

Conor engaged with the Civilian Transition Partnership (CTP) to assist his resettlement, attending their 3-day workshop which he found incredibly useful, but he openly admits he didn't get the most out of the services available: *“Having a job offer on the table when I left made me think I didn't need any help or support in this area, but with hindsight now I wish I had engaged more,”* he reasons. Ironically, the company that withdrew his initial job offer, attracted Conor again with an IT Consultant role before he was then contacted by a recruiter with a role at Fujitsu.

Life at Fujitsu

Conor joined Fujitsu's Defence & National Security Business Unit in June 2023 as a Shift Lead for its Secure Network Operations Centre. The SNOCC is a unique 24x7x365 purpose-built facility based on NATO design responsible for Fujitsu's service management and delivery. In this role, Conor is responsible for a team of 7 ensuring the smooth operation of the service centre on his shift. *"The military prepares you very well for all forms of management, and this role is definitely getting the most out of my military training. It's also a massive improvement on my previous sales role,"* explains Conor.

As well as extracting the very best of Conor's managerial experience garnered in the Army, he is also relishing his new team environment and the induction process upon joining Fujitsu: *"The team I'm surrounded by cannot be faulted. While the environment is very different to what I've been used to, the support I've received throughout has been excellent."* Looking to the future, Conor is seeking to solidify his knowledge within his new role, while evaluating the area of cyber security with a view to this becoming a possible career option.

Why Fujitsu?

For over 50 years we have innovated with the MOD, Government Departments and intelligence communities, co-creating new technologies and capabilities. As a result, Fujitsu has around 4,000 security cleared staff and the experience to deliver and manage both generic industry offerings and those tailored to specialist needs at OFFICIAL, SECRET and ABOVE SECRET classifications.

Our extensive experience working within Defence, and National Security has enabled us to recognise the significant contribution that veterans and reserve personnel bring to the commercial sector. For many years, Fujitsu has helped Service leavers to transition from military to civilian life. Thanks to our close working partnership with Career Transition Partnership (CTP) and CTP Assist we provide the opportunity for veterans to develop rewarding careers within our organisation.

Today, 15% of Fujitsu's security cleared staff who work in our Defence & National Security business originate from a Services background. They fulfil a wide variety of roles from Project Management, Security Architects and Customer Solution Architects, to 1st, 2nd and 3rd Line support roles, Service Engineers and Test Analysts.



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