

Veteran Profile

Neil Fassam



Name:	Neil Fassam
Military Service:	23 years
Military Career:	Geo-intelligence Specialist, Army Warrant Officer Class 2
Joined Fujitsu:	2019
Fujitsu Career:	Project and Programme Manager

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Military background

With over 23 years’ service in the Army, Neil Fassam has enjoyed an intriguing military career. After originally joining the Royal Engineers, Neil trained as a surveyor before his trade merged and he became a geo-intelligence specialist equipping him with the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver geographical support and advice, surveillance intelligence and reconnaissance information to missions around the world.

With postings including 16 AABDE, Germany, tours to Bosnia and Kosovo, two tours of Afghanistan and the second Gulf war. In between his two missions to Afghanistan, Neil, as a Sergeant, was posted to Cyprus working with the UN as the force cartographer for almost 2 years. His career culminated in a final tour with the Centre for Intelligence Innovation, HQ JFIG, that opened his eyes to the cutting edge of IT and gave him a desire to continue to work in this area.

But when he began retraining as an IT engineer, it started to make Neil consider life beyond the military and what he would do next. Coupled with the fact that Neil had a young family to support, he realised the need for greater stability.

“My wife and I didn’t want to keep moving the children to different schools, so when we bought our house in Berkshire, I realised that this was the time to find my new career path, and IT presented me with this opportunity,” explains Neil.

Civilian transition

Everything started to align quite quickly for Neil following his move into IT. *“My Manager at the time thought it was pertinent for me to work towards my project management qualifications, so I completed my PRINCE2 training and other PM qualifications,”* he recalls. Neil was then working on an IT project that was won by Fujitsu, and this was his first introduction to the company.

Once he’d made his decision to leave the Army, Neil engaged with the Careers Transition Partnership (CTP) to seek the support he would require to help with the transition from military life. He then sent his CV to some of the contacts he had established with Fujitsu and was subsequently invited to a Military Insight Day at Basingstoke to get to know more about the company and the roles it could offer military veterans. *“The Insight Day was tremendous and completely overwhelmed me! It was great to be able to come along and chat to the Managers and other ex-military peers. I was sold on the company hook, line and sinker,”* he remembers.

Life at Fujitsu

Following the Insight Day, Neil was accepted on to Fujitsu's relatively new Military Transition and Talent Programme (MTTP) initiative, aimed at increasing the support that Fujitsu offers high-calibre individuals as they transition from military to industry employment.

Neil's transition to Fujitsu was seamless with access to a wide array of support networks across the company. *"The mentoring aspect of MTTP gives you access to a terrific network of support and encouragement. The support I received was amazing, and to have the knowledge that those people are there as and when you need them is a great help."*

Neil's role as Project & Programme Manager is now allowing him to broaden his existing IT skillset acquired from the latter stages of his military career, in terms of financial and commercial acumen. Within this role Neil is taking full advantage of the new opportunities he is presented with: *"I'm absolutely reveling in my new role. The level of responsibility that is bestowed on me is something that I'm thriving on, and the variety of the projects I'm working on is incredible. My future at Fujitsu really does excite me,"* enthuses Neil.

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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