



Richard is, first and foremost, a Designer. A Civil Engineer with 30 years of experience in major and minor development infrastructure design and regeneration projects. Services range from preliminary advice provided for speculative and strategic opportunities through to planning advice, detailed design, technical approvals and adoption. Richard is highly skilled in all aspects of drainage design and flood risk assessment, always promoting a sustainable approach.

He has excellent communication skills, written and oral, and this quality has been very important in delivering clear and concise drainage strategies FRAs and FCAs in support of development projects ranging from 1 to 4500 residential units. Richard has now supported more than 100 development projects where flooding was a major constraint, and to date there have been no planning objections on grounds of flood risk or drainage following submission of his reports.

Satisfied clients include most of the major national housebuilding companies, local authorities, investment fund holders, developers, industrial estate operators and private individuals. He is an experienced negotiator with the EA, Local Government, Highways Agency, water companies, utility providers and other statutory authorities. Other roles include part time lecturing in the civil engineering department at the University of Wales, Newport.

His 2010 invention of a novel, patented, and highly effective solution to golf bunker edge erosion resulted in a change of career direction. Since 2016 Richard has devoted all his efforts in establishing and growing a successful international product supply business. He provides the leadership and business management skills although his technical experience and civil engineering knowledge is also a key cornerstone, underpinning the company.

AWARDS

Water Management Project of the Year
The Golf Environment Awards 2010 from GEO and STRI

MEMBERSHIPS

Institution of Civil Engineers (1989 to Date)

CAREER

September 1989 to August 1998 Sir Owen Williams & Partners. Design Engineer.

Wide ranging civil engineering experience working on major strategic highways infrastructure and local development projects for housing, industrial and commercial development. Work included outline and detailed design, structural inspections, analysis, site supervision, contract documentation, project cost benefit analysis and client representation. Developed a specialism in all aspects of drainage, flood risk analysis ,land appraisals and planning application support, including work for developers (inc Barratt, Persimmon, Bellway), consultants, local government, contractors (inc Vinci, Balfour Beatty, Kier, Robert McAlpine), architects and golf courses.

September 1998 to September 2001 Westbury Homes/Bellway Homes: Regional Engineer.

Responsible for managing the design of site infrastructure, negotiation with local authorities, utility supply companies and a wide range of agencies governmental departments. Managed the transfer of adoptable assets to public ownership reducing long term company liabilities. Customer care and advising of engineering constraints and potential abnormal development construction costs during negotiations with landowners and ultimate purchase.

October 2001 to July 2004 Parsons Brinckerhoff: Principal Engineer.

Leading a team of 8 engineers engaged in infrastructure design, primarily for private sector development clients. Fully responsible for cost centre profit and loss, staff development and controlling quality of technical information delivered by the team.

August 2004 to March 2011 WSP Group: Associate Director leading the Welsh branch of WSP Development and Transportation.

Fully responsible for local P&L, technical control and business development, reporting directly to the Regional Board. Technical responsibility covered the delivery of drainage and flood risk, development infrastructure and transportation services. Managing a team of 16 engineers and technicians.

April 2011 to Dec 2015 FMW Consultancy / White Young Green: Technical Director.

Responsible for setting up and growing a new branch office in Wales and bringing new skills (drainage and flooding) to the company. By the 2014 merger with major consultancy White Young Green, had established a 7-man team providing wide ranging technical consultancy services in Wales and South West England, generating a revenue of nearly £1M pa.

May 2010 to May 2014, Envirosports Ltd , Co-Founder and Co-Owner.

In the early years, Envirosports Ltd was sustained from funding provided by Richard. Independently invented the design method of building golf bunker edges using recycled grass. Fully responsible for all technical developments, technical drawings, contract management and product refinement, negotiation with funding agencies and gaining

governmental support. Key decision maker on business strategy. Shared duties in all sales and marketing activities, team building and construction.

June 2014 to Present, EcoBunker Ltd, CEO and Owner.

Set up EcoBunker Ltd with the main aim of attracting investment and accelerating the take-up of his existing bunker edge designs realising the full potential of the core product. Sole responsibility enabled investment in skilled staff, new business premises, a more robust supply chain and the development of new, patent pending complimentary products including Aquaedge, a unique aesthetic low maintenance solution for pond and lake edges. In January 2016 Richard committed full time to EcoBunker Ltd and has taken annual revenue to well over £1Million, making the company comfortably the worldwide market leader in this sector of golf course construction.

NOTABLE PROJECTS, RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

M4 Briton Ferry to Earlswood Section 1992 to 1995 (River Neath Crossing).

Site experience gained on a £56 million major infrastructure project. Responsible for supervising and checking quality control, site based design amendments, valuations and implementing Health and Safety measures on a highly dangerous site, with most work undertaken over 30 metres above ground level. My work also included design of temporary accommodation works adjacent to, and on Swansea Bay Golf Club, which I ensured were undertaken with minimal negative impact to the course.

Golf Design and Planning Consent for new 6th hole at Maesteg Golf Club, 1996.

As a member of the Greens and Executive Committee, I drove forward the plans for a new par 3 hole at Maesteg GC. I undertook topographical surveys, produced design plans, successfully negotiated a permit from the National Rivers Authority (Now NRW) to impound a stream and form a pond and gained planning consent. After the hole was constructed it has become arguably the signature hole on the golf course, extremely popular with members and visitors.

Broadlands Development, Bridgend, 1999.

I was given sole responsibility, whilst an in-house engineer with Westbury Homes to design the entire strategic infrastructure (highways, drainage, utility corridors) serving a 1200 unit residential development. Whilst I have been involved with larger and more complex projects since, Broadlands was significant because of the high level of responsibility delegated to me at that stage of my career.

Old Cogan Farm Development Penarth, 2002: Working as a Principal Engineer for Parsons Brinckerhoff I was involved in the early identification of drainage constraints on this site, and then later after planning consent I led the team that did the design of the entire drainage infrastructure, featuring a massive attenuation pond.

Tyn y Coed Farm, Bryncethin, 2005.

New flood planning guidance (TAN 15) introduced in 2004 needlessly sterilised large areas of viable, safe, potential development land. After undertaking some due diligence work on a site at Bryncethin on behalf of Barratt Homes, I persuaded the housing company to invest £50,000 on a flood study, which I managed on their behalf. The outcome was a successful appeal on grounds of flooding, and an additional 150 houses could be built on this site, equating to a raise in land value of approximately £7.5million.

Woodmancote, Cheltenham, 2007.

Design of a complex drainage strategy using a variety of SuDS including swales to direct overland flow paths (generated by extreme flooding off the western Cotswold escarpment) through the new development. Within weeks of opening (during extreme 2007 floods, 1 in 100 year event), my design was tested to the absolute limit and successfully protected over 100 new houses from flooding. To see this result was highly rewarding and emphasised to me how important civil engineering design is to society.

Award Winning Drainage Design 2010.

Maesteg Golf Club is beset with major drainage challenges, and is not a club blessed with a large budget to address this. I designed a solution to an extremely stubborn drainage problem which could be built very reasonably using in house resources. I was very proud of this small but highly effective design solution, and it a great honour for my project to be recognised for design excellence by the judges of the 2010 Water Management of the Year.

Invention of Bunker Edges Using Recycled Artificial Grass, 2010.

The invention was the culmination of many years of interest in golf course design and construction and my vocation of design solutions for engineering challenges. It started in 2010 and has since made a positive impact on hundreds of golf courses across the globe.

Building the Welsh Office of FMW Consultancy 2011 to 2014.

A Bristol based company owner showed great faith in my ability to lead and grow a new branch of his company in Cardiff. Benefitting from his strong support, I am very proud of playing an important part in growing a highly profitable, sellable business in only 3 years. I was very grateful for the opportunity and I believe that I justified the trust that was placed in me.

EcoBunker Ltd 2014 to Date

Starting your own business is an exciting but also frightening decision. Although there have been challenges, I have brilliant people supporting me, promoting our great products and services