

## **Cambridge Museum of Technology – Technical Volunteer**

### **Reporting to: the Technical Manger**

Cambridge Museum of Technology is an independent museum based in the city's former sewage pumping station. Its collections range from 19<sup>th</sup> Century steam engines to 20<sup>th</sup> Century scientific instruments and telecommunications equipment, all with a strong local connection.

We have recently been awarded a major grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to transform the museum. The redevelopment will include creating new displays about local industries and technology, repairing our historic boiler to run the steam engines, and improving visitor facilities and disabled access. There will also be a full programme of events and activities for all ages.

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Due to the heritage importance of our collection the objects need to be handled sympathetically and therefore the priorities of heritage engineering may slightly differ from those in industrial practice.

Within our collection we have a number of unique and rare machines. Our Hathorn Davey non-rotative, tandem, compound steam engines are the last working pair in the world and 'The Big Lathe' was used to form a number familiar Cambridge structures including the radio telescope array at the Mullard Observatory. There are many other large working objects in our collection. Details of some of these can be found on our website:  
[www.museumoftechnology.com/explore](http://www.museumoftechnology.com/explore)

### **We are looking for volunteers to:**

- Help restore and maintain the working objects
- Carry out risk assessments
- Share their knowledge and expertise with other volunteers at the Museum
- Help us strategically plan for the future of the collection

### **Our technical volunteers need to be:**

- Interested in industrial archaeology and how heritage machinery is preserved
- Organised
- A team player
- Able to maintain simple records of the work they have completed
- Guided by the ABTEM guidelines on the Care of Larger and Working Historic Objects:  
<https://abtemguidelinesorg.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/124317-abtem-guidelines-booklet.pdf>

All PPE, other than footwear, is provided by the Museum. Engineering qualifications are not required for this post. However, workshop experience, in either a professional or hobbyist capacity is highly desirable. An organised and logical approach is essential.

Technical volunteers will receive training on:

- The ABTEM guidelines
- How to complete the 'record of work' for large working objects
- Health & safety

It is possible for technical volunteer hours to count towards a work experience portfolio for some qualifications. Please contact the Technical Manager on [info@museumoftechnology.com](mailto:info@museumoftechnology.com) to discuss this.

Benefits:

- Meeting other like-minded people interested in Industrial Archaeology
- A rare opportunity to work with historic machinery and contribute to its preservation
- Opportunities to earn Time Credits: <http://www.wearetempo.org/>
- CV building

How to apply:

Please complete our Expression of Interest form (<http://www.museumoftechnology.com/volunteering/>) and send it to [info@museumoftechnology.com](mailto:info@museumoftechnology.com). In your application include details of your previous technical experience, and the types of machines you would like to work with. Information on our collection can be found on the Museum's website [www.museumoftechnology.com](http://www.museumoftechnology.com) or by contacting the Technical Manager.

The post will remain open until the positions have been filled.

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