



**Doug Hutchinson**  
and  
**POWER GENERATION SERVICES (UK) LTD – (PGSL)**

On completion of an electrical apprenticeship, Doug Hutchinson thanks his lucky stars for doing his National Service in the Merchant Navy.

Within a week of joining, he was quite literally winged out to the Arabian Gulf and Bahrain via Rome and Damascus to become the Electrical Officer on an oil tanker which was propelled by a diesel engine that was three stories high! At 21 years of age his initiation was profound and technically brutal; prevailing circumstances meant he electrically took the vessel to sea within two hours of stepping onboard!

The Electrical Superintendent who interviewed him in London stated they needed people with his qualifications skills and true to his word, he promoted Doug onto steam turbine propelled and finally turbo-electric propelled oil tankers. Turbo-electric oil tankers were floating power stations and were used as such during World War II by the Americans as they battled their way across the Pacific.

Leading edge technology and engineering has interested Doug ever since that time. Today, oil tankers are so large they cannot sail in the English Channel, the Baltic, the Mediterranean or the South China seas to name but a few places - and because of their immense size, they are affected by the Earth's rotational spin. Graduating from floating power stations to land based stations was comparatively easy after this technical baptism of fire. By the time he left the Merchant Service, he had experienced the greatest initiation into the realms of Science, Technology, Hands-On Engineering and Maths.

On coming ashore, nothing seemed interesting however, within a year he joined The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) and once again he became engrossed in Science, Technology, Hands-On Engineering and Maths. Then followed a power generation career with the UK's Central Electricity Generating Board, The Hong Kong Electric Co Ltd, The Hydro-Electric Commission of Tasmania, Australia, Evans Deakin Industries, Brisbane, Australia – then it was back to South East Asia and China with Hopewell Power (China) Ltd.

The STEM formula has stayed with him throughout his career; since 1992 he has been running his own company called **POWER GENERATION SERVICES (UK) LTD - (PGSL)**. The company was started in Hong Kong after Doug had completed six years in China working as power company Operations Manager on China's *first* power generation joint venture project, namely the 700 Megawatt Shajiao 'B' generating station in Guangdong Province.

The station 'ran on rails' to such an extent, the World Bank visited the project for some 10 days. Doug was later invited to present a paper at **The World Bank / USAID** "Private Sector Power in Asia" conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 27 - 29 October 1992 on the private power experience in China.

In the last 17 years Doug and his company has successfully completed power generation and oil & gas assignments in 19 countries.

Since returning to the UK and learning of STEMNET, Doug has realised the STEM formula really works. He wants to encourage school leavers and anyone who is willing to get to grips with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths so that they may succeed and have an interesting and fulfilling life such as he has enjoyed during his long and eventful career.