

Stuart Andrew Laxton

Senior Contract Design Engineer | Project & Design Manager Location: Stockport, UK (Open to 100% Remote / Hybrid) Phone: 0795 153 8423 | Email: stuart@shannow-design.com

Professional Profile

Accomplished **Senior Design Engineer** with over **30 years of experience** specializing in materials handling, powder processing, and pressure vessel design. A proven leader and "Director-level" consultant capable of managing the full project lifecycle remotely. Expert in **Autodesk Inventor (iLogic/iParts)** and **SolidWorks**, with a track record of delivering high-accuracy designs for the Nuclear, Pharmaceutical, and Food sectors. Highly disciplined and self-motivated, with the infrastructure and expertise to provide high-quality remote engineering solutions.

Core Technical Competencies

- **CAD/Design Software:** Autodesk Inventor (Advanced iLogic/iParts), SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Finglow (Pressure Vessel Design).
 - **Engineering Standards:** PD5500:2009, ASME VIII, PED, ATEX Mapping, and ISO 9000 Quality Systems.
 - **Specialisms:** Material/Powder Handling (Screw/Belt Conveyors, FIBC Dischargers), Pneumatic Conveying, Vacuum Systems, and Automated Process Plants.
 - **Remote Management:** Project Planning (MS Project), Documentation Control, and Cloud-based Design Collaboration.
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Professional Experience

Shannow Design Solutions | Contract Design Engineer / Director

April 2024 – Present (Remote-based Consultancy)

- Managing an independent design consultancy providing remote technical support for major industry clients including Rospen Industries and Custom Powders.
- **Key Project:** Designed an automated grout production plant for the **Nuclear industry**, ensuring rigorous compliance and safety standards.
- **Key Project:** Developed 3D layouts and mechanical designs for global food brands, including **Toblerone (Mondelez)** and **Mars**.
- **Key Project:** Engineering lead for a prototype battery production plant for **Anaphite**, delivering detailed flow sheets and ATEX maps.

WBL Engineering | Design and Manufacturing Director

October 2019 – April 2024

- Co-founded a specialist engineering firm to provide consultation and solutions for materials and powder handling needs.
- Directed the end-to-end design process, managing client relationships and technical delivery for complex material handling projects.

Eleather | Contract Design Engineer

February 2018 – September 2019

- Lead designer for the 3D layout of a **£7M fibre processing line**.
- Produced comprehensive assembly drawings, pneumatic conveying equipment details, and all associated fabrications and pipework.

FPE Global | Design Engineer

October 2012 – January 2018

- Engineered screw/belt conveyors, bucket elevators, and FIBC machines to national and European standards.
- **Process Improvement:** Implemented **iLogic and iParts** in Autodesk Inventor 2018 to automate and accelerate drawing generation.
- **Technical Innovation:** Developed a proprietary Excel-based calculation suite for solving complex operational challenges in powder handling.

Ormandy Newade | Technical Manager

April 2008 – September 2012

- Led a team of design engineers producing stainless steel fabrications and pressure vessels for the Pharmaceutical and Offshore sectors.
- Ensured all designs met **PD5500:2009** and **ASME VIII** codes, managing third-party verification and notified body audits.

LTE Scientific Ltd. | Design Office Manager / IT Manager

June 1994 – April 2008

- Promoted to manage a team of 7 engineers, overseeing bespoke designs for the **NHS** and **Health Protection Agency**.
- Integrated IT Management with Engineering Design, ensuring modern digital workflows were maintained across the department.

Education & Qualifications

- **Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)**
- **BTEC ONC:** Electronic and Electrical Engineering
- **EITB Engineering Apprenticeship:** Ferranti International (Mechanical/Electrical)
- **Certifications:** SolidWorks Fundamentals & Sheet Metal, Lloyds Register PED, ISO 9000 Audit Training
- **GCSEs:** 5 Grade C and above, including English, Mathematics, and Physics