



CNet Training
An Uptime Education Company

CLIENT STORY

David Jacob



**Certified Data Centre
Sustainability Professional**

Projects Engineer David Jacob works at IHS Towers, Lagos Island, Nigeria, within the company's Green Energy Management department. David gained CNet Training's Certified Data Centre Sustainability Professional (CDCSP®), facilitated by the iMasons scholarship fund.

David Jacobs is a Project Engineer specialising in energy management for leading telecommunications infrastructure company IHS Towers. The company specialises in providing essential infrastructure services to mobile network operators, enabling reliable and efficient communication networks in diverse environments, and operates across multiple regions, primarily in emerging markets.

David's journey into the telecommunications industry was driven by a deep-rooted passion for technology, environmental sustainability, and energy solutions. Armed with a degree in engineering, he was eager to explore career paths that would allow him to marry his technical expertise with a commitment to creating positive environmental impact.

Throughout his academic journey, David delved into various facets of engineering, developing a strong foundation in problem-solving and innovation. However, it was his profound interest in energy solutions and sustainability that truly shaped his career aspirations, and the telecommunications industry emerged as the perfect intersection of his interests. Here, he found a dynamic field where cutting-edge technology meets the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure. The industry's pivotal role in global connectivity resonated with David, and he was particularly drawn to its increasing emphasis on adopting green energy solutions to power communication networks.

David has always found value in professional education and is committed to lifelong learning to enhance his skills and broaden his perspective. As he progressed on his professional journey, he gained an MBA from Nexford University, helping him to gain a deeper understanding of business principles and strategic management, and standing him in good stead for his role at IHS Towers.

David's day-to-day responsibilities as a Projects Engineer include overseeing the planning, deployment, and management of green energy solutions for telecommunications sites, and ensuring that they are equipped with renewable energy sources such as solar, grid and battery solutions. David is required to engage with vendors to procure sustainable technologies, manage stakeholders involved in the implementation process, and provide comprehensive reports to senior management to drive informed decision-making.

As the digital infrastructure industry has grown, increased awareness of the urgency to implement and maintain a sustainable future coupled with evolving legislation means that organisations are under great pressure to embrace sustainability strategies and improve their 'green' credentials rapidly and be able to evidence improvement to stakeholders.



I'm excited to work with stakeholders from different departments to develop and implement initiatives that not only lessen our environmental impact but also improve our financial performance, using the knowledge I've gained from my CDCSP® certification.

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David knew that ongoing education was a necessity in order to thrive in his role: "I am driven by my commitment to spearhead initiatives that promote innovation and sustainability in telecommunications infrastructure, contributing to a greener and more connected future. Selecting a technical education program from CNet Training was an easy choice due to the company's global reputation and industry relevant program content."

"I am always looking for innovative solutions to drive long-term impact through our operations as part of my work in the Green Energy Management unit, and to acquire new skills that help me to drive sustainability within and outside IHS effectively. I have colleagues who have undertaken CNet's programs but was surprised at how in-depth the program materials are. Writing a business case in a data centre within a set time as part of the class was unexpected but prompted lots of questions, and subsequently, new learning. The industry practices and codes, along with the connections I made during the program, made the learning experience even better."

David's role is pivotal in advancing the company's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. A typical day as a Projects Engineer in IHS Towers' Green Energy Management department is dynamic, involving various tasks to drive green energy initiatives forward. David begins by reviewing project plans and schedules, ensuring they align with business goals, and collaborating with internal teams to address any issues promptly. Effective communication is essential as he engages with vendors, stakeholders, and regulators to ensure project execution runs smoothly.

"Site visits are common, where I evaluate potential locations for renewable energy installations and oversee ongoing projects to maintain high standards. Much of my day is dedicated to project management tasks such as budget monitoring, procurement, and documentation. Working closely with vendors, I manage contracts and budgets efficiently, while also reporting project progress to senior management."

"We at IHS Towers recognise how critical it is to integrate sustainability into our entire business plan. I'm excited to work with stakeholders from different departments to develop and implement initiatives that not only lessen our environmental impact but also improve our financial performance, using the knowledge I've gained from my CDCSP® certification."

For David, continuous monitoring of existing renewable energy systems is crucial, involving data analysis to identify optimisation opportunities. Collaboration with colleagues across departments fosters innovation and drives initiatives forward, supporting the organisation's commitment to sustainability.

David adds, "Overall, my role blends technical expertise, strategic planning, and proactive problem-solving to advance our green energy objectives effectively. Following the CDCSP®, improving our energy management procedures is one area where I see a lot of promise. We can lower operating expenses and improve our standing as a



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conscientious ethical business whilst also utilising renewable energy sources and energy-efficient technologies as we have begun a few years ago."

Tangible Benefits

For David, gaining the CDCSP® has been significant: "This certification represents a milestone in my career because it gives me the aptitudes and expertise required to take our sustainability initiatives to new heights."

In a role such as David's, challenges are commonplace, such as navigating complex technical systems to integrate renewable energy sources like solar panels or hybrid storage power systems into existing infrastructure, whilst ensuring that projects comply with environmental regulations and permitting processes.

Due to his technical education, David is not fazed by such challenges: "I now have a thorough awareness of green frameworks strategic planning and the resources I need to create strong, data-supported business cases thanks to the CDCSP® program. I can more easily spot chances to incorporate green energy solutions into our business model by examining market trends and utilising data-driven insights."

"Developing strong business cases that are backed by data is also crucial to winning over important decision-makers. Equipped with the insights acquired from the CDCSP® program, I am certain that I can make strong cases for our organisation that highlight the sustainability initiatives' long-term benefits. I'm eager to use my newly acquired knowledge to advance significant change both within and outside of IHS Towers. When we work together, we can produce measurable business outcomes and pave the path for a more sustainable future."

iMasons Scholarships

Investing in the future of digital infrastructure



David was assisted in accessing the CDCSP® by the iMasons scholarship fund

I was made aware of the iMasons Scholarship opportunities by a friend who was also fortunate enough to be a beneficiary. The application process was straightforward and took around three months, which I think was longer than the norm, due to me needing to gather some information that was required for the request.

Receiving a scholarship from iMasons for the CDCSP® program provided by CNet Training has been transformative for my career; without the funding, I would not have been able to access the program. The financial assistance allowed me to focus fully on the sustainability coursework, while the recognition enhanced my professional credibility. This support has opened doors to new opportunities and expanded my network within the sustainability community. Additionally, access to iMasons' resources and networks has enriched my learning experience. Overall, the scholarship has accelerated my career growth, enabling me to pursue advanced training and connect with industry professionals. I would encourage anyone else thinking of applying to for a scholarship to go for it.



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Program Information



Certified Data Centre Sustainability Professional

The Certified Data Centre Sustainability Professional (CDCSP®) program from CNet Training educates learners in creating a sustainability strategy and business implementation plan for transformation towards a credible sustainability lifecycle, that demonstrates innovation and challenges business ethos whilst being sensitive to business risk and continuity.

The exciting and comprehensive CDCSP® program is designed to provide in-depth knowledge into the steps required to evaluate, analyse, plan, implement and monitor a sustainability strategy balanced with operational capability for data centre facilities.

Achieving sustainability is evaluated from all angles with the overarching requirement to ensure the data centre critical facility continues to meet the needs of the business. The importance of implementing the correct strategic vision and business drivers required to establish a well-balanced and structured approach towards sustainability is explored. From initial business case and operational analysis of power distribution, cooling systems and IT hardware, and potential operational risk, to design innovation and implementing initiatives whilst appreciating both the business and operational challenges that may occur during this process.

Maintenance strategies, continuous planning cycles and critical analysis against identified targets are also explored, in addition to the need to demonstrate proven ROI as well as identifying and capitalising on the business, customer, social and environmental benefits. A certified CDCSP® also considers the requirements for compliance, gaining a full understanding of national and international regulations, codes and standards.