

## Lucy Diggle

### Audio System Engineer, Jaguar Land Rover



#### What is your job?

I'm responsible for the sound quality of the audio systems fitted in our cars.

#### Why did you choose to work in acoustics?

When I was at school, Music was a big hobby of mine and science was one of my favourite subjects, so when I discovered that I could combine the two with the subject of Acoustics I knew it was something I would enjoy.

#### What route did you take to get into acoustics?

I studied Music, Maths & Physics at A Level before going on to the University of Salford to study Acoustics at degree level. I have been working in the acoustics industry ever since, and have recently gone back to university to further my studies in Acoustics even more.

#### What do you do on a typical workday?

Most of my time is spent 'tuning' audio systems, where I use software to control the sound that comes out of the loudspeakers in a car. I do this using specialist test equipment to measure the sound as well as my own ears to listen – one of the most important parts of my job is listening to music inside a car!

#### What do you love about your job?

I spend a lot of time working in brand new prototype vehicles which have not been revealed to the public yet, so I am always one of the first people to see and experience new models.

#### What is most challenging about your job?

Everybody has their own opinions and preferences about what is good to listen to. This can make engineering a sound system very difficult, as you try to satisfy as many people as you can, but you have to accept that you may not please everyone.

#### Which of the subjects you studied at school, college or university do you use most in your job?

Understanding how the human ear works & how our brains process the different sounds we hear is very important, so I can make sure the audio system inside the car is enjoyable to listen to in all of the seats.

#### What are the most important and personal qualities skills to have in your job?

There are two very important key skills needed in my work. First, I need to interact with many different people within the company, so it is vital that I can communicate clearly and efficiently, whether it be meeting up with someone in person, talking over the phone or writing an email. The second key skill is problem solving; being able to methodically work through a situation in order to understand what has caused something to happen and how I can prevent that same problem from happening again.

#### What's one of the most exciting projects you've ever done?

I have recently worked on the Range Rover Sentinel, which is a special edition bulletproof & blast proof vehicle typically used by VIPs. The extra safety features meant that many of the loudspeakers inside the car had to be changed, so I carried out extra work to ensure the audio system still met the high standards of a luxury Range Rover.

#### Tell us a fun acoustic fact!

The loudest animal on land is the Howler monkey found in South America and its cries can be as loud as a jet engine!