

Visiting Professors schemes

These programmes foster links between industry and academia and help universities teach engineering design to undergraduates in a way that relates to professional practice.

Dr John Roberts FREng

Director at Jacobs Babbie Group consulting engineers. The Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor in the Principles of Engineering Design at the University of Manchester.

John's engineering achievements send shivers down the spines of millions of pleasure seekers, who brave white knuckle rides such as the Pepsi Max Big One. To become the tallest and fastest of its type in the world at the time, Blackpool's famous rollercoaster required a track 250 tonnes in weight, 1,665m in length and supported by 2,000 tonnes of steel. John was also one of the team that overcame the formidable challenges of the London Eye, using high-technology and advanced wind engineering to design and construct the largest observation wheel ever built.

John Roberts at the heart of engineering

Pepsi Max Big One roller coaster, Blackpool © John Parkin www.alnath.fotopic.net