

Why SMEs bring irreplaceable value to the rail industry

April 16, 2024



enGauged is a rail infrastructure design practice based in Crewe, UK. Design Engineer, Jonathan Telesca, joined the enGauged team in 2021. He explains how being a Small Medium Enterprise (SME) brings value that can't be replicated to the rail industry.

Since I joined enGauged in 2021, originally as an Assistant Design Engineer, I've had the opportunity to witness and contribute to the transformative power of SMEs in the rail industry. My journey so far, though challenging, has been incredibly rewarding.

The strength of SMEs: agility and teamwork

At enGauged, our culture lies within close-knit teamwork and agility. The collaborative ethos here is palpable with each team member bringing diverse ideas and solutions to every project. This approach is particularly beneficial in our industry, where the demand for quality and precision is vital. Our size allows us to be nimble and responsive, adapting quickly to the needs of our clients and the demands of the projects we undertake.

Diverse projects, collective expertise

My role in recent projects, such as the temporary works design for a station and foundation design supporting the electrification of the Midland Mainline, highlight the unique value that SMEs bring to large-scale industry challenges. We manage such complex projects with a level of personalisation and attention to detail that is often difficult for larger organisations to replicate.

From assistant to design engineer: growth in an SME environment

Starting as an Assistant Design Engineer and progressing to Design Engineer, I witnessed first-hand the nurturing environment that SMEs like enGauged offer. One of my earliest projects involved research into replacing concrete with gravel for the Down-the-Hole Hammer piling technique, which as a result of our research significantly increased efficiency in the use of this method. Being able to deliver this research in a report demonstrated to me the supportive, knowledge-sharing culture at enGauged, where learning and professional growth are highly encouraged.

The value of SMEs in the rail industry

SMEs play a crucial role in the rail industry, often driving innovation and bringing specialised expertise to the table. In an industry that is as established yet continually evolving such as rail, railway infrastructure design practices like enGauged provide the flexibility and creative problem-solving skills that are essential for meeting the complex demands of modern rail infrastructure projects.

My career journey at enGauged so far, underscores the pivotal role that SMEs play in the rail industry. As an SME, we are not just contributing to the current projects; we are also shaping the future of rail infrastructure through innovative solutions, a collaborative approach and a deep commitment to quality and client satisfaction. My journey is not just about engineering; it's about being part of a dynamic,

responsive and innovative SME that is making a tangible difference in the rail industry.

To find out about enGauged's rail infrastructure design services, [click here](#).