



ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN WEAPON ENGINEERING COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST

As a Communications and Information Systems (CIS) Specialist, you'll be a central member of the ship's Engineering branch. Using highly sensitive radio and satellite systems, you'll send and receive vital messages from the shore and other ships. Those messages will often contain orders and other information for those in command, so you could be handling a lot of material that's classified 'top secret'. You'll also handle the weather forecasts, routine supply requests and other essential day-to-day communications. Plus, as part of the team in charge of the ship's internet and satellite phones, you'll help your crewmates stay in touch with family and friends back home.

What we're looking for

You'll need commitment, enthusiasm and common sense, with an interest in computers, electronics, communications and information systems. The kinds of information you'll be handling will need you to be quick, thorough, accurate, discreet and utterly reliable. You'll be working outdoors some of the time, so you need to enjoy being out in all weathers. Above all, you need to work well as part of a team.

Basic training

Your Royal Navy career begins with ten weeks of basic training at HMS Raleigh. It sounds like a ship, but in fact it's a shore base near Plymouth. The discipline, teamwork, organisational, firefighting and weapon-handling skills you'll learn here will stay with you right through your Royal Navy career. Aim to get yourself as fit as you can before you arrive. You'll be doing a lot of physical exercise, and you'll find it much easier if you're already in good shape. There's also a swimming test, so if you can't swim, make sure you've learned by the time you join us. You can find out more about HMS Raleigh at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Professional training

You'll spend six months at the Maritime Warfare School at HMS Collingwood in Hampshire. Here you'll learn about how to manage information using the Royal Navy's specialist communications and network information systems. Additionally you'll learn safety procedures, electrical and electronic repair techniques, which will allow you not only to conduct maintenance but also diagnose and repair relevant communications and information systems equipment when it becomes defective. You'll also be trained in basic sea survival, firefighting and damage control, all of which will be part of your operational role at sea. You'll then gain practical experience of life on board a modern warship, which will help you understand its military role and where you fit into the team. Back on shore, you'll return to HMS Collingwood for more training, including routine checks on portable radios, modems, transmitters, receivers, aerials, IT and other communications equipment.

Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money for special skills, when you're promoted and when you're away at sea. We also offer an excellent pension scheme, six weeks' paid holiday a year and free medical and dental care. You'll generally join us on a full career, which is 20 years or to age 40, whichever is later. You may have the opportunity to serve beyond this, depending on what you want and the needs of the Royal Navy. How long you serve will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice if you want to leave.

Promotion

You'll start your career as an Able Rate. With some experience and further training, you could be promoted to Leading Hand. After that, you may go on to become a Petty Officer, Chief Petty Officer, then a Warrant Officer. If you show the right commitment, skills and academic ability, you may also have the chance to become a Commissioned Officer. You'll be chosen for promotion on merit, so if you work hard, you can quickly rise through the ranks

Skills for Life

As an ET(WE)(CIS) specialist you'll be embarking on one of the country's top Modern Apprenticeship Schemes, voted as such in the 2011 City and Apprenticeship Awards. Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. You'll gain National Vocational Qualifications as you progress through each stage of your early career and you'll have the opportunity to gain a Foundation Degree. We can also help you gain academic qualifications such as GCSEs and A-levels. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy career, everything you achieve will be valued by a future civilian employer and our training has been recognised by the Engineering Council UK so that it can streamline your route to registering with them initially as an Engineering Technician and then on to an Incorporated Engineer in the future.

Sport and recreation

We can offer you a fantastic range of sports and other activities. All our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities and we play a huge number of team and individual games. You'll also have the chance to go on adventurous training, which could be anything from a jungle expedition to mountaineering and caving to parachuting.

DO I QUALIFY?

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS) SPECIALIST

Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	For current information, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

HOW TO APPLY

GET IN TOUCH

1. Go to royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or call **03456 07 55 55**.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

2. Fill out a short form online.
3. Take the recruit test
4. Come for an interview with a Careers Adviser.
5. Pass the medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
6. Join the Royal Navy.

