

Neil Playfoot

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Introduction

I am a brewer with 20+ years international experience working within large multinational companies such as ABI coordinating and leading teams.

I've acquired the ability to hit deadlines under pressure when launch dates for finished products have been pre-set.

During my brewing career I've devised SOP's to streamline operations and trained staff whilst taking health and safety seriously. I understand preparation, planning plus good written and verbal communication are keys to success in any role.

Experience

DECEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

Self Employed, China - *Brewing Consultant*

- Working with breweries to set up new operations or source equipment for current operations.

JULY 2018 - NOVEMBER 2019

Dargett Brewery, Yerevan (Armenia) - *Head Brewer*

- Bought on-board as head brewer for a brand new 35HL automated brewery to grow operations from their previous 500L brewpub.
- I trained staff, developed systems, formulated SOP's and implemented health and safety policies for the new production brewery.
- I coordinated with the brewery installation technicians to establish best brewing practices to streamline operations for packaging (bottle and kegging machine), an SPX centrifuge and Braukon HopGun.
- I calculated recipes scaling up from 5HL to 35HL to be consistent with previous brews in the brewpub but instituted improvements to stabilize shelf life as beer were now being packaged.
- My role developed with increasing sales to production manager; I built new Google shareable documents for monthly schedules as well as stock for raw materials and packaged goods so all people in the brewery had the information they needed to fulfil their role successfully.

JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

After leaving my last job at ABI-DGO I took a break for some family time together to assess our options before my daughter was of school age.

MARCH 2017 - JUNE 2017

ABI-DGO (Budweiser), Shanghai – *Craft Beer Specialist*

- My task was to coordinate between head-quarters in Shanghai and brewing operations in Wuhan as the sole full-time ABI-DGO employee based in Wuhan.
- Carried out a diverse set of tasks from visiting label suppliers and approving designs, making sure inputs were in spec for use to overseeing dry hopping of 1200,000 liters batches of beer.
- Tasked with helping ABI get their first craft brewery in China operational I had to quickly make connections and liaise with key employees in a plant of over 700 employees and contractors in Wuhan to understand their roles and communicate that to headquarters in Shanghai.
- I was also tasked with writing capability reports for the ABI Wuhan's main brew houses, fermentation and 25 + packaging lines. These reports were used as a point of reference so the craft brewing and large brew house teams could work together sharing resources to reach targets and set KPI's (Key Performance Indicators).

JANUARY 2015 - FEBRUARY 2017

Mr OK Brewpub, Wuxi (China) – *Head Brewer*

- I have overall control of the brewing operations from grain to glass for Mr OK Bar brewpub.

JULY 2010 - DECEMBER 2014

Bad Monkey Brewery, Kunming (China) – *Head Brewer*

- Went to China initially as a brewery consultant and was then taken on as the full-time head brewer in charge of their 3,000HL brewery and packaging facility.

JANUARY 2005- MAY 2010

Dockyard Brewing, Bermuda – *Head Brewer*

- Worked with the public and media to build brewery awareness on the island which involved tours and outside bars to cater for travelers visiting the island.
- The job involved a lot of preventative maintenance as I was on a small island 500 nautical miles from the nearest landmass so could not afford any mechanical issues.

OCTOBER 2002- NOVEMBER 2004

Frogpubs, Paris - Brewer

- Brewed as part of a three man brewing team running four brewpubs in Paris. I was solely in charge of their facility in Lisbon, Portugal traveling when needed to oversee brewing operations.

JUNE 1998 - JULY 2002

Scottish & Newcastle, London (UK) - Head Brewer

- Ran the brewing concerns of two brewpubs in the center of London (I was the youngest unit manager for Scottish and Newcastle at the time).

JULY 2020 - NOVEMBER 2019

Freedom Brewing, London (UK) - Assistant Brewer

- Involved in the day-to-day running of the brewery as part of a three man brewing team on a 26 HL lager brewery.

Education

SEPTEMBER 1988 - MAY 1995

Bourne Grammar School, Bourne (UK) -

- 10 GCSE's - Grades A - C
- 4 A-Levels - Graded A - C

References

David Littlejohn (Owner - Dockyard Brewing, Bermuda)

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Michael Gilmour (Owner Brew Unique - Paris, France)

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