

MISSION AUTOMOTIVE

ARMED FORCES ENGAGEMENT FOR THE UK AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY



Ex-Cavalry secures job in a million

Francis Stokes – Garage Technician, Williams Martini Racing

- Francis Stokes joined The Household Cavalry in 2009 just 3 months after his 16th birthday.
- Unfortunately, in 2015, Francis suffered a stroke whilst with his regiment in Brussels. The stroke affected his vision, meant that he was unable to drive, left him with limited sensation and weakness down one side of his body, and left him suffering with anxiety. Because of this, he was deemed unfit for service and was medically discharged at the end of March 2017 at only 24 years old.
- Like most soldiers, Francis joined with the expectation of serving for his full career, so his discharge was a big shock, and left him in a fragile state.
- Attracted through Recovery Sport, he completed a Level 3 Diploma with Mission Motorsport, and a series of work placements led to an extraordinary new career.
- In 2017 Francis secured employment with Williams Martini Racing as a storeman. Through hard work and dedication, he was promoted to Garage technician – a job he remains in still.

“I was worried that I wouldn’t find fulltime employment when I left the Army. My confidence was knocked. But now... I’m a garage technician for a F1 team and I am over the moon! My service in the military has so many transferable skills that employers are looking for.”

- Francis Stokes