Building services engineering essentially brings buildings and structures to life. The building services engineering team is responsible for the design, installation, operation and monitoring of the mechanical and electrical systems required for the safe, comfortable and environmentally friendly operation of modern buildings. With the rising standards of construction projects and buildings reaching new heights the demand for building services has grown considerably resulting in building services becoming one of the fastest growing fields of engineering today.

What are Building Services Engineers responsible for?
Graduates of building services engineering are responsible for the design, installation and maintenance of all the services required within a home, office or any building. That includes water, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, access, transport and electricity. It also includes safety and security systems such as fire prevention and detection, escape routes, CCTV and alarms. Building services engineering also faces the challenge of ensuring our buildings are energy efficient to reduce our overuse of energy sources and by doing so helping our society reduce the depletion of our natural resources and minimise environmental pollution.

There is a whole range of career paths available to choose from for graduates of building services engineering including:

- **Design**: designing layouts and requirements for building services for residential or commercial developments.
- **Construction**: supervising the construction of the building services, commissioning systems and ongoing maintenance and operation of services.
- **Environmental**: developing new energy saving methods for construction, designing new and improved energy conservation systems for buildings.
- **Heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC)**: specialising in the design, development, construction and operation of HVAC systems.
- **Electrical technology**: specialising in the design and development of electrical systems required for safe and energy sustaining operation of buildings.
Career opportunities

The building services engineering team work closely with other engineering disciplines, architects, structural engineers and quantity surveyors on construction projects. The range of services required in our modern buildings is continuously expanding offering building services engineering graduates challenging and rewarding career choices and the chance to play a dynamic role in the future of our environment.

As building services engineering graduate you can work for:
• Engineering consultancy services.
• Building services contractors.
• Public authorities.
• Architects.
• Manufacturers.

As a building services engineering graduate you can:
• Develop safer fire escape routes for high rise buildings.
• Design more economical energy systems for homes.
• Design ventilation systems to help improve people’s health.

Employers of building services engineering graduates include:
ARUP Consulting Engineers, PH McCarthy, PJ Hegarty & Sons, SISK, Local Authorities to name but a few.

Did you know?
Building services engineers developed the fastest travelling elevator for the world’s tallest building in Taiwan, Taipei 101. The elevator can travel at over 1,000m per min when ascending!

There are nine universities and thirteen institutes of technology offering a wide range of engineering programmes nationwide.

Engineering provides a host of exciting opportunities for individual enterprise and job flexibility with rapid progress to creative, responsible and financially rewarding careers.
For more information check www.steps.ie.