# FOCUS on engineering



Newsletter February 2016

The operating Subsidiary of The Engineering Trust (Registered Charity 287075



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016. With Christmas and the New Year well behind us we have now moved into recruitment mode. In reality it started as early as last October when we attended our first school careers event.

We are encouraging all interested students we've met, and will meet at future careers events, to apply ASAP so we can begin the application and short listing process. At the same time we are discussing and agreeing apprentice recruitment needs with employers.

Employers, if you are planning to recruit this year please contact us to discuss your requirements. This will, should you decide to recruit, enable us to begin the selection & short listing process. Hopefully avoiding the GCSE/A Level exam periods, when it is always difficult to arrange assessments and applicant interviews.

The proposed Apprenticeship Levy and the New Trailblazer Apprenticeship Standards were the topics at our recent employer breakfast. Whilst we still await confirmation of the finer details the meeting highlighted the proposed changes to frameworks and funding. Feedback from the event was positive however, it is clear that a further meeting will be necessary once the detail is confirmed.

Finally we have recently undertaken and completed our own independent Employer Survey. I would like to thank all those employers who responded to Jane Wicks telephone calls; your feedback is appreciated and will help us to improve our services.

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**Chris Clarke** Chief Executive Engineering Trust Training Limited

#### FRAMEWORKS OR NEW STANDARDS?

Several of the new Trailblazer Standards are now available for delivery. We are beginning to understand the detail and preparing to deliver our first in September 2016. There will be a managed transition from the existing frameworks to the new standards with dual delivery in the interim.

The original cutoff date, when frameworks can no longer be delivered/offered, was September 2017 however this has been put back at least 12 months and could go back even further. The development and approval of these new standards is taking much longer than anticipated, so we could be delivering both for some time to come.

We will of course keep you posted and advise when suitable new standards become available. In the mean time if you are aware of a new standard that meets your needs, please contact us and we can discuss content and delivery.

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### **EMPLOYER** PROFILE ULTRA ELECTRONICS, NUCLEAR CONTROL SYSTEMS

Ultra Electronics is a world leading Defence & Aerospace, Security & Cyber, Transport and Energy Company. It was formed in October 1993. The group has since grown, both organically and by acquisition, and has over 4,700 employees based mainly in the UK, USA, Canada and Australia. Ultra listed on the London Stock Exchange in October 1996 and is in the FTSE 250.

Nuclear Control Systems (NCS), an Ultra Electronic business, specialises in providing defence-in-depth to the nuclear energy industry. Since the dawn of this demanding and technically challenging sector, our sensors, instrumentation and control systems have been protecting nuclear facilities across the globe. With a focus toward building expertise for the future Ultra is committed to the employment of more 'early career' employees such as graduates and apprentices. Investment in Apprenticeships resonates across the Ultra Electronics group; a vast majority of our colleagues started out as school leavers and have gone on to form the backbone of our workforce whether this be as a part of a Senior Management Team or specialist engineers and technicians. Ultra NCS is now in to our third year of apprentice recruitment and are already delighted in the benefits of bringing on young talent.

#### Dan King (4th Year Apprentice) at the Young Generation Network Conference

In September 2015 Dan attended a three day conference hosted by the Nuclear Institute and the Young Generation Network; these two organisations connect young people working or studying in the nuclear industry. The venue for the conference was at the EDF Barnwood site with day one consisting of a number of lectures from power generation process to the raw fuel to UK homes. The focal subject for the day centered on the history of nuclear power which covered the first ever nuclear reactor, Calder Hall (which went into operation in 1956) to Hinckley Point C, Britain's latest power station due in the coming years. Day two involved a trip to Hinkley Point and the EDF visitors centre. A presentation was given by a member of the planning team involved with the construction of Hinkley Point C; detailing the extent of planning required for a nuclear power station and the extreme costs involved. The sheer size of the three sites really hit home for Dan alongside seeing the two different types of reactor next to each other (Hinkley point A and B).

During the final evening the group attended a formal dinner. This was an excellent networking opportunity, a great chance to talk to the other members of the group and the organisers finding out about their careers or university courses. There was also a talk from top engineers and the Director of the Young Generation Network. This was a great launch pad in to the closing day where Dan visited the Culham Science Centre; home of the Joint European Fusion reactor (JET). This included an explanation of how Nuclear Fusion takes place (given by a former apprentice) and a tour of the site. The JET facility proved to be the most engaging aspect of the trip.



#### DAN'S SUMMARY

"Overall I think this was an extremely beneficial trip, I learnt a lot and it gave me a sense of pride and achievement to see the high integrity environment that some of the equipment I build goes into. I was able to network with all the other members of the group, learning a lot about other areas of the industry whilst showing off NCS and the high quality work we produce. I was given the rare opportunity to mix with other people in the nuclear industry, widening my knowledge.

Attending this conference alone gave me some personal responsibility I don't usually encounter and socialising with new people defiantly took me out of my comfort zone. I think this trip was a really positive experience".



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NOMINATE. CELEBRATE. ELEVATE.

Bloomberg

### **EMILY SWATTON** WINNER OF WISE AWARDS 2015

Second year UKAEA Mechanical Engineering Advanced Apprentice Emily Swatton working at Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, was recently presented with a WISE Apprentice Scholarship by HRH The Princess Royal.

WISE is a campaign, whose patron is HRH The Princess Royal, which inspires girls and women to study and build careers using science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Each year it makes a number of awards to women at different stages of their science and engineering careers.

As a winner of the scholarship, Emily will receive £1,000 per year, a mentor from WISE and various opportunities to inspire more girls to take on apprenticeships in STEM.' WISE scholarship is supporting more young women in the UK to access the opportunity to enjoy the rewards of an engineering career.

This is the third year of an exciting collaboration between Jaguar Land Rover and WISE offering sponsorship to women who are starting an engineering degree course at a UK University or starting an engineering apprenticeship. Jaguar Land Rover were so impressed by the quality of the applications for the 2013 scholarship that they decided to offer two scholarships in 2014 and 2015.



Congratulations **Emily**!

#### **NEW COURSE -** HAND AND POWER TOOL SAFETY COURSE

### Our latest course is a Hand and Power Tool Safety course.

This course is designed to identify the different types of hand and power tools, to identify the checks to be carried out for each type before use and the hazards and risks when using tools. It also covers specific tool precautions, general safety, how to store tools and to take appropriate care and maintenance of hand and power tools. For further information on this course please **click here** or to book, please contact us on 01993 882008.

## RED RIDGE 2015

Another successful trip to Red Ridge activity centre in October half term for our first year Apprentices.

This trip develops their team working and leadership skills, and like previous years, they will be delivering a presentation to their employers and parents demonstrating their achievement. Look out for the invitation for 24 February 2016.







#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Red Ridge Presentation evening** 24 February 2016

**Exeter Hall Careers event** 14 March 2016

Awards evening 20 April 2016



### LIFE SAVER PERFORMANCE

Gemma Wood Administrator at Group Training and Development recently competed at the European Life Saving Championships held in Alicante on the Spanish Mediterranean Coast.

The Championships are made up of both Sea and Beach events which replicate the actions of Beach Life Guards in an emergency situation.

Gemma competed with a small team from Polzeath Surf Life Saving Club in Cornwall and was very successful in winning two European Titles in the Beach Sprint and the Beach Flags. She also gained Silver in the Beach relay and Bronze in the Board rescue. The competitors were drawn from eleven European countries and can only qualify to compete if they have gained International Lifeguard Standards.

Well done Gemma.







### MATRIX STANDARD

We have successfully achieved the Matrix Standard

The Matrix Standard is the unique quality framework for organisations to assess and measure their information, advice and/or guidance services, which ultimately supports individuals in their choice of career, learning, work and life goals. It is also a requirement of contract with the Skills Funding Agency. The assessment took place over two days and involved the team at ETT, employers, partners and learners. We received a high level of positive feedback as demonstrated by the comments below, which have been extracted from the report:

"I've had a comparison between a bad apprenticeship and a good apprenticeship. I am very much more motivated in this apprenticeship, I know what I need to do, talking about my future is also motivating"

> "I like the Awards Evening, they recognise people that have done well"

"There's no way our apprenticeship scheme would have been as good without them"

"After the first year, we have had 100% achievement because Engineering Trust Training are there to support and keep them [apprentices] on track"

> "I feel more confident now that we've got someone who will be providing help and support"



EMPLOYERS COMMENTS

"They give us more – it is worth every penny" LEARNERS COMMENTS

"We have achieved everything we needed to achieve"

"They very much bust the stereotype of engineering"

"Its about directing the right sort of apprentices towards us"

> "They have a specialised group of people who can help and support us – someone at the end of a phone who can advise re Colleges and courses, someone who can advise on training plans, talking through our processes and access to e-Store"