

GTA England news

March issue



Partnership with the EEF

Business Secretary Vince Cable announced in December 2014 a new wave of employer-led National Colleges to help the UK develop world-class skills in the advanced manufacturing, digital, wind energy and creative industries.

The National Colleges will cater for some 10,000 students by 2020, enabling bright young people to gain professional qualifications up to postgraduate level, and helping the UK close productivity and skills gaps with its international competitors.

The National College for Advanced Manufacturing is being led through a partnership between the High Value Manufacturing Catapult (HVMC) and the EEF, the manufacturers' organisation, to establish a National College with initial Hubs in the major facilities at the AMRC in the Sheffield region and the MTC in Coventry. The Catapult leads innovation in manufacturing – its role will ensure training equips learners for the future economy. The National College will be established as a network of 'Hubs' and 'Spokes' that will identify and work with the best established providers nationwide. The EEF are citing the GTA England members network as key partners in this and see them as the way to meet employer demand directly.

The EEF are working with GTA England to discuss its involvement in the National College for Advanced Manufacturing with its members becoming a robust part of the infrastructure to become 'Spokes'.

Although discussions regarding the National College are at an early stage, it is envisaged that it will become operational through pilot pathfinder activity in September 2015 and with this in mind it would be beneficial to convene a GTA England members day on 29th April 2015. We plan to agree proposals for the delivery arrangements including processes for management and governance and referral criteria.

Mark Maudsley, CEO GTA England said, "We are delighted to be working with the EEF and catapults centres in this exciting and much needed activity. It recognises the unique roles performed by GTAs, as employer led organisations, to respond to company needs including those of SMEs."

Christian Warden, Programme Director – Engineering Skills said, "The National College for Advanced Manufacturing is a genuine opportunity to ensure employers have the high level skills to be globally competitive, working in partnership with GTA England gives us the opportunity to make this truly national and meet the wider employer need."

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Women in Engineering

GIRLS ALLOWED – for girls who want to!!!

Be an engineer, get in touch with one of our female “Champions” for advice and guidance.

GIRLS ALLOWED – because you can!!!



Apprentice of the year trip to Austria

Mid February saw the eagerly awaited trip to Austria and Germany courtesy of GTA England sponsors, WNT (UK) for the eight finalists of the Apprentice of the Year awards.

In Reutte, our host Arnold Lutz expertly took us round the Headquarters and manufacturing plant. The tour took us from a “goods in” route where the ore is received and processed through to the pressing, forming and coating of the products. The Apprentices learned that some 10% of profits each year are used to develop the facilities and processes. Our second excursion took us to the state of the art logistics plant in Kempten based on practices from the pharmaceutical sector. Here the worldwide Managing Director, Claude Son enthusiastically explained the concept behind the service that ensures next day delivery for WNT customers.

Amy West, winner of the Engineering Apprentice of the year award 2014 said, “The trip gave me a really good insight into the whole manufacturing process from the material at the start to the logistics side at the end. It will definitely help me with my future aims to work towards become a director within a company.”

Tony Pennington, MD of WNT (UK) and sponsor of the event said,

“It was really pleasing to meet such a really great group of young people, who were very interested, enthusiastic and inquisitive. In my opinion, they will have very successful careers.”

As they say in Austria, “Tolle Erfahrung” or Felini in the language of the Apprentices

What’s it’s like to be an Engineering Apprentice? Contact one of our female champions to find out how they did it.

These are the messages that will soon be transmitted to young women wishing to explore engineering as a career choice via the network of GTA England members.

GTA England is taken a leading role in breaking down barriers in order to encourage more girls to consider a career in Engineering. The national representative body of group training associations is introducing a network of partner organisations within its membership who wish to support girls and offer information and guidance about the sector in particular challenging gender stereotypes.

By 2020 the UK will need 830,000 engineering professionals and 450,000 engineering technicians but with only 6% females entering the sector nationally GTA England is more than keen to see an increase in female applicants to their Engineering apprenticeship programmes. The network is to appoint female “champions” who will be on hand to answer any questions about apprenticeships but even more so will be able to offer support should applicants encounter any barriers that may prevent them considering a career in Engineering.

The “champions” are employed within the network working in the Engineering sector and many have succeeded in their current roles following the Apprenticeship route. They are committed to encouraging more girls to embark on an engineering pathway and will act as mentors supporting and guiding along the way.

If Members are interested in further information please contact Marilyn Pilkington (marilyn.pilkington@t2000.co.uk) on 01254 54659 who is registering mentors and co-ordinating activities for GTA England

Provider Briefings on Engineering Trailblazer activity

A unique opportunity to hear directly from specialists involved in Trailblazer Apprenticeships are to take place:

North – Wednesday 25th March 2015 at BAE Systems, Warton

Midlands – Wednesday 15th April 2015 at TMUK, Burnaston, Derby

South – Wednesday 22nd April 2015 at Marshalls ADG, Cambridge

GTA England and NFEC, who are members of the Aerospace and Automotive Trailblazer groups have been tasked by the employers in the groups to hold briefing sessions which will disseminate the latest information on developments on as broad an engineering front as possible. These events will provide an opportunity for questions and discussions on key areas relating to the new requirements on Apprenticeship Standards and the implications for delivery.

GTA England Members will have received an e-invitation inviting to attend the above events, a version of which can be found on the GTA England website.

Quality improvement activities

On 5/2/15 Trevor Alley, CEO South West Durham Training, delivered his first workshop in the capacity of GTA England Quality Improvement Co-ordinator. Trevor continues,

“I ensured that it chartered the processes and activities in place at SWDT that underpin the comments made by OFSTED in our inspection report that was graded as outstanding. I also shared resource materials in a handbook for colleagues to take away and considering using back at the ranch.”

We also had a discussion that identified the following themes that the network would like to cover at future events: Observation / Quality Reviews; Embedding of English and Maths; Embedding of E&D; and Tracking - including getting the “SWDT technical gubbings” spreadsheet to be available to other members.

We agreed a frequency of 4 monthly once the dissemination events are completed.

Mark tells me that the session was very well received by members with 92% classifying it as outstanding or good.

I have agreed with Mark to hold another event on 26/3/15 at Rochdale Training Association as a number of colleagues from the North West were unable to attend due to the sudden closure of the M6. Colleagues from across the network are welcome to join of course.”

We are in the process of putting the Power point and resource materials on the GTA England website.

STOP PRESS

Some Key Performance Indicators

The focus on peer review and quality improvement activities perhaps is having its effect. In a recent analysis of Inspection results show that **GTA England members have been graded at 95% good or outstanding compared to the national average** of 59% for the sector. There is 5% of inspection outcomes graded as “requires improvement” compared to 35% for the rest of the sector.

Similarly, an analysis of overall success rates for 2012-13 shows that GTA England members stand

at 79.3% for all provision which is some 7% above the national average of 72.3%. Furthermore this is an increase from the previous years position where the gap between the national average was 5%.

A significant area of provision in Engineering shows that the network at 79.4% overall success continues to out-perform the national average of 76.3%. Albeit a difference of 3.1% the 2012-13 performance is an increase on the previous years gap between the national average was 2.7%.

Royal Aerospace Society opportunity for members



ROYAL
AERONAUTICAL
SOCIETY

The AeroMSc bursary scheme - Upskill and add value



ROYAL
ACADEMY OF
ENGINEERING

The opportunity of a lifetime must be seized within the lifetime of the opportunity'

Sir John Parker, Royal Academy of Engineering

If you are a supply chain SME you can nominate someone who works for you to receive a bursary worth up to £9.5k. This will fund part time taught MSc study starting September 2015 in any aerospace engineering discipline at a UK university that will benefit your business. Application is via www.raeng.org.uk/aeromsc and applications close once the available bursaries have been awarded.

This scheme – funded by government and 10 major aerospace employers - is now in its final year. Go to the website if you have a graduate employee or know of someone who could benefit from the scheme.

Contact the Project Manager

angela.ringguth@aerosociety.com to learn more, or call Angela on 020 8236 0691 to talk through the process.

The first bursary-holders have finished their MScs and there is a dedicated web portal to showcase their talents. Aside from the 10 Partner firms, access is restricted to UK aerospace SMEs, giving you a unique opportunity to recruit these skilled engineers. Go to <https://talentretention.biz/aeromasters/> to register and see their cvs.

Important dates for the diary

March 2015

- GTA Board Meeting – attended by Christian Warden EEF re National College development
- Training Officer course 2 - Day 1 on 12th March at JTL, Birmingham
- Peer Review training course - 17 & 18th March at MGTS, Coventry. Free to members
- Provider Briefing on Engineering Trailblazer activity – 25th March BAE, Warton

April 2015

- Higher Apprenticeships and "Women into Engineering" thematic groups first meetings to be confirmed
- SWDT journey to grade 1 - 26th March at Rochdale Training Association
- Provider Briefing on Engineering Trailblazer activity – 15th April Toyota Manufacturing UK, Derby
- Provider Briefing on Engineering Trailblazer activity – 22nd April Marshalls ADG, Cambridge
- Training Officer course 2 (Day 2 on 28th April at JTL, Birmingham)
- GTA England Members Day 29th April. Venue to be confirmed



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