

## East Kilbride & District Engineering Group Training Association Ltd.

### Mission Statement

**"EKGTA aims to serve the training needs of employers, whilst offering individuals the chance to develop the knowledge and skills to attract an employer"**

### Editor's comments

*Impact*, the in-house newsletter from EKGTA is intended to keep member companies and other customers informed about the latest innovations and developments being undertaken by the Association.

We hope that the news, views and updates contained herein have real *impact* on our readers and we welcome feedback from you, along with any contributions for future issues.

### Special points of interest

- Awards Ceremony 2006
- Forklift Training Courses
- Investors in People
- AutoCAD Courses

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### Apprentice Training Awards Ceremony 2006

EKGTA's Annual award ceremony is considered to be a very special occasion in the calendar of events each year. It's main purpose is to recognise formally the achievements of the individuals who have undergone training as engineering apprentices at our Training Centre and in their workplace with their employers. Those selected for awards reflect the high standard of performance attained by all trainees throughout all aspects of their individual training programmes.

This year's awards ceremony was held on the 23rd February. The event was very well attended by member company representatives and the principle speaker was Mr. Peter Campbell, Skills Development Manager, Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire.

Derek Greig of Wyko Electrical Services won the most prestigious award "Apprentice of the Year" and was presented with his award by Mr. Hugh McKinnon Chairman of the Board of Directors of EKGTA. Other awards were presented by Mr. Michael Docherty – Clyde Bergemann Ltd. David Black – Weir Pumps Ltd. Tom McBrearty – Alstom Power Conversions Ltd. Calum Mackenzie – Malcolm Mackenzie Co.

Award winners were:

- FITTING Skills. Peter Holroyd – Non-Employed Apprentice (now Anderside Tools)
- MACHINING Skills. Alistair Colville – Rolls-Royce Plc.
- CNC Skills. Kyle McLeod – Weir Pumps Ltd.
- COMPUTING Skills. Andrew Forsyth - Weir Engineering Services Ltd.
- ELECTRICAL Skills. Raymond O'Connel – Devro (Scotland) Ltd.

The Chairman's Award for the best project team was won this year by the team "Wide Load" which consisted of the following trainees:-

- Christopher Law – Caledonian Industries
- Andrew Moore – Lindvale Plastics
- Scott Dickson – Rosti Technical Plastics
- John Morrison – Thyssen Lifts
- Kyle McLeod – Weir Pumps Ltd
- Scott Ferrie – Anderson Precision Gears
- Sean Armit – Non-Employed Apprentice (at the time)

As part of the Chairman's award, the winning team enjoyed a corporate event at Scotkart, Cambuslang. This is a highly competitive, adrenalin pumping couple of hours and in the end Kyle McLeod took 1st place on the podium. Unfortunately the team mentor John Sweeney had to retire during the first race after a multiple pile-up. The lads really enjoyed this experience and we were well looked after by the Scotkart team.

EKGTA wishes to congratulate all the winners and wishes them every success in their future career. Also a big thanks goes to all the company representatives who helped make the occasion a highlight of the year.

For more information on the above Contact Derek Syme 01355 229985 or e-mail [drs@ekgta.com](mailto:drs@ekgta.com)



Prize Winners and guests 2006

## Company Spotlight— Main Tool Company Ltd



With 36 years of experience, Main Tool is like no other quality toolmaking and precision engineering firm because its attitude embraces an understanding of the fact that attaining excellence requires more than simply investing in the latest technology.

The pioneering non-hierarchical management structure at Main Tool recognises the importance of having the vision to invest time, energy and trust in the people who can make this technology work to its limits for the benefit of the company and its customers.

Working on everything from the most compact cellular telephones to the largest oil fields, Main Tool has remained committed to making excellence its norm.

Through the years Main Tool has built various types, from mould machines for sinks to screw detection machines for mobile phones.

Main Tool has the capability to handle special purpose machines, assembly or test, from customer requirement through concept - design - approval - manufacture - build (incorporating electronics) and commission in customer premises.

We have an able design team who will work in close contact with the customer throughout the project.

All machines are PLC controlled.

Machines can be integrated with existing equipment if required.

All machines are CE marked.

All machines come with operational and maintenance manuals

***“Excellence is having the vision to make the very best possible use of all available resources.”***

Our up to date machining capabilities allow us to transfer from 3D CAD Drawing via disc to machining facility without the requirement for programming. Thus reducing our costs and delivery times.

Production programmes can be supplied by email on a weekly basis keeping our customers well informed.

Main Tool also offers design and manufacture of a comprehensive range of jigs, fixtures and inspection gauges with NAMAS certification

Main Tool offers a full turnkey solution to all your production needs. We have the personnel and subcontract base to manage the following:

- Material procurement
- Welding
- Machining
- Surface treatment
- Assembly



We are BS EN ISO 9001/2000 approved and hold Rolls Royce CQC 103 approval. All our production is controlled by the Redthorn™ production control system from order intake to invoicing.

*For more information on Main Tool and its services  
Call us today on 01698 749473, fax 01698 740981  
or visit our Website [www.maintool.co.uk](http://www.maintool.co.uk)*

## EKGTA Forklift Training Courses



Forklift Training at Busch Semiconductors

In response to our clients needs EKGTA now offers a wide range of courses providing Forklift training for operators and managers.

Taking the decision to venture into this field is obviously based on sound business intelligence but it's about more than just delivering a course and in true EKGTA style, much time and effort has gone into developing all aspects of these courses.

All our instructors are registered with the Road Transport Industry Training Board (RTITB) and from the initial on-site survey to the quality documentation presented on successful completion, the whole Forklift Training suite of courses follows the renowned quality style of EKGTA courses.

There is a full complement of courses available, from novice courses for new operators to refresher courses for experienced operators.

There is also a course to help supervisors and managers of Forklift operators to ensure they know their duties and responsibilities.

Initially all the training has been conducted on the client's premises and these clients are benefiting from our attention to customer needs.

EKGTA has recently tested and certified Forklift Driver Operators for companies such as Weir Pumps Ltd, Busch Semiconductors and Anderside Tools.

*If you are interested in or would like further information regarding the above courses  
Contact Derek Syme 01355 229985 or e-mail [drs@ekgta.com](mailto:drs@ekgta.com)*

## Maintaining the Standard



### INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Recently East Kilbride & District Engineering Group Training Association Ltd (EKGTA) was warmly congratulated by the Chairman, Investors in People Scotland, for maintaining the principles of the Investors in People National Standard.

The assessment by Investors in People Scotland revealed an organisation with an extremely high level of commitment to developing people and involving them on a daily basis in its strategic and operational development. The auditor recorded that “as a business, EKGTA is extremely well organised, with clear planning processes at both strategic and operational level”.

The Chairman of IIP Scotland in his communication commented that “this continued success is a testament to the organisation’s committed management and involved employees and their efforts together in pursuit of continuous improvement”.

## Meet the Trainees

Our current group of Libyan Trainees are enjoying the recent good Scottish weather. It must be doing something for them as we have seen the birth of a daughter to Ali Hamed, a son to Saleh El-Hadad and Jalal Zayed’s wife is now expecting their first child

To compliment their training at EKGTA in Maintenance Planning an industrial visit was made to Cruachan Power Station. They travelled deep into the ‘hollow mountain’ where it is so warm that sub-tropical plants grow naturally. They enjoyed the tour of the facility and learned how the power of Loch Awe is harnessed to provide a rapid response to sharp rises in demand for electricity. The generators can go from standstill to full power of 100,000 kilowatts in only two minutes. They were also surprised to discover that excess electrical power during the night is used to reverse the turbines and pump water back into the reservoir.

The weather during the visit was glorious which made the journey up the A82, alongside Loch Lomond, even more stunning. They were overwhelmed with the beauty of the Loch, Inverary and surrounding countryside.

Their training programme runs till July 2006, when they will return to their respective homes in Libya and their employers, more knowledgeable and having enjoyed their experience at EKGTA and in Scotland.



Ali, Jalal & Salah at Cruachan

## It’s never to late to learn



Graham with Tom and John Anderson

Graham Speirs from Sanmex International Ltd has just achieved his MA in Engineering Maintenance. Graham started with Sanmex as an operator around 6 years ago. During his time as an operator he demonstrated a talent for “fixing things”. This ability was recognised by his peers who would approach him for assistance and advice on certain operations. This did not go un-noticed by the maintenance management team who made enquiries about the adult apprenticeship programme run by EKGTA. The programme was aimed at individuals over the age of 25 years, who are working in engineering but have no formal qualification in this sector. Graham was enrolled on the programme in the spring of 2002. The programme

*“it is never to late to learn and achieve in any walk of life, Graham is testament to this”*

required successful completion of an SVQ Level 2 conducted off the job at EKGTA. Achievement of SVQ at Level 3 conducted through work based assignments in the company and the achievement of an academic qualification (National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering).

Graham successfully completed all the required components of the MA in Engineering Framework and was presented with his certificate by Tom Houston the HR manager at Sanmex recently. Tom commented on the fact “that it is never to late to learn and achieve in any walk of life, Graham is testament to this”. Graham was guided through the programme by Drew Alexander from EKGTA. Drew remarked, “Graham’s commitment and effort throughout this programme have been excellent. This, coupled with his talent in the maintenance role has been instrumental in his success” Graham responded by thanking the management team at Sanmex for this opportunity and their belief in him to succeed.

For more information call *Derek Syme*, on 01355 229985, [drs@ekgta.com](mailto:drs@ekgta.com).

## A cut above the rest.



Louise with Denis and Drew

Louise Hutchinson from the Hair Chair group has just achieved her MA in the Management programme run by EKGTA. Louise who manages the day to day running of a Hairdressing Salon in Dalgety bay has been the first candidate to complete the programme from a group of managers involved in the hair styling industry.

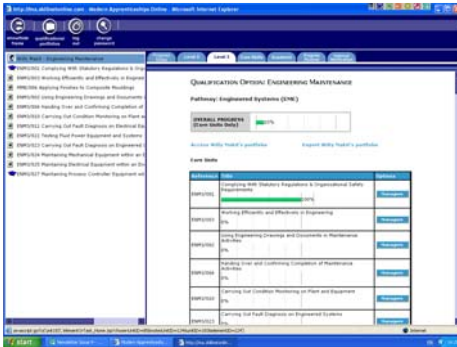
*"The programme has provided me with the required skills to carry out my role within the organisation to a high standard"*

Louise attended a presentation at EKGTA recently with the Hair Chair owner Dennis Davies. Dennis commented how pleased he was with the progress Louise has made through her managerial career and that he was "not surprised by her achievements so far" He also emphasised the importance of a structured qualification like the MA in Management "which enables the development and enhancement of leadership qualities that are required in our industry".

Louise responded by thanking Dennis and her training advisor Drew Alexander, who has worked closely with Louise over the last 2 years for their cooperation and guidance respectively. She added, "I am very grateful for the opportunity to learn new skills and knowledge which result in nationally recognised vocational qualifications. The programme has provided me with the required skills to carry out my role within the organisation to a high standard, I am currently putting in to practice some of the techniques learned through this programme".

*If you are interested in or would like further information regarding the above Contact Brian Boyle 01355 229985 or e-mail [bb@ekgta](mailto:bb@ekgta).*

## Modern Apprentices Online



As regular readers may recall part of EKGTA's continuous improvement policy has seen in the past the introduction of e-portfolio's for the Performing Engineering Operations SVQ Level 2.

Now the Association is pleased to announce the launch of its latest venture-an all encompassing Modern Apprenticeship online e-portfolio. Over the past 12 months EKGTA have been developing in conjunction with partners Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire and Learndirect Scotland an electronic means of recording progress through all stages of an Engineering Apprenticeship.

From August 2006 Trainees and Assessors will be able to access a candidates portfolio of evidence via the Internet. This new programme will allow candidates to upload high quality of evidence from any location. This offers greater flexibility and ease of access for both candidates and assessors.

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## Know more – Work better (AutoCAD)

Following the recent launch of AutoCAD 2007, and our IT /Cad Instructor Mr. Jim Holmes' attendance at this years AutoDesk annual conference, EKGTA are pleased to announce exciting additions to our range of AutoCAD 2006 and 2007 courses.

These include:

AutoCAD & AutoCAD LT 2007: Essentials,  
 AutoCAD 2007 Transitioning from AutoCAD 2006,  
 AutoCAD 2007: Creating 3D Models,  
 AutoCAD 2007: Customizing the Interface,  
 AutoCAD 2007: Designing and Managing Dynamic Blocks  
 AutoCAD 2006 & AutoCAD LT 2006 Essentials, AutoCAD 2006 Intermediate,  
 AutoCAD 2006 Advanced, AutoCAD 2006 Transitioning from AutoCAD 2002,  
 AutoCAD 2006 Update, AutoCAD 2006 – 3D Drawing and Modelling,

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AutoCAD 2006 – CAD Management,  
 AutoCAD 2006 – Designing and Managing Dynamic Blocks,  
 AutoCAD 2006 – Plotting and Sheet Sets.

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