

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

### Mission Statement

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

### Editor's comments

This is the first edition of *impact*, the in-house newsletter from EKGTA. The purpose of the magazine is to keep member and associated companies and their staff informed about the latest innovations and developments being undertaken by the Association.

*impact* will be published quarterly throughout the year and will be made available in hard copy and via our website. We would welcome feedback from readers and any contributions for future issues.

#### Special points of interest

- Polymer Apprenticeships
- SQMS
- Star Refrigeration
- Course Programme

### Plastics and Rubber MAs to bounce back in Scotland

A new project being undertaken by the Polymer Sector Development Steering Group in Scotland, which is a partnership of the Polymer NTO (now Cogent SSC Ltd.), the Scottish Plastics and Rubber Association, East Kilbride Group Training Association and Bell College. With funding from the Scottish Executive, this group is addressing the need to revitalise Modern Apprenticeships in the Polymer Industry in Scotland.

The project follows on from work already completed which recognised the importance of the Polymer Sector to the national economy, established the future skills requirements relevant to the industry's short and long term plans, identified skill shortages and secured a new framework for a MA in Polymer Processing and Related Operations.

The specific aims of this project are:

- to expand investment in skills development, particularly through Modern Apprenticeships
- to improve access to learning
- to develop management skills to assist organisational change.

This partnership will be actively promoting Modern Apprenticeships in Polymer Processing, Engineering and Management with employers in the Polymer Sector over the coming months and encouraging and supporting them in initiating and progressing MA schemes which will contribute to the development of their workforce skills base and provide business benefits.

For further information on the project or how the partnership can assist employers with Modern Apprenticeships within companies, please contact:

**Stuart Waugh, General Manager,  
East Kilbride Group Training Association Ltd.**

**Tel: 01355 229985  
e-mail: info@ekgta.com**



CNC Injection Moulding Machine

### SEMTA Introduces New Engineering Competence Standards

Many employers have struggled to cope with the generic standards introduced as part of the engineering lead body's Engineering Reformation Project in the 1990s.

In response to feedback from employers and training providers alike the Science, Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies Alliance (SEMTA) are introducing a new range of qualifications as replacements from 2004.

These new qualifications will be known as the Engineering Competence Standards (ECS) and will form the level three component of all Modern Apprenticeships delivered through EKGTA..

Their introduction will not affect any apprentice currently working towards the existing qualifications but will hopefully make future SVQ qualifications easier to read and understand for the candidates themselves.

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## Applications sought for places on MA in Management Course

EKGTA launched its Modern Apprenticeship in Management Programme for skilled employees in April 2003.



Management Forum

All 8 places on the first open course were taken up by employees from 6 different employers from Livingston to Wishaw.

The delegates are now nearing the end of the foundation course and are about to start working on their company based project.

EKGTA will launch a new course in April 2004 and invites employers to nominate learners.

Applicants should ideally be key members of staff either in, or progressing towards management or supervisory roles, who would benefit from developing their knowledge and skills.

The Programme consists of:

- Phase One ~ Ten three hour learning sessions
- Phase Two ~ Core Skills & Work Based Project
- Phase Three ~ SVQ Level in Management

Please contact **Derek Syme ~ Training Manager**

**Tel: 01355 229985**

**Email: drs@ekgta.com**

## EKGTA re-approved under Scottish Quality Management System

*"This quality system is the standard for all training providers who run funded training programmes through the Scottish Enterprise Network."*

As part of a comprehensive quality approach to business EKGTA recently sought re-approval through the Scottish Quality Management System (SQMS). This quality system is the standard for all training providers who run funded training programmes through the Scottish Enterprise Network.

The audit for re-approval is currently conducted by Babcock Training in Rosyth.

During the audit which lasted two days the Association was reviewed on a ten point criteria: from Health and Safety, Accreditation and Certification to Equal Opportunities

Accreditation was granted to EKGTA on January 12th 2004 and this extends for a period of three years.

## Company Spotlight— Star Refrigeration

Founded in Glasgow in 1970, Star has grown to be the largest and best known independent refrigeration engineering company in the UK. Star Refrigeration employs 250 people in a network of locations throughout Scotland, strategically positioned to facilitate timely response to any customer requirements, including:

- technical advice
- bid preparation
- design and installation
- service support
- Maintenance

Star Refrigeration has developed a unparalleled reputation for technical excellence and innovation and is committed to continue improving its products and systems and so ensure our customers benefit from having highly efficient plant at value for money prices.

Major developments in recent years include:

- Low charge ammonia systems
- Thermosyphon - a Millennium Product
- Refrigerants - A Millennium Product
- Enhanced heat transfer surfaces
- Ice systems for leisure applications
- CO2 as a primary and secondary refrigerant



Star Refrigeration - Thornliebank

**[www.star-ref.co.uk](http://www.star-ref.co.uk)**

## Updated EKGTA Web Site



The World-Wide-Web and associated e-mail systems are becoming increasingly important communication tools for all businesses.

EKGTA recognises the valuable assistance our Web Site can provide to employers and learners who are seeking information on our training, courses and qualifications or training programmes. Over the last three months we have carried out an extensive review and extension of the facilities available through our site.

This review is ongoing, and during March/April 2004 an undergraduate in Business Information Management from Bell College in Hamilton will undertake an independent review, and conduct research on our web presence.

The subsequent report will provide data, information and guidance to the EKGTA management team and help form the basis for future development.

## Short Course Programme—March 2004 until July 2004

EKGTA will be delivering a range of customised and short courses throughout the period from March 2004 until July 2004.

Technical and workshop based course requirements are particularly suited to delivery during this period when most apprentices undergoing training have returned to their companies.



Maintenance Training

Standard charges apply for all courses however please call us to discuss your exact requirements depending on numbers, availability etc.

Courses already planned for this period are :

<b>April 5th/6th</b>	Portable Appliance Testing
<b>April 7th</b>	Risk Assessment
<b>April 8th</b>	H&S Awareness
<b>April 19-23rd</b>	Forklift (Novice)
<b>May 12th</b>	Abrasive Wheels
<b>May 24-28th</b>	AutoCAD

If you require a copy of our summer course diary of events please contact :

**Administration Department**

**Tel: 01355 229985 or**

**Email: [info@ekgta.com](mailto:info@ekgta.com)**



C.N.C Training

## EKGTA now delivers Fork Lift Truck Operator Training

EKGTA is pleased to announce the latest addition to its training portfolio "Forklift Driver Training"

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 superb customer care

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

From April 2004 EKGTA will be offering a number of "Open Course" events at our newly updated premises in Nerston in East Kilbride,

A range of courses have been arranged for April and June.

*"it's about more than just delivering a course"*

*"from the initial site survey to the quality documentation"*

*"clients are benefiting from our superb customer care"*



For more information on any of our Fork Lift course please contact:

**Derek Syme ~ Training Manager**

**Tel: 01355 229985**

**Email: [drs@ekgta.com](mailto:drs@ekgta.com)**

## Formula One in Schools Programme in South Lanarkshire



The F1 Team in Schools Challenge exists to raise the profile of engineering in schools and colleges. CAD/CAM, CNC and VR systems are common place tools in manufacturing and it is important that young people have the opportunity to see the dynamic and challenging world that engineering has become. Through this fun directed experience it is hoped that young people will be encouraged to consider a career in design, engineering or manufacturing.

The F1 Team In Schools competition is open to all UK based secondary schools and colleges to design and manufacture

CO2 powered model racing cars. Each team will comprise between three and six pupils who have an interest in technical design and production.

Students compete on a local/regional basis and then may progress to the UK finals to determine the best engineered and fastest car overall.

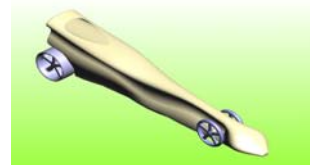
Now completing its third year nationally F1 Team in Schools has over 150 Schools competing in 6 regional finals across the UK.

At present East Kilbride Engineering Group Training Association is working with South Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire to develop a framework which will operate in this area.

By introducing F1 in Schools to Lanarkshire it is hoped that the level of awareness and enthusiasm towards engineering as a career will be heightened not only amongst pupils but teachers and guidance staff.

Local employers continue to require talented and capable young people as apprentices and EKGTA is committed to finding the most suitable applicants for our clients.

If sufficient schools are interested in becoming involved in this exciting new programme, EKGTA will act as the local manufacturing and test centre for the Lanarkshire Area and will set-up a manufacturing facility which will be accessible to all registered schools in this area.



Typical 3D Rendering of Model Car

*“Engineering & technology has a problem of poor image and unattractiveness which needs tackling in multiple ways. One way is to give young people and their teachers a better understanding of the wide opportunities available through engineering related hands-on projects.”*

*Dept for Education & Skills  
May 2002*

If your company would be interested in becoming a sponsor of the event in South Lanarkshire, then please contact EKGTA for more information.



## EKGTA

**EKGTA** was established in 1966 as an employer led training provider for the Engineering Industry.

It is a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status, and is committed to offering and delivering a range of training to nationally recognised standards at a competitive cost as well as being a source for recruiting apprentice engineers.

EKGTA is widely recognised as a leading training provider in its field and it provides a dynamic and challenging training environment in which individuals are encouraged to learn and are supported and guided throughout their development.

The Association continually develops its portfolio of training courses and its complementary training services in line with the changing industrial and engineering environment and the training needs which emerge from its potential client base. It is committed to ensuring that trainees receive the best practical training available and are equipped with the knowledge and skills applicable to their own working environment.

Thus we are truly 'Training for the Future'.



3 Law Place  
Nerston  
East Kilbride  
G74 4PP

Phone: 01355 229985 or 238912  
Fax: 01355 264585  
Email: [info@ekgta.com](mailto:info@ekgta.com)