

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

Impact, the in-house newsletter from EKGTA is intended to keep member and associated companies and their staff 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 would welcome feedback from you, along with any contributions for future issues.

Special points of interest

- Annual Awards Ceremony 2004
- Anderside Tools Ltd
- Forthcoming Training Events

Annual Awards Ceremony— 2004

East Kilbride Group Training Association's (EKGTA) Annual Presentation of Awards took place on Wednesday 7th July 2004 at its Engineering Training Centre in Law Place, Nerston Industrial Estate, East Kilbride.

The awards were presented to young people, undertaking Engineering Modern Apprenticeships, who have excelled in particular engineering skill areas and overall have achieved an extremely high standard of performance during their training at the Training Centre and in their workplace. The principal award was presented to the individual judged to be the 'Best Final Year Apprentice' and their aptitude and performance over their four year development programme was the basis of selection of the winner.

Guest speaker at the presentation was Mr. Tom McBrearty, General Manager of Alstom T&D Power Conversion, who gave an interesting and enthusiastic address to the trainees on the importance of lifelong learning and the worthwhile career opportunities that Modern Apprenticeships can lead to.

Also present were Mr. Hugh McKinnon, Chairman of the Board of Directors of EKGTA and the Association's General Manager, Mr. Stuart Waugh who introduced and announced this year's award winners.

Award winner details are as listed:



AWARD WINNERS
2004

Award Clyde Blowers Trophy for Fitting skills was awarded to John McCutcheon of Clydeforth Engineers & Contractors Ltd.

Award Weir Pumps Cup for skills in CNC Machining went to Jacqueline Law of Weir Pumps Ltd.

Award Hoover Cup for Toolmaking skills was awarded to David Crilley of Weir Pumps Ltd.

Award Scottish Power Cup for Electronics skills was awarded to Marco Possi of Alstom T&D Power Conversion.

Award Motorola Trophy for Computer Programming skills was presented to Stephen Balloch of Thyssen Krupp Elevators UK

Award EKGTA Best Apprentice Trophy, awarded to the best final year Apprentice, was presented to Gordon Greenhorn Weir Pumps Ltd.

"Congratulation to all the Winners"

Intake 2004

The Apprentice's for the intake 2004 started at the Centre during August. This year we have 46 Apprentices from 17 different companies. They will undertake a minimum 26-week comprehensive training programme based on the Scottish Vocational Qualification at level 2 in Performing Engineering Operations.

During their time at the Training Centre the Apprentice's will be trained and assessed on the Mandatory Units of Health & Safety, Developing Themselves and Working with Others plus Using and Communicating Technical Information. They will also undertake General Support Units such as Identifying and Selecting Engineering Materials and Applying Quality Control in Engineering.



Intake 2004

They will be trained and assessed on their own respective skill area. These could include Maintenance both Electrical and Mechanical, Machining both Conventional and CNC, Fitting again either Mechanical or Electrical and Fabrication/Welding.

An integral part of the training programme will be the introduction of **project-based training**, which has been designed to consolidate skills, knowledge and understanding, and to develop soft skills such as, Team building, Leadership,

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Company Training Spotlight— Anderside Tools Ltd

Anderside Tools was formed in 1983 with a view to servicing the injection moulding industry. From the outset the company invested in state of the art technology and continues this philosophy today.

Anderside became the largest mould maker in Scotland and has gained a reputation for good service and quality while working with some of the largest companies in the UK.

Due to the physical size and technical capabilities of the machinery at Anderside we were able to expand our markets offering specialist machining into sub contract precision engineering, press tools, pumps and the oil and gas industries.

- 3D DESIGN AND PROGRAMING
- LARGE FORMAT CNC MILLING
- HIGH SPEED MILLING
- SPARK EROSION
- WIRE EROSION

**For further details contact: Hugh McKinnon,
Managing Director on 01355– 245455
www.andersidetools.com**



Anderside Tools CNC Section

New Arrival at EKGTA – G'Day Mate



EKGTA is pleased to announce a new addition to its Training Team

John Sweeny joined EKGTA on 2nd August 2004 in the role of Training Instructor/Assessor . A Griffith University graduate with a BA in Training, John served a four year engineering apprenticeship as a Fabricator/ Welder with David Waddells in Motherwell. Upon completing his apprenticeship he undertook and completed his City and Guilds post trade qualifications in Welding Inspection and Quality Control Engineering to further boost his knowledge and skills.

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In 1989 John moved to Australia where he was employed as a senior QA Pressure Vessels Inspector on the Western Australia North West Shelf Natural Gas Project. During this time he completed qualifications in Non- Destructive Testing. From 1992 until 1996 John was employed in the Engineering/Manufacturing Industry as Quality Assurance Manager and subsequently Production Manager with a large manufacturing company in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

In 1996 John moved to Ipswich Regional Development Corporation and was employed as manager of Education, Training and Employment Services. His responsibilities included recruitment of trainees, training and supervision of staff and liaising with training providers and government bodies. During this period John completed both his Certificate of Workplace Training and Assessment and a Diploma in Training and Assessment Systems Management.

In 1998 John was appointed president of the Private Engineering Training Providers Association and sat on various government panels in relation to developing training packages. In 1999 John was appointed onto the National Metals and Engineering Training Board, an organisation that assists Government in relation to developing training courses and curriculum for the Engineering sector. In February 2000 John was appointed Operations Manager with Betaray Training Academy, a government certified Training Provider delivering engineering training to almost four hundred apprentices and trainees across Queensland.

John returned with his family to the UK on a permanent basis in early June 2004 and following his appointment at EKGTA he is now involved in the Training and Assessment of Apprentices in the Machining areas covering both Conventional and CNC. John says he has found many similarities between apprentice training in Australia and Britain, and Scottish trained craftspersons are very well thought of the world over. Perhaps because of the high quality of training they receive.

John is married to Caroline and has two children Craig who is 18 years old and Jennifer who is 16 . He enjoys most sports especially golf and rugby.

German Apprentices visit Scotland

EKGTA played host in June 2004 to a group of Apprentices from Germany. The Association has for the past twenty years forged close links with the Handelskammer from Cologne in the Nordrhein Westfalen region of Germany.

The Handelskammer which is similar to our British Chamber of Commerce co-ordinates all apprentice training within the region. It is funded by a grant levy scheme in which companies pay according to their turnover and number of employees.

Each year EKGTA arranges a 4-day programme of events for the Apprentices from Germany and the events are designed to give them an understanding of the working practices in Britain and in particular how Apprenticeships are organised. There is also the opportunity to experience some of the social and cultural delights of Scotland.

The Apprentices on this years programme came from a wide variety of backgrounds and trades. In the group we had Hairdressers, Vehicle Technicians, Glaziers, Textile Technicians to name but a few.



Visit to Weir Pumps in Glasgow

B.Boyle describes the programme of events.

"The party arrived at Edinburgh Airport on the morning of Saturday 12th June. They were transported by coach to their accommodation at Strathclyde University halls of residence and after a welcome and introduction session the group were escorted on an open top bus tour of Glasgow. The next event on their programme was a Scottish Ceilidh night held at the Riverside club in Glasgow. Traditional Scottish hospitality was on show and we were made to feel most welcome by everyone. A great night was had by all, and the enthusiasm of the Apprentices was very refreshing.

On Sunday we were up bright and early with only a few sore heads we headed off to Glenkinchie distillery in East Lothian. The Apprentices again showed great interest in the history (and taste) of whisky. When we eventually dragged them away from sampling the different types of Malts we proceeded to Edinburgh and a visit to the castle then some free time in the shops on Princes Street.

On Monday it was down to the business side of the programme, with a visit to The Goethe Institute Glasgow which promotes Germanic culture & language in Scotland. This gave the party a chance to hear from their fellow countrymen about what it is like for a German to live and work in Scotland. In the afternoon we were guests of Weir Pumps Ltd Cathcart,



German Apprentice Group

Glasgow and their presentation gave an insight into their own Apprenticeship programme and its benefits to the company.

On Tuesday morning the party visited our premises in East Kilbride and Jim Holmes gave a presentation on Apprenticeships in Scotland. A tour of the facility enabled them to get a clearer understanding of EKGTA's commitment to developing young people. This was also an opportunity for the group to discuss the differences between the German and British approach to Apprenticeships. In the afternoon we visited Glasgow City Council's Apprentice training facility in Queenslie Industrial Estate. Again a presentation by the staff explained the Council's need for apprentices and the importance of "Growing your own Craftsmen".

On Tuesday evening and as the last official event we took the party to the Golf driving range in Strathclyde Country Park. It was a fun event with prizes given for the best (and worst) shots of the night. The evening was completed with a visit to a local hostelry to watch the European Championship match between Germany and Holland. Unfortunately some of the Scottish luck had rubbed off and the 1-1 result did not go down to well with the party.



Silke Klemm the female Bernhard Langer

The next day the party set off on the second leg of the exchange tour, a visit to Liverpool. The programme was overall deemed to be a great success and the party were very complimentary of the time spent in Scotland and in particular the hospitality which they were shown. All commented that they looked forward to returning to Scotland some time in the future.

"The enthusiasm of the Apprentices was very refreshing."

Management Apprenticeships

East Kilbride Group Training Association has launched its third Modern Apprenticeship (MA) in Management programme.

The third group of 16 candidates from Weir Pumps, Milklink Dairies, McVities, Dana Glacier Vandervell, CTP Davall and Gilrick Metalwork Ltd all started the programme in September 2004. It includes 10 half-day training sessions on topics such as managing problems, time, conflict, people, budgets, and stress.

Completion of a work based project to implement the skills developed will earn the delegates the Institute of Leadership & Management's Introductory Certificate in Management (formerly NEBS).

Addressing the SVQ Level 3 in Management will further integrate the learning in to the workplace and on completion candidates will be awarded the Certificate for MA in Management by MSC, the Management Standards awarding body.



MA in Management Programme

International Trainees

Pictured on the right are the recent Maintenance Management trainees from Arabian Gulf Oil Company during their training programme at EKGTA and an industrial visit to the head office and manufacturing plant of Howden Compressors, Glasgow.

The group comprising Muftah Ebaset, Jamal Aljafairy, Hilal Algabassy and Mohamed Bilgasseem, who are all Maintenance Coordinators with AGOCO, were led on a most enlightening tour of the plant by Howden Compressors, Sales Project Manager, Kerr Bryson.

The group were shown all aspects of the manufacturing processes from delivery of the materials, machining, assembly and final test of the compressors. The visitors stated afterwards that the visit was very enjoyable and it opened many doors for them in future considerations regarding compressor purchases.

This training event is part of the valued training link EKGTA has with Libayn Oil & Gas Companies



International Trainees Visit Howdens

Forthcoming Training Events

EKGTA is pleased to highlight the forthcoming open courses.

As one of a very few accredited AutoCAD providers in Central Scotland and with our IT instructor Jim Holmes having recently been accredited for AutoCAD 2005 we can offer a full range of Computer Aided Design courses.

Our 16th Edition IEE regulations course is also proving very popular and to date we have a 100% pass rate thanks to the diligence of our Electrical Instructor Jackie Gilmour.

The other 2 courses, Power Press Regulations and Portable Appliance Testing are a must for people working in these areas,

as far as the Health & Safety Executive are concerned,

We still have places available on all these courses, so secure your place by calling Derek Syme, Training Manager on:

01355 229985 or e-mail drs@ekgta.com

Course dates are as follows:

AutoCAD	25-29 Oct 04
Power Press Regs	27 Oct 04
16 th Edition IEE Regs	24-26 Nov 04

National Apprenticeship Competition Update

In the last edition of the news letter we told you about the National competition which is held every year by the Scottish Group Training Association in conjunction with SEMTA. It is designed to recognise exceptional achievement of 1st year engineering apprentices. This year the competition attracted 25 of the top Engineering Apprentices from all over Scotland and was held at Fraserburgh on 16th June 04.



You will no doubt recall that after careful consideration against strict criteria, David Dick, an apprentice with QinetiQ was selected to represent EKGTA.

David was accompanied to the event in Fraserburgh by his Training Advisor Mr Drew Alexander

The competition was run along similar lines to previous years where candidates are entered into two specific skill areas relating to their Apprenticeship. David was presented for the skills of Fitting and Milling. Each area has "set tests" in which the Apprentice has to undergo a Technical

"the competition attracted 25 of the top Engineering Apprentices from all over Scotland"

Assessment and Knowledge based questionnaire. These are designed to not only gauge the Apprentices skill level but also their knowledge in their respective skill area.

David performed particularly well in the Fitting Assessment and he achieved an overall score of 245. His efforts saw him placed 4th in the Competition and we congratulate him on such a creditable performance.

The whole experience is one which David will remember for a long time. We wish David well in his future training and are sure he will prove to be a major asset to his company.