

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.

Apprentice Recruitment 2006

As most of our regular readers will be aware East Kilbride Group Training Association (EKGTA) has been working with local employers for almost forty years to provide training particularly in relation to Modern Apprenticeships in:

- Engineering (production, maintenance, mechanical, electrical, fabrication, etc)
- Polymer Processing and Related Operations
- Management
- Distribution & Warehousing

Modern Apprenticeships are nationally recognised training pathways designed to attract bright, able young people to industry and provide them with the high level of work based skills required by many employers and with a wide range of available qualifications.

Special points of interest

- Recruitment 2006
- L.I.T.S
- Success at Walter Blacks
- Forthcoming courses



EKGTA will be supporting companies in a variety of locations to recruit apprentices during the spring and summer of 2006. The Association is already in consultation with some companies regarding their recruitment needs and we can help in the following:

1. Contact all local Careers Office to inform them of vacancies and to encourage them to promote the vacancies throughout their Career Office network and can co-ordinate advertising if needed.
2. Accept letters of application; respond with application forms and issue test/interview date.
3. Conduct relevant tests at EKGTA for applicants: (Numeracy / Mechanical Ability / IT Skills).
4. Conduct first 'screening interview' at EKGTA with each applicant and complete feedback sheet for each company.
5. Provide company with short list for interview in their premises.
6. Assist with in-company interview if required.
7. When applicant has been selected by company assist with relevant paperwork if required.
8. Source grant funding from Scottish Enterprise to help fund an apprenticeship training programme.

If you are an Employer who is considering offering apprenticeship opportunities throughout 2006 and are interested in finding out more about how EKGTA can help you in this process, contact the under named for further information on Recruitment

Contact Brian Boyle 01355 229985 or e-mail bb@ekgta.com.

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Company Spotlight— Swissmatic Ltd



SWISSMATIC Ltd.

Swissmatic Ltd. specialises in the production of high precision machined components for a wide range of industries including, the Electronics, Mechatronics, Telecommunications, Computer, Instrument and Defence industries.

Formed in 1980, our machining facility has built a reputation for exceptional quality, state of the art technology, and a commitment to quality in everything we do. The company name and reputation is synonymous with the high accuracy and quality associated with the Swiss watch and clock industry.

We are continually updating our machining equipment which includes the latest CNC Sliding Head and Fixed Head machines all equipped with magazine loading and conveyor off-loading to cost effectively produce both small and large batches.

A factory wide networked computer system for SPC, DNC, Quality Assurance and Production Control, assists us to produce what our customers require when they require it.

- Defence & Aerospace
- Electricity Metering
- Valves
- Electronics
- Computer Printers
- Telecom

Since the company's inception, Swissmatic engineers have been dedicated to the principle of "Lights Out" operations.



Considerable time has been spent studying this technique in use in France, Switzerland and Japan. Engineers take care of the machines during dayshift hours after which the machines run unmanned during the night completely unattended. This enables us to be extremely competitive without prejudice to product quality. The high standard of quality and reliability of Swissmatic components is a hallmark of the company. Our technicians are equipped with the latest and most accurate form of gauging, measuring and test equipment, supported by a computerised calibration system.

Continuous improvement, SPC, and SQA are all supported by our ISO 9001 approved Quality Control System.

For more information on Swissmatic and its services

Call us today on 01698 374548, fax 01698 359454

or visit our Website www.swissmatic.co.uk

Lift Industry Training Services (L.I.T.S.)



Alan Brown and the LITS Apprentices

L.I.T.S. specialises in the assessment of vocational technical competence and the delivery of technical training in the engineering maintenance sector, in manufacturing and production, of the lift industry and electrical contracting industry.

The Company's training centre is based in Kent and is supported by a team of experienced engineers/assessors who are regionally based which enables their training and assessment programmes to be delivered throughout the UK, Ireland and the Channel Islands at regional centres or in-plant.

Since 2000 EKGTA has worked in partnership with L.I.T.S. and individual Lift Companies to promote and deliver Modern Apprenticeships in Engineering in Scotland.

Currently 6 Apprentices from the Lift Industry are attending EKGTA for their Modern Apprenticeship programme, pictured above are:- Christopher Law – Caledonian Lift Services, Scott McLellan – Kone plc, Mark Finnigan & Ben Sampson - Schindler Scotland, Stuart Stevenson – Stannah Lift Services, John Morrison – Thyssen Krupp Elevators, Alan Brown – LITS Assessor for Scotland.

EKGTA Supports Local Schools



For eight days in January and February 2006 EKGTA was amongst thirty other companies which attended careers events at both Hampden Park and the Time Capsule in Coatbridge organised by Careers Scotland to promote Engineering as a career and help second year pupils to choose the appropriate Standard Grade subjects for a career in Engineering.

Brian Boyle – EKGTA , Customer Liaison Officer, is pictured giving advice to pupils from St Lukes High School on how to assemble and test a pneumatic cylinder. Brian was assisted over the three days by a number of the first year apprentices currently in our Training Centre. Pictured on the far right is Brian Wynn from Anderson Precision Gears.

There were thirty two schools and over 4000 pupils involved over the eight days of these events This is the third year of these events which are held throughout Scotland and EKGTA are pleased to be invited to attend the events in our region in order to assist these pupils towards a career in Engineering.

Meet the Trainees

As part of our on going relationship with Umn Al-Jawaby Oil Services, EKGTA currently has 3 overseas trainees studying at our training centre. Two of the students , Mr Jalal Zayed and Mr Saleh El-Hadad, sponsored by Sirte Oil Co., are studying Maintenance Management and Planning. Both Jalal and Saleh are recently married and are visiting Scotland for the first time with their new wives.



Saleh, Jalal and Ali at EKGTA

Mr Ali Hamed, sponsored by Rasco Oil Co. who is studying Fabrication and Welding is also visiting Scotland for the first time with his wife and 2 young children and their third child will be born soon.



In addition to the technical studies they are undertaking, the trainees all wish to develop their English Language and Computing Skills.

They are all enjoying their time in Scotland although the change in temperature and the recent heavy snow fall has come as a bit of a shock. You don't find too many snowmen in Libya! As you can see they all enjoyed the typical fun to be had in the snow at Queens Park in Glasgow.



Demand for Electrical Courses on the Increase

Since bringing 2 electrical courses online EKGTA has seen an increasing demand. These courses are the City & Guilds scheme 2381 Certificate in the Requirements for Electrical Installations (BS7671: June 2001) more familiarly known as the IEE Wiring Regulations 16th Edition and the City & Guilds scheme 2377-1/2 Certificate Inspection & Testing and Management of Portable Equipment (P.A.T.) course.

The courses are designed for anyone involved in the installation of electrical equipment and the use of portable appliances including hand tools. These courses are recognised as a desirable qualification for all electrical personnel.

Jack Gilmour, our Electrical Training Instructor, has developed the training courses and they have been very successful. Since their launch we have run 16, 16th edition courses with 40 candidates and 9 P.A.T. courses with 28 candidates. Jack said “ I am very pleased with the results we are achieving, 95% of our candidates pass on the first attempt and the other 5% have passed on the second.” “Recently I have had 6 and 7 candidates on the same course which demonstrates the increasing demand for these courses.”

Jack runs the courses at EKGTA. The 16th edition is delivered over 3 days and covers all aspects of the regulations. The P.A.T. course is delivered over 2 days and includes practical assessment. Candidates on both courses are registered with City & Guilds and sit the exams using the new electronic method, which means that candidates can take the tests at a time to suit them during normal working hours. Jack states: “This method of testing is much better, before exams were only available previously once a month in the evening. Now the examination process is much more flexible and more candidate friendly.”

For more information and to book places on these courses call *Derek Syme, on 01355 229985, drs@ekgta.com.*

Success at Walter Blacks Foods Ltd.

Robert Hutchinson from Walter Black Foods recently achieved his MA in Management award through EKGTA. Robert is the engineering manager and is responsible for all plant machinery and a team of maintenance engineers. Much of the evidence gathered by Robert was based on the planned development of company apprentices and on factory improvements/upgrades.

The achievement of this prestige award is the culmination of Robert having successfully completed an EMTA Awards Ltd SVQ Level 3 in Management. Robert attended a series of workshops held at EKGTA on topics such as Team Building, Time and Stress Management, Leadership, Communication Skills, Problem Solving and Managing Change. Robert then had to prove competency in the application of these subjects and other Management skills in the workplace.



Robert with Stuart Black and Liz Forester

This programme was delivered through EKGTA in conjunction with Scottish Enterprise.

There are currently 30 Management candidates working towards completion of this programme and EKGTA will be accepting nominations shortly for the next programme which is due to commence in May 2006.

*If you are interested in or would like further information regarding the above
Contact Brian Boyle 01355 229985 or e-mail bb@ekgta.com.*

EKGTA keep on Learning

As part of EKGTA's staff development programme a number of employees are currently undertaking Vocational Qualifications.



Lesley receives her certificate from Stuart Waugh

Lesley Keenan, a key member of the Administration Unit recently completed a City & Guilds NVQ Level 3 in Administration.

Over the last 12 months Lesley has worked closely with Drew Alexander her Assessor to ensure that the evidence presented met the criteria laid down by the Awarding Body. General Manager Stuart Waugh and Assessor Drew Alexander presented Lesley with her qualification certificate.

Lesley stated "I felt that my job role reflected the requirements of undertaking this qualification and enjoyed the experience". She is now considering continuing her development by undertaking a Modern Apprenticeship in Management programme.

Forthcoming Short Courses

EKGTA constantly strives to satisfy the training requirements of our clients throughout the year and presently the Training Workshop is heavily committed to Apprentice Training. Regular readers will know that the apprentice programme lasts mainly August to March each year.

Although they are busy the Training Unit understand the needs of our clients and endeavour to deliver other courses at a time and date that suits clients.

The following open course diary has been prepared and covers the months of January to April 2006. It is published for your attention and consideration.

Also if you have a specific training requirement please don't hesitate to call.

Places are available on all courses, for further information please call

Derek Syme, Training Workshop Manager, on 01355 229985 or e-mail drs@ekgta.com. to secure your place.

May 2006

1st — 5th
1st — 5th

3rd — 5th
11th—12th
16th
18th

22nd— 26th

31st— 2nd June

June 2006

5th—9th
8th
13th
15th
19th— 23rd

Basic CNC Machining
AutoCAD Level 1 (All revisions form 14 to 2007)
IEE 16th Edition Regs
Portable Appliance Testing
Manual Handling
Abrasive Wheels Regs
AutoCAD Level 1 (All revisions form 14 to 2007)
IEE 16th Edition Regs

IEE 16th Edition Regs
Performance Appraisals
Manual Handling
Abrasive Wheels Regs
AutoCAD Level 1 (All revisions form 14 to 2007)