

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 necessary in employment"

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.

Christmas Message 2012

The Board of Directors, General Manager and all the staff at EKGTA wish to extend the compliments of the season to all our readers.

As we look forward to 2013 we hope it will be a happy and prosperous New Year for all.



'Our Skillsforce' Website Launched

Motherwell Bridge was the venue for the launch of a new web service to help Scottish employers recruit and develop skilled people effectively.

Our Skillsforce was officially launched on November 2nd by Angela Constance, MSP and Minister for Youth Employment, at Motherwell Bridge's Lanarkshire facility in the presence of local dignitaries, representatives from Scottish Government and Skills Development Scotland. Using the interactive Our Skillsforce web platform, employers can now find information on recruiting, developing and planning their workforce all in one place, along with up-to-date information on national and local labour markets.

Our Skillsforce sets out all the publicly-funded skills support services available. It also enables employers to flag their skills and recruitment needs through a Skills Alert feature assisting them to the best available package of support, while the results of a quarterly national survey of Scotland's employers provides insight into their training and recruitment priorities and challenges.

Before the launch, Angela Constance toured Motherwell Bridge's heat exchanger workshop.

Russell Ward, chief executive of Motherwell Bridge, said: "Motherwell Bridge prides itself on taking a hands-on approach to training and skills."

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Angela Constance in the Motherwell Bridge workshop with Derek Brown and EKGTA trained apprentices Sean Timmins and Stuart Martin

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Company Spotlight - Jacobs

JACOBS® Jacobs is one of the world's largest and most diverse providers of professional technical services. With 2012 revenues of over \$10 .5 billion, they offer full-spectrum support to industrial, commercial, and government clients across multiple markets. Services include scientific and specialty consulting as well as all aspects of engineering and construction, and operations and maintenance.

As a broad-based technical professional consulting firm, Jacob's offers a complete range of services to help their clients maintain a competitive edge in their respective markets. From feasibility studies and planning to operations and maintenance (O&M), services are customised to meet business and project goals.

Jacobs Glasgow Office and EKGTA worked together this year to develop a suitable apprenticeship program to address the future skills needs of the company. A scheme was developed, within the Modern Apprenticeship framework, to satisfy these needs. In September 2012 Jacobs recruited 11 Modern Apprentices in Project and Design disciplines within the Process, Nuclear, Water & Infrastructure Departments. The apprentices are attending EKGTA for approximately 9 months to complete the Foundation Training component of the Apprenticeship. They will then return to the company to develop their on-the-job practical skills. EKGTA will continue to provide assessment, mentoring and support services throughout the remainder of the Modern Apprenticeship.

Apprentice Engineer Joins Team EKGTA

EKGTA are pleased to announce the recruitment of Fraser Watt in the position of an Engineering Modern Apprentice.

Fraser attended Duncanrig High School and left having achieved 7 Standard Grades and 3 Highers. He then worked for The Bond Group helping to install refrigeration systems into customer sites. Fraser is undertaking a 4 year apprenticeship with a view to becoming the Training Centre Technician. Fraser will undergo a broad based training programme to develop his skills in many aspects of engineering. During the apprenticeship EKGTA hope to have Fraser placed in some of our member companies to get more exposure to industry at large.

On successful completion of the Apprenticeship Fraser will support the instructional staff in their job role. This will include preventative and reactive maintenance of workshop machinery and sourcing, ordering and control of materials/resources used in the training and assessment of engineers. It is envisaged that Fraser will ultimately work very closely with the instructional staff with a view to taking over as an engineering instructor.

Outside of work Fraser's main interest is in Rugby Union. He has represented Scotland at both under 17 and under 18 age groups and currently plays as a prop forward in the Currie first team.

We wish Fraser well in his new post and hope that he will have a happy and productive future in his employment with EKGTA.



'Our Skillsforce' Website Launched (continued)

We are already looking to develop our own in-house training school philosophy and have started re-engaging with local young people to demonstrate that engineering is a career with a future".

"The Our Skillsforce service will be invaluable for helping us recruit enthusiastic people and equip them with the skills we need to not only tackle the jobs of tomorrow, but retain talent in-house."

The Minister also met with some of Motherwell Bridge's modern apprentices, including trainee machinist and fitter Sean Timmins, who comes from Fauldhouse within her Almond Valley constituency.

Angela Constance said:

"I often hear from employers who are seeking assistance in finding the right person for the jobs available, and we already know that we have a talented, enthusiastic generation of young people, many of whom need help to find work. Our Skillsforce will make an important difference to both young people and employers and go long way to matching the right person to the right job, and ensure that people seeking work— be they a young person or over 24—can maximise their potential and help our economy flourish."

Apprentice Exchange

In June 2012 EKGTA played host to a group of Apprentices from Germany. The Association has for many 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 apprenticeship training within the region. It is funded by a grant levy scheme in which companies pay according to their turnover and number of employees.

Every second year EKGTA arranges a 5-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.

The relationship the Association has with the chamber is over 25 years old and during this time many visits have taken place and many friendships developed.

The purpose of the visit is to present an opportunity for young people from Germany to learn more about their specific trades and to explore the cultural difference and also similarities between the two countries.

All of the participants in the party have recently completed their Apprenticeship and are "The Best Apprentice" in their region in their particular discipline.

EKGTA arranges events aimed at exposing the young people to the culture, heritage and outlook of the Scots people as well as looking at how specific industries in Scotland operate with an emphasis on Education and Learning.

During their stay they toured Glasgow in an open top bus and visited a distillery to sample the delights of different types of Malt Whisky. A visit to Edinburgh which included a visit to the castle, then some free time in the shops on Princes Street also took place.

On the business side of the programme, the group visited our premises in East Kilbride where Jim Holmes gave a presentation on Apprenticeships in Scotland. We attended the Goethe Institute, Glasgow which promotes Germanic culture & language in Scotland. Also included on the tour were visits to Clyde Pumps Ltd Cathcart, and Langside College Glasgow where presentations gave an insight into the requirements of Engineering Apprenticeships. In addition a visit to the Summerlee Heritage Park in Coatbridge was enthusiastically received by party.

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



2012 German Exchange Apprentices pictured outside EKGTA Training Centre

United Biscuits Open Technical Development Zone

On the 23rd of November 2012 United Biscuits opened its new Engineering Development Zone at the Tollcross Factory. This area of the facility has been redeveloped to provide a suitable training environment for the Engineers and Advanced Team Members. The Development Zone has been specifically designed for technical training and is suitable for training in Information Technology, Mechanical Maintenance, Pneumatics and PLC's.

United Biscuits have recently worked in partnership with EKGTA to initiate a program to develop their Advanced Team Members in basic maintenance skills. The ATM's attend EKGTA for a ten day training course in Basic Engineering Maintenance. They then return to company and receive further 'on the job' training from the existing Engineering staff. The trainees then work towards a Level 2 Vocational Qualification in Engineering Maintenance. Once competent, the ATM's should relieve the Engineering Staff of some of the basic maintenance tasks allowing them to further develop their skills and work on more proactive duties.

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to the following trainees who all successfully completed their Modern Apprenticeship between August and December 2012

Engineering:- Mark McFadden, ADA Ltd; Christopher Brady, Alexander Ward, Mitchell Galbraith, Christopher Cochrane, Sean Docherty, BASF Performance Products; Bryan McGowan, Darren Bell, Paul Dowd, Kevin Gough, Jordan Argue, Josh Peebles, Shaun McAllister, Sean O'Connor City Building (Glasgow) LLP; Nathan Murdoch, Paul McMullan, Drew Mason, Lee Crawford, Fraser Gordon, Lewis McGowan, Blair Crabb, Robbie Greenfield, Kyle Meehan; ClydeUnion Pumps an SPX Brand; Ross Reader, Dalkia; Jamie Neilson, David Dolan, Devro; Stephen King, Honeywell Controls; Sean McMichael, Ryan McColgan, Konecranes UK Ltd.; Duncan Rennie, Craig McBride, Life Technologies Ltd.; Ross Kennedy, Lindvale Plastics Ltd.; Lewis Lambe, MB Aerospace Ltd.; Marc Graham, Mersen Scotland; Liam Jamieson, Mitie; Stephen Devaney, Star Refrigeration; Scott Rooney, Scott Carr, Jonathan Duffy, Iain Dougan, Tata Steel; Daniel Henderson, Paul Wilson, Sean Hanlon, Adam Ward, Thales Group; Andrew Slight, Graeme Cawley, Daniel Young, Michael Aird, Valve Components Ltd.; Peter Kitsakis, Waterfront Eng. Services; David Compton, Gordon Penny, Weir Oil & Gas; Darren Kelly, Weir Power & Industrial;



Management :- Barbara Morgan, Ian Wilson, Peter Tonner; Texas Instruments Inc.

Customer Service:- Donald Murie, Chivas Brothers

Warehousing & Distribution:- Andrew Docherty, Chivas Brothers

SVQ Level 2:- Gary Ross, Ray Burns, Jock Maxwell, Jamie McBarron, Andrew McLean, Chivas Brothers; Craig Lambeth, Arrell Engineering

SVQ Level 3:- Stuart Elliot, Craig Kilpatrick, Arrell Engineering, Stewart Mills, Amey Group; Bertie Dunn, Graeme Stevenson, Stephen Brown, Devro Ltd.; Sean Neale, EKGTA; Alan Ramsay, GA Engineering

Level 4 SVQ:- David Elliot, EKGTA

EKGTA – Short Course

Presently EKGTA can offer the following open courses, which have been scheduled for January – February 2013 and are therefore recommended for your attention:

Course Title	Dates	Duration
<u>17th Edition IEE Regs (Including 1st amendment)</u>	07/01/2013	3 Days
<u>Code of Practice for In-service Inspection and Testing</u>		
<u>Of Electrical Equipment (PAT)</u>	14/01/2013	2 Days
<u>AutoCAD Essentials</u>	21/01/2013	3 Days
<u>17th Edition IEE Regulations 1st Amendment Up-date</u>	28/01/2013	1 Day
<u>Portable Appliance Inspection & Testing—Limited Course</u>	31/01/2013	2 Days
<u>17th Edition IEE Regs (Including 1st amendment)</u>	06/02/2013	3 Days
<u>Basic Electrical Skills for non electrical Personnel</u>	11/02/2013	5 Days
<u>Portable Appliance Inspection & Testing—Limited Course</u>	18/02/2013	2 Days
<u>Code of Practice for In-service Inspection and Testing</u>		
<u>Of Electrical Equipment (PAT)</u>	21/02/2013	2 Days
<u>AutoCAD Essentials</u>	25/02/2013	3 Days

For full details of the above courses and to view our full prospectus please visit our web site www.ekgta.com

Places are available on all courses; call Derek Syme, Training Manager, on 01355 229985 or e-mail drs@ekgta.com or book online at www.ekgta.com to secure your place.