

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 2010

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 2011 we hope it will be a happy and prosperous New Year for all.



Ground Breaking—EKGTA Ltd



Left to Right: Jock Smith, Andy Kerr, Hugh McKinnon, Stuart Waugh and Dick Robinson

An important investment in skills training facilities, which serve employers in the East Kilbride and surrounding areas of West/Central Scotland, got off to a 'ground breaking' start recently, when East Kilbride Group Training Association's Centre (EKGTA) at 3 Law Place, Nerston Industrial Estate, East Kilbride, was visited by local MSP, Andy Kerr.

Mr Kerr met with Hugh McKinnon, Chairman of EKGTA's Board of Directors and the Association's General Manager, Stuart Waugh, to view the plans for the redevelopment of and an extension to the existing training accommodation and facilities and to see first hand the start of the construction works on site.

They joined the architect for the project, Brian Shields of BSD Associates and representatives of the main contractor, Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd., on site to view the commencement of the ground clearance.

Mr Kerr commented, "Skills are at the heart of any successful business and critical for Scottish companies and the Scottish economy now and in the future and EKGTA's Training Centre plays an extremely important and pivotal role in enabling employers to invest in skills training for their staff and for their apprentices and likewise for members of the public seeking to enhance their skills profile".

Mr McKinnon added, "The existing Training Centre has served the Association and the employers, their staff and the public at large who use it extremely well for near on 40 years and investing in a new build extension and the redevelopment of the Centre will ensure that EKGTA has the capacity and capability to continue both now and in future decades to meet the increasing and ever-developing training requirements of employers in the engineering and manufacturing industries, particularly in the areas of apprenticeships and work related skills".

The construction works will take approximately 9 months and will be completed by summer 2011 to coincide with EKGTA's 40th anniversary at its present location.

This new build and redevelopment project will deliver a modern, multi-functional Training Centre, fit for purpose and ready operationally to continue to 'serve the training needs of employers, their staff and the public at large' in the extremely important field of skills development (particularly in engineering and related skills) and to support the growth and emerging changes in the Scottish economy.

Throughout the construction works the Training Centre will remain fully operational and will continue to deliver it's full range of training services.

Special points of interest

- Non-Employed Trainees Secure Apprenticeships
- AutoCAD @ EKGTA

Inside this issue

Company Spotlight	2
Meet the Parents	2
Non-Employed Trainees Secure Apprenticeships	3
Apprentice Recruitment 2011	3
AutoDesk @ EKGTA	3
Roll of Honour	4
EKGTA-Short Course Provision	4

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Company Spotlight– Semi–Scenic

Semi Scenic, the East Kilbride-based semiconductor specialist, has hired two new apprentices taking its headcount to 26. In little over a year the firm has more than doubled its workforce as it seeks to service sales of £5m this year.



Semi Scenic works in the niche engineering sector of semiconductor equipment refurbishment and has struggled to find suitably qualified staff to meet the growing demand that the company's expertise is driving.

This month, however, it has offered contracts to Connor McPhee and William Mason after they spent a week's placement with the business. The placement was part of the Skillseeker Programme, run by East Kilbride-based training organisation, EKGTA Ltd.

The two apprentices will spend 36 weeks with EKGTA gaining their Level 2 Vocational Qualification in performing engineering operations. A further 16 weeks will be spent securing their National Certificate in electrical engineering.



William Mason and Connor McPhee

Connor and William are then scheduled to start working with Semi Scenic in June 2011 when they will complete their training on the job, including a Level 3 vocational qualification in engineering maintenance. They will then have achieved all requirements of the Modern Apprenticeship framework.

Don Nicolson, managing director at Semi Scenic, said: "There is a chronic skill shortage in our industry and securing well trained staff is essential for our business if we are to maintain the high standards that we have always set and that our customers expect. I am delighted that we have been able to offer Connor and William positions with the business."

He added: "Apprentices are the lifeblood of many industries throughout the UK and they give us a channel through which we can get the sort of specialists we need."

Derek Brown, Training Advisor at EKGTA said: "Despite the difficulties many companies are enduring, there is still a need for qualified apprentices and there are still fantastic opportunities out there for well qualified people.

"Semi Scenic is a strong supporter of apprenticeship programmes and other apprentices it has taken on have gone on to play a very important role for the company, enjoying high levels of responsibility and international training and travel. This is what Connor and William can now look forward to."

For further information, please contact Don Nicolson at Semi Scenic on 44-1355-222166, www.semiscenic.net

Meet the Parents



Parents on a tour of the Training Workshop

As a part of our commitment to the development of young people EKGTA holds an annual Open Evening. We invite the parents of all trainees both employed and non-employed who start their training at EKGTA's centre to this event to inform them of the programme being undertaken by the trainees.

The latest of these events took place at the Training Centre on 15th September 2010. A total of 78 parents and representatives of companies attended on the evening. The event, which is intended to be informal as far as possible, started with presentations by key members of staff. Stuart Waugh, the General Manager, introduced the Association and its services / standards. Derek Syme, the Training Workshop Manager focused on the Foundation Training programme, the group project and the requirements of the awarding bodies. Raymond Lyon, Head of Engineering at Langside College, spoke on the Academic requirement of the Apprenticeship and the partnership approach between the College and the Association and Derek Brown, one of the Training Advisors, concentrated on the SVQ

Level 3 and the in-company training, monitoring and assessment of trainees.

The presentations were followed by a short tour of the centre when parents were able to meet members of the Instructional Team. The evening concluded with a short question and answer session in which parents were encouraged to seek clarification on any issues relevant to their son / daughter.

The event was also open to representatives of all companies who have apprentices at the Centre and this gave the parents the opportunity to talk directly to the employer. The evening event was extremely well received and many positive comments were forthcoming from the parents and company representatives. If you have comment relating to the Open Evening or any other matter relating to the Apprenticeship training programme please contact:

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

Non-Employed Trainees Secure Apprenticeships

Part of our intake in August 2010 was 12 Non Employed Trainees. These individuals attended EKGTA, seeking an apprenticeship and are undertaking the foundation training programme for Engineering apprentices. They have been performing to an excellent standard during their time with us, so much so that all 12 of them have now successfully secured a Modern Apprenticeship with one of our member companies.

In October 2010 EKGTA took on 9 other trainees under the "Targeted Pathway to Apprenticeships" programme. Once again these trainees have proved to be very committed to their training and have performed very well in the training workshop. They are now available for work placement with companies, or an interview and hopefully they will also secure employment with organisations that are seeking to recruit a new apprentice now.

All of the above trainees follow the same programme as employed apprentices and are assessed to the same standards.

If you are interested in our work placement programme please contact Drew Alexander or if you would just like to discuss the trainees and their availability contact Derek Syme on 01355 229985, e-mail drs@ekgta.com

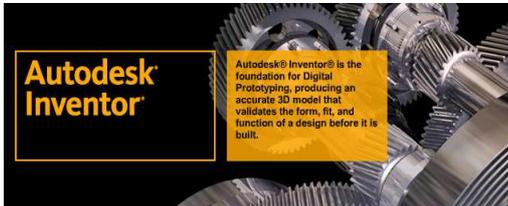


2010 Non Employed and TPA Groups

Apprentice Recruitment 2011

Throughout 2011 EKGTA will be supporting companies in a variety of locations to source and recruit apprentices. The Association is already engaged in supporting several careers events being held in schools across the central belt. Consultation with companies regarding their apprenticeship recruitment needs for 2011 will commence early in the New Year. If you need any help and support in this matter then please contact your Advisor on 01355 229985 or email info@ekgta.com

AutoCAD @ EKGTA



AutoDesk Authorised Training Centres (ATCs) provide the best way for beginners and experts alike to get up to speed with Computer Aided Drawing packages. Find out about the latest productivity features, learn best practices and develop the skills you need to make the most of your AutoDesk software. Get the greatest return on your investment, faster; by building your knowledge in the areas you need the most.

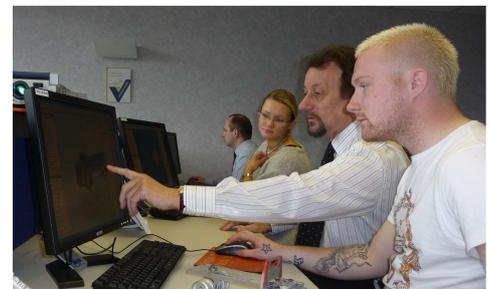
EKGTA is one of only 5 ATCs in Scotland and in attending these courses delegates will learn from a highly qualified instructor at our superior facility. We base our training on AutoDesk recommended course descriptions and have the added advantage of using AutoDesk Official Training Courseware materials.

Quality distinguishes AutoDesk ATC's from other training providers. ATC instructors are required to meet strict criteria by AutoDesk in relation to product knowledge and software expertise to ensure that the training experience exceeds expectations. Facilities are of the highest standard and course delegates enjoy a comfortable classroom setting with a workstation dedicated solely to them. Our courses are limited to 6 delegates so you get more individual time with the instructor.

Our instructor is busy preparing for the latest release of software (2010) so it's a good time to think about upgrading your skills.

Also now available through EKGTA are two units from the Performing Engineering Operations suite of qualifications. These units are PEO2/004 Producing mechanical engineering drawings using a CAD system and PEO2/061 Producing CAD models (drawings) using a CAD system. These are Nationally recognised units from EMTA Awards Ltd at SVQ level 2 and are available as part of the foundation training for Modern Apprenticeships. The units can also be taken separately by anyone interested in learning CAD.

As an AutoDesk accredited Centre, our trainees are able to access the very latest industrial software while working towards this qualification. In general terms trainees can expect to take around 2 weeks to complete each unit including building the required portfolio of evidence.



AutoCAD Instructor Jim Holmes putting Trainees through a Course at the Centre

To view our scheduled courses and outlines please visit our web site www.ekgta.com or contact Derek Syme on 01355 229985

Role of Honour

Congratulations to the following trainees who all successfully completed their Engineering Apprenticeship between September—December 2010

Scott Hayes Honeywell Building Solutions, Scott Mitchell Honeywell Control Systems Ltd, Mark Struthers Konecranes (UK) Ltd, Lee Nailen Konecranes Machine Tool Service Ltd, Sean Callaghan Main Tool Company Ltd, Christopher McNelis McAlpine & Company Ltd, Jamie MacNicol Oil States Klaper, Alan Morrison Rosti Technical Plastics (UK), David Binks T-Squared, Ross Love, Christopher Coburn, Graeme Francis, Thomas Speirs, Craig Hawke, Gary Halliday and Jamie Grant all of Terex Equipment Ltd.



The individuals listed below successfully completed an SVQ between September—December 2010:

Level 2 in Business Improvement Techniques

Janice Monkhouse, Pauline Hope and Elizabeth Neil of National Semiconductor (UK) Ltd, Geraldine Dees, Tony Taylor and Stephen Anderson Coca-Cola Enterprises Ltd, James White, Gordon Stirling, Niall Graham, Bill McQueen, Brian Fairley, Alan Prentice, Phil Russell, Kevin Dingwall, Robbie Blackley, Billy Smith, Brian Hunter and Alan Graham all of Weir Power and Industrial.

Level 3 in Administration

Susan McLean EKGTA Ltd.

The following person successfully completed a Modern Apprenticeship in Management in 2010:

Lesley Keenan EKGTA Ltd.

EKGTA – Short Course Provision

With the New Year approaching, EKGTA can offer the following open courses, which have been scheduled for January – March 2010 and are therefore recommended for your attention:

Course Title	Dates	Duration
AutoCAD Essentials	17/01/2011	3 Days
Risk Assessment	21/01/2011	1 Day
Basic Electrical Skills for non-electrical personnel	24/01/2011	5 Days
Code of Practice for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment (PAT)	25/01/2011	2 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations	30/01/2011	3 Days
BSC Award Level 1 Certificate in Health & Safety at Work	10/02/2011	2 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations (Up-date)	14/02/2011	1 Day
AutoCAD Essentials	16/02/2011	3 days
17th Edition IEE Regulations (Up-date)	28/02/2011	1 Day
Code of Practice for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment (PAT)	03/03/2011	2 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations	21/03/2011	3 Days
Code of Practice for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment (PAT)	28/03/2011	2 Days
AutoCAD Essentials	30/03/2011	3 days
AutoCAD Essentials	20/04/2011	3 days
AutoCAD Essentials	2/05/2011	3 days

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

Also if you have a specific training requirement, not listed, please don't hesitate to call to discuss your needs. Please note that we also offer extensive Health & Safety training which is tailored to meet client's specific requirements.

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