

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 2011

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 2012 we hope it will be a happy and prosperous New Year for all.



2011 Main Apprentice Intake

East Kilbride Group Training Association Ltd (EKGTA), which is based at Law Place in the Nerston Industrial Estate, has been working with both local and national employers for almost 44 years to provide vocational training, particularly in relation to Modern Apprenticeships in Engineering, Polymer Processing and Related Operations, Management, Sign Making and Distribution and Warehousing.

In today's economic climate it is refreshing and encouraging to see the volume and calibre of young people who are seeking to follow a Vocational rather than an Academic route to achieve employment, qualifications and ultimately a successful career. 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 relevant qualifications from the wide choice that are available.

During the summer of 2011 EKGTA processed and vetted well over a 1000 applications from people from across Scotland who are keen on pursuing a career in Engineering.

Most of the companies who value the training offered by the Association also make use of its years of experience in the selection and recruitment of candidates wishing to undertake an Engineering Apprenticeship. The Association consulted with well over 100 companies from small local employers to multi-national organisations regarding their recruitment needs and successfully helped in securing 104 apprenticeship places to date.

Employers still considering to offer apprenticeship opportunities during 2011/12 or interested in finding out more about Modern Apprenticeships should contact EKGTA for information and assistance.

Young people who have left school recently and are interested in either applying or learning more about how EKGTA can help them become an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship should access EKGTA's website at www.ekgta.com.

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

Inside this issue

Member Spotlight	2
A New Era Dawns!	2
Welding facilities Upgrade	3
EKGTA spreads its wings!	3
Roll of Honour	4
EKGTA-Short Course Provision	4

Contact Details

Registered Office

3 Law Place, Nerston Industrial Estate,
East Kilbride, Scotland G74 4PP
Tel 01355 229985 / 238912
Fax: 01355 264585
e-mail: info@ekgta.com
website: www.ekgta.com
A company incorporated in Scotland
No SCO 54257
VAT Reg No: 361 3186 67
A Charity registered in Scotland:
No SC014997

Company Spotlight - Walker Precision Engineering Ltd

Walker Precision Engineering is a forward looking technology led contract manufacturing company. Established in 1979 the company has risen to the challenges of changing market conditions. From small beginnings the company now employs over 150 skilled personnel over three sites. The company services markets Worldwide, covering a diverse customer base in engineering cutting edge sectors.

Through continual re-investment in the latest machines and people, WPE are able to produce the highest quality products at the most competitive prices.

Twin pallet multi axis & 5-axis machining centres with offline programming; enable WPE to manufacture piece parts of the highest accuracy to the most demanding requirements.

Every year the company sponsors an apprenticeship with a full college based program, leading to nationally recognised qualifications, ensuring the company has a loyal and capable workforce.

Over the years the company has developed a reputation as solution providers in this area of manufacture. From basic assembly through to hermetic sealing and helium leak checking WPE are a true outsource partner for noncore, lower and higher level assembly. WPE are also providers of automation test and special purpose machine build to a variety of select industries. Over the years the company has fulfilled the needs of industries as diverse as food, automotive and telecommunications for design and build process automation and test.

WPE products are used worldwide in Communications, Military, Space, Aerospace and Medical markets.



A New Era Dawns at EKGTA

'Impact' would like to inform its readers that Mr Tom McBrearty will be taking over the reins from Mr Stuart Waugh as General Manager of EKGTA. Stuart will retire from his position on the 30th of December 2011. Stuart has been in this role with The Association for thirteen years. Stuart brought to EKGTA considerable organisational and strategic skills that helped mould The Association into a respected and innovative training provider. Stuart also drove through two major refurbishment/extension programmes that puts EKGTA in a strong position to face the challenges ahead. We wish Stuart and his family a long and healthy retirement.

As from the 1st of December 2011 EKGTA has a new General Manager in Mr Tom McBrearty. Tom completed an apprenticeship with Balfour Kilpatrick, 'a couple of years ago', as an Electrical Installation Engineer. He has held a number of senior management positions within the Electrical Engineering and Manufacturing sector and is a member of the Chartered Management Institute. He already has extensive knowledge of EKGTA and has been a member of the Board of Directors for the past nine years.



Stuart welcomes Tom to The Association

The Board of Directors, staff and trainees at EKGTA are delighted to welcome Vincent Connolly in becoming a new addition to the staff at the Training Centre in East Kilbride.

Vincent who stays locally in East Kilbride with his family recently commenced employment with the Association in this new job role as a cleaner/caretaker. Due to the recent re-development and creation of the new build and extension Vincent was employed to assist our current cleaner to maintain the high standard of care, cleaning and maintenance of the Association's accommodation and facilities.



Vincent's previous employment in this job role brings a wealth of experience to this extremely important role. He has settled in well at the Centre and has demonstrated his desire to build on the high standards expected and that have been achieved.

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

Welding Facilities Upgrade



New welding booth showing fume extraction at source

While EKGTA was undergoing extensive re-development, we seized the opportunity to re-organise our Welding and Fabrication Department. The old department was now not up to the standard that we strive for. New legislation (fume extraction at source) made our decision to invest in state of the art individual welding and burning booths and Source Fume Extraction all the more crucial to our training needs.

We chose a Kemper partitioning wall system, which can be configured to many combinations due to its modular system. The modular elements consist of perforated plates, which are finished with UV-ray absorbent powder coating. Each element is filled with compressed mineral wool, which is also finished with UV-ray absorbent powder coating. Each individual booth contains a fume extraction snorkel for extraction at source.

The booths use both a red curtain and window screening with a shade 3 UV protection, This enables the instructor to observe the welding process without disturbing or pressuring the trainee while they are conducting their assessments. This has turned out to be a very popular decision not only by Instructors and trainees but also by the regular visitors that can see what is happening when they enter the department. The new extraction system also ensures that a minimum of fumes are inhaled by the trainee.

These new booths are open for business and EKGTA offers training courses in MMA, TIG & MIG Welding processes as well as Oxy Acetylene Cutting.

EKGTA spreads its wings!

EKGTA recently won the contract to deliver the training and City & Guilds examination for the 17th edition of the IEE Wiring Regulations in Gibraltar (BS 7671 Wiring Regulations course). The exams are taken as a computer based multiple choice question paper. This allows for automated marking enabling candidates to get almost instant feedback on the outcome.

The course came about due to the requirement for staff & contractors, both Spanish & UK based, to comply with UK regulations whilst working on MOD premises and equipment. Jim Holmes, EKGTA instructor, jetted off to Gibraltar in October this year to deliver the course to 6 forces personnel and 2 MOD staff serving at the MOD base.



17th Edition training recently held in Gibraltar

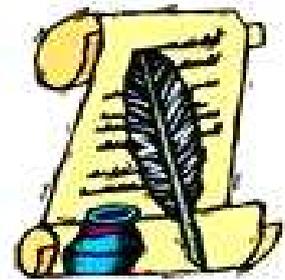
The logistics in arranging this course presented some challenges for the Training Team. Copies of the Regulations and the relevant courseware had to be delivered to the base and a satellite City & Guilds Examination Centre had to be set-up and configured to allow the examinations to be carried out at the end of the course. However all the hard work paid off, as all 8 delegates successfully passed their exam. Jim stated later that the early morning stroll to work was so much nicer in the sunshine!

Places are currently available on 17th edition 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.

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to the following trainees who all successfully completed their Engineering Apprenticeship between August and December 2011

Daniel Millar, Anderson Precision Gearing Ltd.; Scott Griffiths, Arrell Engineering; Gregor Stewart, Burn Stewart Distillers; Russell Napier, Andrew McEwan, John Keat, Stephen McLuskey, Gerard Hattie, Barry Dunn, Clydeunion Pumps; James McCafferty, Convertteam; Alan Airns, Devro (Scotland) Limited; Philip Brady, J Hickinson & Son Ltd.; Gowan Thomson, Honeywell Control Systems Ltd.; Craig Hamilton, Konecranes (UK) Ltd.; Adam Scott, Konecranes Service Ltd.; Andrew Nugent, Lift Maintenance Ltd.; Simon McCrudden, Machine Tool Engineers (EK) Ltd.; Sandy Greenshields, William Farr, MB Aerospace Ltd.; Connor Cole, McAlpine & Company Ltd.; Jessica Walker, Michael MacMillan, Bradley Gill, Sean Wareham, Scottish Water; Shane Smith, Stepper Technology Ltd.; Jamie McCallum, Tata Steel; Gavin Stewart, James Peddie, Ian McGarry; Thales Optronics; Stephen Lyons, Valve Components Ltd.;



Congratulations to the following candidates who successfully completed their Management Apprenticeship between August and December 2011

Kenny MacAloney, Devro (Scotland) Limited; Garry Reid, Nampak Plastics Europe Ltd.

**The individuals listed below successfully completed an SVQ between May—August 2011:
Level 2 in Performing Engineering Operations**

Iain Nimmo of Clydeunion Pumps; Shaun Young of Swietelsky International

EKGTA – Short Course

Presently EKGTA can offer the following open courses, which have been scheduled for January – March 2012 and are therefore recommended for your attention:

Course Title	Dates	Duration
Risk Assessment	11/01/2012	1 Day
Manual handling Techniques	12/01/2012	0.5 Day
17th Edition IEE Regs (Including 1st amendment)	06/02/2012	3 Days
BSC Awards Level 1 Certificate in Health & Safety at Work	09/02/2012	2 Days
Code of Practice for In-service Inspection and Testing Of Electrical Equipment (PAT)	13/02/2012	2 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations 1st Amendment Up-date	16/02/2012	1 Day
Portable Appliance Inspection & Testing - Limited course	20/02/2012	2 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations 1st Amendment Up-date	22/02/2012	1 Day
AutoCAD Essentials	27/02/2012	3 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations 1st Amendment Up-date	07/03/2012	1 Day
17th Edition IEE Regs (Including 1st amendment)	12/03/2012	3 Days
AutoCAD Essentials	19/03/2012	3 Days
17th Edition IEE Regulations 1st Amendment Up-date	22/03/2012	1 Day
17th Edition IEE Regs (Including 1st amendment)	26/03/2012	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. or book online at www.ekgta.com to secure your place.