



College celebrates becoming the 400th UK centre

IMI Awards recently reached a milestone when Sheffield College became its 400th approved centre in the UK.

Castle College, which is part of the Sheffield campus, offers a range of qualifications in vehicle maintenance and repair, body and paint to students looking to enter or further their career in the motor industry.

David Ellis, Curriculum Manager, Construction and Engineering at Castle College said:

"I am delighted that Castle College is able to offer prospective motor industry employees the opportunity of studying an increased range of qualifications endorsed by the leading authority on the motor industry developments and requirements. IMI Awards is a nationally recognised awarding body for



qualifications in motor vehicle engineering and this additional provision will enhance the strong reputation of our department for quality and responsive delivery."

"Our motor vehicle department has demonstrated the necessary high standards of performance and achievement required to satisfy the IMI Awards criteria in order to achieve this recognition. All learners attending motor vehicle training programmes at Castle College study a curriculum developed in conjunction with related industries and supported by the latest technology equipment."

Visiting the college to present a celebratory plaque, Alan Mackrill - Executive Director at IMI Awards said;

"We are very pleased to welcome Sheffield College into the growing network of IMI Awards approved centres and look forward to working with the staff at Castle College."

"There have been some great initiatives at the college, including an ambitious project where students converted a £2,500 Peugeot 406 Coupe into a replica £60,000 Ferrari 360. These are the kind of projects that combine enthusiasm with practical learning as well as attracting students both to the college and the motor industry."

IMI Awards growing network now has over 450 approved centres across the globe in locations from Europe to Asia.

New Centres

The IMI Awards network of approved centres currently comprises 451 centres. We would like to welcome the following centres who have been approved since the last newsletter (July 08)

- Acton & West London College
- Al-Futtaim, Dubai
- Audatex
- Auto Intelligence Ltd
- Autoclimate Ltd
- Colchester Institute
- Community College Whitstable
- Derby College - Swifen Hall HMPYOI
- George Farmer Technology College
- PSA Apprenticeships
- RAC Auto Windscreens
- Rathbone
- REP Consultants
- Sheffield College
- Thrybergh Comprehensive School
- Venture4Life Ltd
- Venworth Training Services



Qualification in Welsh

Centres in Wales will be pleased to hear that we have translated the following qualification into Welsh.

IMIAL Level 1 Award in Automotive Pre-Vocational Learning
QCA I.D. No 500/3573/3LV
Light Vehicle Route

Coleg Glan Hafren is the first centre to offer the qualification via a schools link programme. The schools that are working on the pre vocational level 1 course are:

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf
Bridge Road,
Llandaff North,
Cardiff
CF14 2JL

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr
Pentrebane Road,
Fairwater,
Cardiff
CF5 3PZ

It is a joint delivery venture between the two schools and the college and feedback from staff and students has been very positive. The partnership has now been expanded to include additional groups for the coming year.

Centres wishing to use the qualification in Welsh should contact Glyn Evans (glyne@imiawards.org.uk) to find out more.

Cymhwyster yn y Gymraeg

Bydd Canolfannau yng Nghymru'n falch o glywed ein bod wedi cyfieithu'r cymhwyster nesaf i'r Gymraeg

Cymhwyster IMIAL Lefel 1 mewn Dysgu Modurol Cyn-alwedigaethol
Rhif I.D. QCA 500/3573/3LV
Y Llwybr Cerbydau Ysgafn

Coleg Glan Hafren yw'r ganolfan gyntaf i gynnig y cymhwyster drwy raglen cyswllt ysgol. Dyma'r ysgolion sy'n gweithio ar y cwrs lefel 1 cyn-alwedigaethol yma:

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf
Heol y Bont,
Ystum Taf,
Caerdydd
CF14 2JL

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr
Ffordd Pentrebaen,
Y Tyllgoed,
Caerdydd
CF5 3PZ

Mae hon yn fenter sydd wedi'i darparu ar y cyd rhwng y ddwy ysgol a'r coleg ac mae'r adborth gan y staff a'r myfyrwyr wedi bod yn bositif iawn. Mae'r bartneriaeth wedi ehangu erbyn hyn i gynnwys grwpiau ychwanegol ar gyfer y flwyddyn sy'n dod.

Dylai unrhyw ganolfannau sydd eisiau defnyddio'r cymhwyster yn y Gymraeg gysylltu â Glyn Evans (glyne@imiawards.org.uk) i ganfod mwy.

NEW EV's

Since the last newsletter, IMI Awards have appointed two new lead external verifiers (EVs)



Andrew Frounks –
Lead EV (West and South West)
Mobile – 07824 844179

As well as being the external verifier to centres in the west and south west of England, Andy is also responsible for all aspects of bodyshop ATA on a national basis.



Gary Hewerdine –
Lead EV (Midlands)
Mobile – 07824 844232

The newest member of the EV team, Gary joined IMI Awards in August 2008. He is now responsible for 65 centres across the Midlands.

The external quality team now comprises a chief verifier and seven full time EVs. To ensure centres continue to receive the best service, there have been a few changes in the way centres have been allocated to each EV. If you have been affected by such a change, your new EV will be in touch shortly to introduce himself and to offer support and guidance.



S&B's training achievement

Bristol-based S&B Automotive Academy is one of the first training providers in the South West to achieve accreditation in parts A and B of the new Training Quality Standard (TQS). Having successfully undergone a number of preliminary application procedures S&B was certified for its responsiveness to employers, excellence in training delivery, commitment to continuous improvement and specialisation around industry sectors.

The TQS has been introduced across the board to recognise the best organisations delivering training and development to employers and customers.

Commented chief executive Jon Winter AAE MIMI: "TQS clearly identifies that we are committed to responding to the needs of employers and the industry as a whole."

S&B currently has around 650 trainees on courses embracing truck, van and car maintenance and repair, body repair, vehicle refinishing, parts operations and auto electrical.

Clients include MAN-ERF, TNT Logistics, Kent Sweepers, Stagecoach Bus National and the Platinum Group. Further information on the TQS is available online at www.trainingqualitystandard.co.uk



Opening its doors for ATA autoglazing

Chelmsford-based Essex Glass and Windscreens has become the first approved independent assessment centre to offer Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) in autoglazing for the independent windscreen industry.

Essex Glass and Windscreens has opened its doors to independent autoglaziers who are seeking industry recognition of their technical competence. Similar to other ATA routes, technicians are required to pass a series of practical assessments and an on-line test to achieve accreditation.

Commented Maria Charlton: "Essex Glass and Windscreens believes strongly in the independent windscreen market and we feel honoured in being given the opportunity to support the implementation of the ATA standard in autoglazing throughout the independent market across the country."



IMIAL Level 2 Certificate in Automotive Pre-Vocational Learning

This learning programme was accredited on the NQF by OFQUAL on 1/8/08. Importantly it is approved as a specialist learning pathway for the new Higher Diploma in Engineering. It allows learners the opportunity to choose an automotive pathway from one of 5 routes, either Light Vehicle, Heavy Vehicle, Motorcycle, Body Repair and Refinishing. Alongside route specific topics, the programme also includes safety in the workshop and basic vehicle systems.

IMIAL Entry Level 3 Introductory Certificate in Automotive Technology

IMI Awards is continuing to develop this Entry Level 3 qualification. It is currently ensuring it meets the evolving requirements of both the Foundation Learning Tier (FLT) progression pathway for 14-16 year olds and new Qualification & Credit Framework (QCF). In doing so, IMI Awards aims to guarantee the qualification achieves prioritised LSC funding and longevity.

The qualification is aimed at 14-16 year olds, who perhaps struggle academically, or those who will become engaged by learning about the automotive sector.

The 170 hour learning programme can be undertaken as qualification that will supplement and support students' progress to GCSEs and/or a Foundation Diploma.

With a predominantly practical approach, the qualification incorporates many visual learning and assessment tools. It also allows students to explore diverse automotive job roles interactively and aims to help prepare them for work life.

IMI Awards expects the IMIAL Entry Level 3 Introductory Certificate in Automotive Technology to be accredited on the QCF in early 2009.

Qualification Updates

EXPIRED Workplace CoreSkills on 31/07/2008
D3YX04: Communications (Access 3) Level 1
D3YY04: Communications (Intermediate 1) Level 2
D6B504: Numeracy (Access 3) Level 1
D6B604: Numeracy (Intermediate 1) Level 2
D6B704 : Problem Solving (Access 3) Level 1
D6ND04: Problem Solving (Intermediate 1) Level 2
D6BA04: Working with Others (Access 3) Level 1
D6BB04: Working with Others (Intermediate 1) Level 2
D6BC04: Information Technology (Access 3) Level 1
D6BD04: Information Technology (Intermediate 1) Level 2

NEW 'revised' Workplace

Core Skills accredited on 01/08/2008

F440 04: Communication (SCQF Level 3)
F441 04: Communication (SCQF Level 4)
F442 04: Numeracy (SCQF Level 3)
F443 04: Numeracy (SCQF Level 4)
F446 04: Problem Solving (SCQF Level 3)
F447 04: Problem Solving (SCQF Level 4)
F448 04: Working with Others (SCQF Level 3)
F449 04: Working with Others (SCQF Level 4)
F444 04: Information and Communication Technology (SCQF Level 3)
F445 04: Information and Communication Technology (SCQF Level 4)

WITHDRAWN on 01/09/08

100/6251/8: Level 3 NVQ in Management
100/6252/X: Level 4 NVQ in Management

WITHDRAWN on 01/09/08

G6W3 22: Level 2 SVQ in Vehicle Sales
G6W4 23: Level 3 SVQ in Vehicle Sales

WITHDRAWN on 01/10/08

100/5970/2: Level 1 Award in Transport Engineering Maintenance for Passenger Carrying Vehicles

Coming Soon

From early next year, IMI Awards will be offering Adult Literacy and Adult Numeracy (Skills for Life) qualifications at Levels 1 and 2, which are eligible for train to gain funding - more information will follow in our e-newsletter.





Students get a taste of life in the fast lane

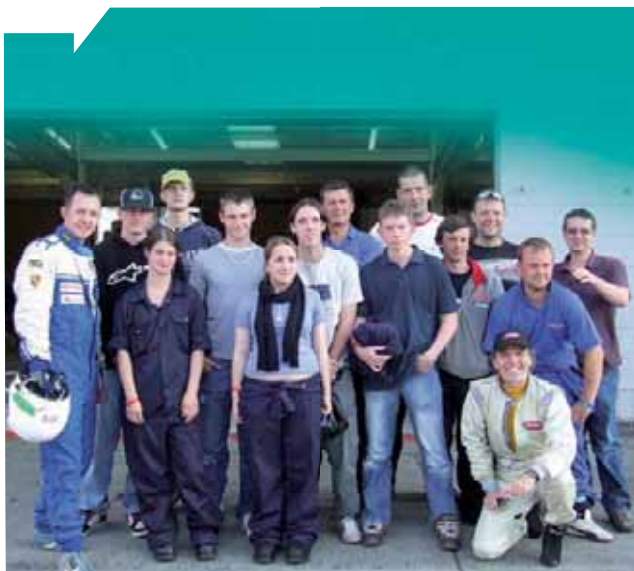
Never mind Formula1, racing for a whole day is the ultimate test of man and machine. It's also a great chance to get a foot on the career ladder as students from IMI Awards approved centre, South Devon College found out.

Epitomised by the endurance classic, the 24 Hours of Le Mans, endurance racing is a fast growing formula in the UK and the blue riband event is the Britcar 24 Hour race at Silverstone's Grand Prix circuit, held each September.

Lining up alongside fifty other cars at this year's meeting was Kent based squad, Pete Daniels Motorsport, bringing with it an impressive endurance pedigree, having won its class at Silverstone on two previous occasions. The team welcomed the support of students from South Devon College, it was for most of them, the first time they'd attended a major race, let alone taken part in one.

Claire Williams of the race promoters, Britcar 24 Hr Ltd, praised the involvement of the students:

"All of us at Britcar 24 Hour are pleased to help encourage youngsters into motorsport. I myself have always been a keen follower but was never really aware of how to take it up as a career. The industry has changed quite a bit since I started 10 years ago but I have loved every second of it. We need to train up teenagers on all areas of the industry from mechanics to event promoters like ourselves. Hopefully the students learnt a lot and are keen to develop their careers further."



Regional Network Meetings 2008

IMI Awards is pleased to announce the remaining autumn 2008 schedule of Regional Network meetings.

Fifteen events have been scheduled throughout the UK during October, November and December. Essential for centre co-ordinators and other members of the assessment/ verification team, each meeting will start at 9.30 and finish around 1.00 pm with lunch.

Topics covered include an IMI Awards update, Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA), technical certificate assessment criteria and a qualifications update. You will also have the opportunity to comment on the IMI Awards on-line systems, the website and raise any issues you would like to discuss in an open forum.

Attendance at the meeting is free of charge, but places are likely to be restricted to two persons from each centre. Centre co-ordinators will receive an invitation and booking form to the event for their region or you can book a place by completing the appropriate booking form for the event in your region.

Copies of the booking forms can be downloaded from the IMI Awards website or by contacting Cheryl Kennaird (cherylk@imiawards.org.uk)

North West – Bolton College – 19 November 2008
For centres in Liverpool, Manchester, Lancashire and Cheshire.

West Midlands – Dudley College – 20 November 2008
For centres in Shropshire, Staffordshire and Birmingham.

Midlands – Warwick College – 26 November 2008
For centres in Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

Wales – Coleg Gwent, Cross Keys – 28 November 2008
For centres in Wales.

Northern Ireland – Belfast Metropolitan College, Castlereagh – 3 December 2008
For centres in Northern and Southern Ireland.

West – Venue to be confirmed – 5 December 2008
For centres in Bristol, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire & West Berks.

East Midlands – Castle College, Nottingham – 12 December 2008
For centres in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire



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IMI Awards News is published 3 times per year by IMI Awards Ltd

Designed and printed by Quadrant