



## Celebrating excellence and achievement

From almost 50,000 students registered on qualifications awarded by IMI Awards, 10 were short-listed as finalists for the 2008 IMI Awards Outstanding Achievers, held at the IMI in the presence of its Patron, HRH Prince Michael of Kent.

Five IMI Awards approved centres, selected from its network of 400, were also in the running for the Approved Centre of the Year Award, complementing the four individual categories, all of which were sponsored by Lloyds TSB Autolease. Each of the winners received a glass trophy, framed certificate and a cheque for £200 from HRH Prince Michael, who applauded the efforts of all winners and finalists in his address.

In the most hotly-contested of the four individual award categories, 18 year-old James Garrett, a technician at Bentley Leicester, scooped the title of Outstanding Technical Student (Light Vehicle). James stood out amongst the candidates for his outstanding technical ability by developing a new methodology for the replacement of a full wiring loom on two of the world's most exclusive and complex cars, the Bentley Continental GT and the Silver Spur.

North Devon College won the IMI Approved Centre of the Year award for its work serving the needs of local industry and its positive working relationships with local schools. The level of excellence in the approved centre category was consistently high, so this year a 'Highly Commended' certificate was also presented which went to PAR Training and Development.

The winner of the Outstanding Management Student category was Paula Prior. Already recognised as a troubleshooter and problem solver, Paula has achieved outstanding results at her employer MK Seat, having created a customer led culture that the whole dealership has benefited from.

Hosting the awards, Alan Mackrill, executive director of IMI Awards, said: "Again this year, we received a high number of nominations, which is indicative of the value the awards have within the automotive training arena. Each of the winners and finalists are a great credit to the retail motor industry."

David Kershaw, Operations Director, Lloyds TSB autolease, who was one of the judges, said:

"As one of the leading fleet management specialists, Lloyds TSB Autolease recognises that the way to provide excellent customer service is to develop the skills of individuals. We are delighted to continue our sponsorship of the IMI Awards Outstanding Achievers and fully support an event that celebrates and promotes the achievements of young people in the motor industry."

The winners of the IMI Awards Outstanding Achievers 2008 are:

**IMI Approved Centre of the Year**

North Devon College



**IMI Approved Centre of the Year - Highly Commended**

PAR Training and Development



**Outstanding Technical Student (Light Vehicle)**

James Garrett, Bentley Leicester



**Outstanding Technical Student (Motorcycle)**

Andrew Zelaya, Harley Davidson Edinburgh



**Outstanding Management Student**

Paula Prior, MK Seat, Milton Keynes



**Young Student of the Year**

Joshua Custy, Coleg Llandrillo Rhyl



**Special Commendation**

James Bailey, Lookers Jaguar Ipswich



# WHO'S WHO AT IMI AWARDS

The role of IMI Awards is to develop qualifications, register and certificate candidates and to maintain the quality assurance throughout the network of approved centres.

To ensure that all these activities are carried out efficiently, IMI Awards is structured as follows:

- Customer Support and Compliance
- Quality Assurance
- Qualifications Administration
- Qualifications Development.

Although each of these departments has a specific role, the function of all IMI Awards personnel is to provide support to the approved centre network.

IMI Awards is headed by Alan Mackrill, Executive Director

## Customer Support and Compliance

The customer support and compliance department provides the link between customer requirements, quality assurance, administrative procedures and the IT systems developed to operate them.

Head of Customer Support and Compliance : Ian Cheetham – has overall responsibility for customer support and compliance, qualifications support and administration.

Qualifications Support Manager : John Buchanan – handles enquiries concerning the use of the IMI on-line systems.

## Quality Assurance

The quality assurance department at IMI Awards is responsible for maintaining the quality within all centres approved to deliver IMI Awards' qualifications.

**External Verifiers** – managed by Steve Longworth, Chief Verifier, EVs are responsible for carrying out centre approval/re-approval and monitoring visits to centres. They will also provide advice and guidance to centres relating to qualification delivery and quality assurance.

Each external verifier covers a geographical region. Their contact details are as follows:



**Steve Longworth – Chief Verifier Mob: 07961 436650**  
- North West



**Mark Bartle – Lead EV Mob: 07769 646498**  
- East, East Midlands, and the South West



**David Bloomfield – Lead EV Mob: 07785 923233**  
- South, South East and the home counties



**Glyn Evans – Lead EV Mob: 07920 744606**  
- Wales, West Midlands and Northern Ireland



**John Langham – Lead EV Mob: 07825 541751**  
- North, North East and Scotland



**Ray Hunt – Lead EV Mob: 07823 448247**  
- specialist EV for management, sales and customer service

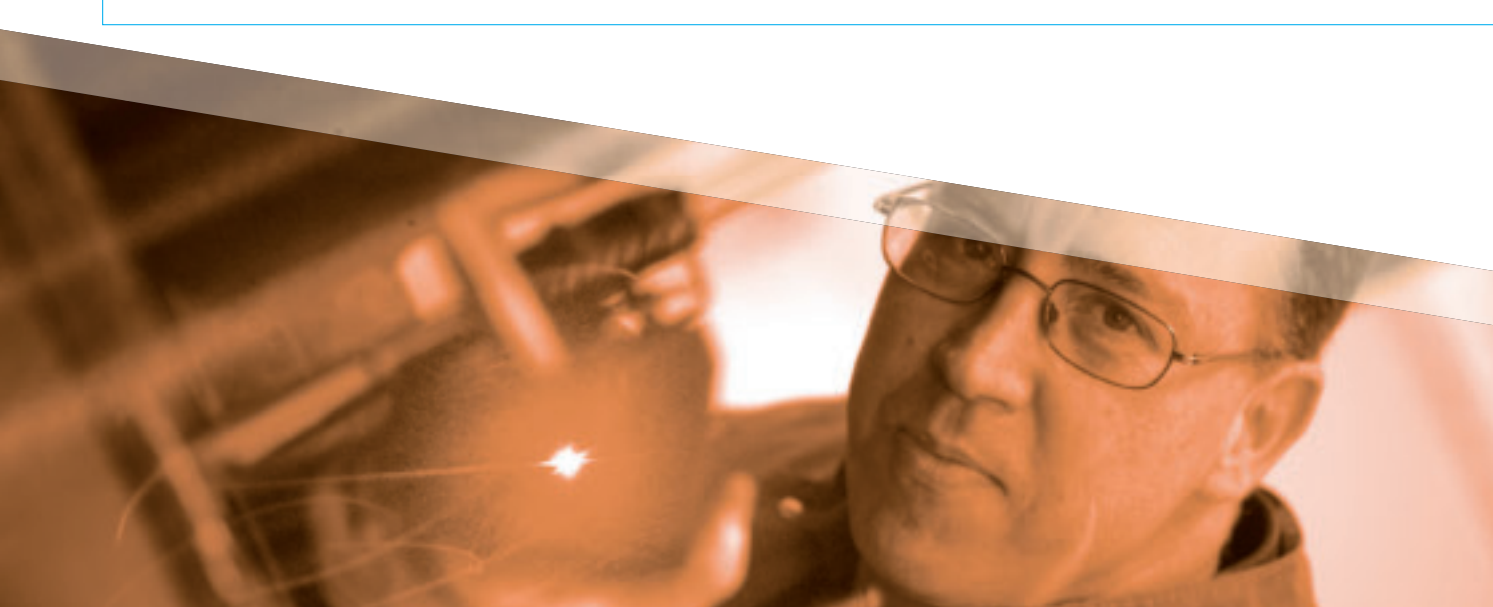
Note: Your external verifier will be your main point of contact.


## Qualifications Administration

The primary responsibility of the qualifications office is to register candidates and to issue certificates. Any member of the qualifications office team will be happy to answer questions concerning registration and certification (including invoices), basic enquiries regarding on-line tests and administrative processes.

The qualifications office team will also answer queries relating to centre records, PINs for assessors, internal verifiers/moderators and administrators and which qualifications centres are approved to offer.

The administration team can be contacted directly on 01992 519035





# New Automotive Air Conditioning Qualifications

IMI Awards has worked with DEFRA (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) and Autoclimate to ensure that these qualifications meet the new European Union F-Gas regulations EC842-2006 (to be enforced as of 4th July 2010). IMI Awards has two new qualifications, approved by DEFRA, for Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) technicians handling F-Gas.

## **Level 3 Certificate in Automotive Air Conditioning and Climate Control (EC842-2006): 3 units and Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling (EC 842-2006): 1 unit**

IMI Awards also offers the Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) Air Conditioning Refrigerant Handler, approved by DEFRA.

The achievement of one of these three qualifications will ensure MAC technicians can continue to practice after 4th July 2010.

Dependant on their experience, individuals should consider which qualification to take in order to comply with the July 2010 F-Gas requirements.

- If you are an individual currently working with MAC systems and hold 'in-house' training and/or a qualification that meets the existing DEFRA requirements, you will require a 'top up' qualification only. Therefore you should take either IMIAL Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling (EC842-2006) or Air Conditioning Refrigerant Handler ATA.

- If you are an individual new to working with MAC systems and/or do not hold a qualification that meets the DEFRA requirements, you will require the Level 3 Certificate in Automotive Air Conditioning and Climate Control (EC842-2006).

These qualifications are due to be approved by QCA in June. Full details will appear on the National Database of Accredited Qualifications (NDAQ) in July.



## **Background**

DEFRA specified that from 4th July 2007, individuals who handle air conditioning refrigerant must have achieved as a minimum requirement 'in-house' training and/or qualification, approved by DEFRA. Those achieving an 'in-house' refrigerant handling training and/or qualification can work on MAC systems until July 2010.

After February/March 2009, all 'new' MAC technicians must, as a minimum requirement hold an 'interim' refrigerant handling qualification, approved by DEFRA.

(Note: Individuals new to MAC must be supervised by an individual that has gained/received 'in-house' training before July 2007. As of 4th July 2010, the supervising technician must have a refrigerant handling qualification, approved by DEFRA).

On 4th July 2010, all MAC technicians must have achieved, as a minimum requirement, a refrigerant handling qualification, approved by DEFRA.

## **Qualification Extensions**

- All NVQs and VRQs (based upon Automotive Skills NOS) in the technical subjects (incl Nationals), Parts and Sales at Levels 1-4 extended until 31/12/09.

(Note: This excludes Level 1 Award in Automotive Pre-Vocational Learning, which does not expire until 31/12/10.)

- Transport Engineering and Maintenance VRQs at Levels 2 and 3 extended until 30/09/09.

- Assessor & Verifier Units extended until 31/10/09.

- Business and Administration NVQs at Levels 2 and 3 extended until 31/07/10.

### **Qualification Extension awaiting SQA committee confirmation**

- ASL Parts SVQs at levels 2 and 3 will be extended until 31/12/09.

### **Qualification Withdrawals**

- The current Level 3 Diploma in Automotive Air Conditioning and Climate Control VRQ (500/1336/1) were withdrawn on 30/06/08 and replaced immediately with 2 new qualifications containing the latest EU regulations regarding refrigerant handling.

- ASL Sales SVQs at Levels 2 and 3 will be withdrawn as of 1/09/08.

- Management NVQs at Levels 3 and 4 will be withdrawn as of 1/09/08

- Transport Engineering and Maintenance VRQ at Level 1 will be withdrawn as of 1/10/08.



## Assessor & Verifier Unit Update Workshops

IMI Awards are planning to run a series of workshops to update centre personnel on the requirements of the current 'A' & 'V' units. The dates and venues are:

- 15 July 2008 at Kirkdale Industrial Services (KITS), West Yorks
- 7 October 2008 at Fanshaws, Hertfordshire

These workshops are aimed at:

- current assessors and internal verifiers who hold 'D' units, but who have not attended an 'A' and 'V' unit update workshop
- assessors and internal verifiers who are working towards their 'A' and 'V' awards
- assessors and internal verifiers of candidates working towards 'A' and 'V' units

At the end of the workshop, delegates will be assessed. Quality Assured Awards (QAA) certificates will be awarded to those who achieve 80% or above.

The cost of each workshop is  
£75 + VAT (including lunch).

To book a place on a workshop, please contact Cheryl Kennaird **cherylk@imiawards.org.uk**. Please note that each workshop has limited space so book early to avoid disappointment.

## VEHICLE DAMAGE ASSESSOR ATA

In response to industry demand, the Bodyshop Estimator ATA is about to be replaced with a new ATA route 'Vehicle Damage Assessor' (VDA). The new VDA route is expected to be available from the middle of July. It will comprise two parts – Part A the on-line test and Part B consisting of five practical assessments. Candidates must pass Part A before they can take the practical assessments.

In anticipation of a high number of candidates wanting to take the Part A on-line test, IMI Awards has set up a network of approved ATA Bodyshop centres to offer the Part A only. Details of these centres and dates when the test will be available will be published on the ATA website.

To provide information to centres wanting to become approved to offer VDA ATA, IMI Awards will be holding a Bodyshop Forum at Fanshaws on Friday 18th July 2008.

## New Centres

The IMI Awards network of approved centres currently comprises 435 centres. We would like to welcome the following centres who have been approved during the past year:

3M United Kingdom plc	Martec Europe
Alfreton Vocational Academy	Middlesborough College
Associated Community Training	New College Stamford
Auto Serve Ltd	North Herts College
Automotive Training Ltd	Open Youth Trust
Bedford Training Group	O'Rinn Training & Development, Eire
Broadway Training, Wallsall	Porsche Cars Great Britain Ltd
Business Development Services (BDS)	Reaseheath College
City of Sunderland College	ReMIT - Central
Coatbridge College	ReMIT - North
Creating Futures	ReMIT - Scotland
Darlington College	ReMIT - South
Doncaster College	ReMIT - Wales
Dundee College	Sandwell College
Dupont Performance Coatings (UK) Ltd	School Work Programme Ltd
Education & Youth Services, Herts	Skelmersdale & Ormskirk College
Essex Glass and Windscreens Ltd	St Peter's High School
Fix It UK Ltd	Stagecoach
Folkestone Academy	Stanners Specialised Services
Fullbrook School	Telford College of Arts & Technology
GM Academy - Apprenticeship Programme	Thamesview School
Grantham College	Thanet Skills Studio
HMP Lindholme	Thatcham Adult Training
HMYOI Deerbolt	Thorn Cross HMYOI
ITAS 2007 Ltd	Top Valley School
John Kitto Community College	Toyota Apprenticeship Programme
Just Car Clinics	Trojan Horse Ltd
Kadtal	TTS Europe
Kingston College	University College of the Cayman Islands
Kirkdale Industrial Training Services Ltd (KITS)	University of Derby Buxton
Knowsley Community College	Uxbridge College
Kream Training Ltd, Yorkshire	Valley Forge (UK) Ltd
Lambeth College	VOSA
Learning to Listen, Yorks	VT Training
Lowestoft College	Warwickshire GTA
Manheim Europe Ltd	Wheelbase Motor Project
	Wigan & Leigh College

At this forum we will provide details of the resources needed for centre approval and the requirements for assessors and verifiers.

For full details of this forum, or for any other information relating to Bodyshop ATA, contact Andy Frounks at IMI Awards email **andrewf@imiawards.org.uk**

IMI Awards contact details:

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