



THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

Drive Forward

in Automotive Skills Training - February
2010

Welcome to the Motor Industry Skills e-newsletter produced by the IMI, the Sector Skills Council for the retail motor industry.

We would like to send it to as many people and organisations as possible - if you know anyone who may like to receive it, please ask them to email anns@motor.org.uk with their details.

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Apprenticeship Standards for England

The Specification of Apprenticeship Standards for England (SASE) is now available to view. The SASE sets out the requirements with which each recognised Apprenticeship framework in England must comply.

To read the specification [click here](#)

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Apprenticeship Update

Regional Apprenticeship Redeployment Support Programme

Learning and Skills Council redeployment programme is still available for employers and providers who have apprentices who are under notice of redundancy or have been made redundant. The RARSP programme provides support and funding support in order for learners to complete apprenticeship qualifications. [Read more ...](#)

Apprenticeship Grants

National Apprenticeship Service, in collaboration with Association of Colleges (AoC) and the Association of Learning Providers (ALP) announce a new initiative to help more young people find Apprenticeship placements. The initiative releases up to £2,500 for employers who can commit to provide new or additional apprentice places for 16 and 17 year olds. **This initiative is short term and places are limited.**

[Click here to get full details](#)

Invest in an Apprentice

ScotAction has been extended to offer £1,000 to Scottish businesses who take on new apprentices. The new strand "Invest in an Apprentice" will be available to 4000 employers between January 2010 and March 2010. [Read more ...](#)

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National Occupational Standards - Industry Consultation Events

Vehicle Parts and Vehicle Sales Standards Have Your Say.

Keeping the industry up-to-date with changing technology and best practice means constantly reviewing and improving standards of training and qualifications.

The IMI has over the past twelve months been in the process of reviewing and revising its current suites of occupational standards for vehicles sales and vehicle parts operations. The new standards will provide the basis for developing a fit-for-purpose qualification offer for vehicle sales staff and vehicle parts operatives. The new draft standards, now available for wider industry consultation, revise and update the existing occupational standards to reflect current practice.

Employer led expert working groups were established to develop the initial draft standards, which have been written to reflect the specific competencies of sales staff and parts operatives. The aim is that they may be used for a variety of purposes, including work based training programmes, job descriptions or staff appraisals, as well as forming the basis of new qualifications.

Two consultation events are planned:

The consultation event for **Vehicle Sales** will take place on **9th February at Manheim Auctions, Ashton Vale, Bristol**, with the consultation event for **Parts Operations** taking place on **10th February at the RMIF offices, Great Portland Street, London.**

The consultation process will afford everyone an opportunity to view the draft documents and contribute. Register your interest in attending either event with Beverley Lilley at the e-mail address below.

Alternatively, have your say on-line - visit www.motor.org.uk/nos to download and review the proposed qualification structure and the supporting draft occupational standards.

Your participation in the consultation process would be greatly appreciated. The closing date for comments on-line is **25th February 2010.**

Following the consultation, an expert working group will review the feedback received and finalise the standards. For more information, or to submit comments, please contact Beverley Lilley at beverleyl@motor.org.uk

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NOS Update

The following National Occupational Standard (NOS) suites have now been approved by UKCES and will now be added to the NOS Directory in the near future.

Accident Repair Body
Accident Repair Mechanical, Eletrical, Trim (MET)
Maintenance & Repair Heavy Vehicle
Maintenance & Repair Light Vehicle
Maintenance & Repair Motorcycle

The NOS Directory allows users to:

- search for NOS by keywords
- view which occupational areas NOS are linked to
- identify the owner of the NOS

[The UK Standards website can be found here](#)

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Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) seminars

As a result of advertising in Drive Forward last month, the IMI has received great interest in the IMI's free Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) seminars, though there are still some places remaining across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The QCF is a new framework for recognising and accrediting qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is at the heart of a major reform of the vocational qualifications system designed to make it simpler to understand and use, with the intention to make both the system and the qualifications offered far more relevant to the needs of employers and more flexible and accessible for learners.

Dates and venues will be emailed to all interested delegates by the end of January.

If you haven't already, please register your interest in attending with the number of places you'd like by emailing Kelly Shipp on kellysh@motor.org.uk or call the IMI on 01992 511521.

The IMI will publicise further events specific to Scottish Vocational Qualifications including the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework in due course.

If you want to find out more then please register your interest with Kelly as above.

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Skills Priorities for the Automotive Retail Sector

In December 2009 the UK Summary of Skills Priorities for the Automotive Retail Sector was published. This paper describes the current and future skills priorities for our industry drawing on research undertaken by the IMI and a range of secondary sources.



[You can read the UK summary report by clicking here.](#)

Full skills priority reports for the UK and each of the nations (Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland) will be published next month and will be featured in this newsletter, or visit the Research area of the IMI website.

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The National Training Awards



National Training Awards

The National Training Awards (NTAs) are the UK's most prestigious awards for training and development. They identify and celebrate organisations and individuals that have achieved outstanding business and personal success through investment in training. The Awards are run by UK Skills on behalf of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) in England and in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), the Department for Learning and Skills Northern Ireland (DELNI), and the Scottish Government.

Winning a National Training Award can enhance an organisation's reputation, improve staff motivation and result in real bottom line benefits and competitive advantage.

Entries for the 2010 Awards are now being accepted and there are free information sessions being held across the UK in February and March. The deadline for 2010 entries is 5pm 23rd April 2010.

If you would like more information please visit the [National Training Awards website](#) or call the NTA Helpline on 0800 0191 475 for more details on how to enter.

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Industry placements help employer business needs



In an example of where training provision is meeting local industry needs, the IMI has helped with local apprentice training provision in Northern Ireland. The multifranchise Donnelly Group recruited 12 apprentices who created their own Donnelly class at the Southern Regional College (SRC). At the same time the main tutor for the group also started on a Learning & Skills Development Agency (LSDA) Lecturer into Industry project. Brian Black, the SRC Lecturer, spent a couple of days a week for several months in the Donnelly Group workshops, ensuring the apprentices were learning relevant information for the Donnelly Group requirements.

Because of this joint participation the apprentices were found to be more productive at an earlier stage in their apprenticeship with 100% retention. The Donnelly Group and SRC won a Partnership Award at the 2009 NI Apprenticeship of the Year event.

For more information or to participate contact carolineh@motor.org.uk

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National Career Guidance Show

The IMI will be promoting careers in the Motor Industry at the **National Career Guidance Show at the Emirates Stadium, London on the 3rd and 4th of March**. The show is a new national event and will give key career professionals from schools, colleges, universities, career bodies and government agencies a chance to catch up with the latest up-to-date information about career routes and opportunities in a friendly, informal, informative event. Visit the IMI at stand S8.



[For more information click here](#)

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Skills West Midlands

Skills West Midlands is the biggest skills and careers event happening in the region. Aimed at 14-19 year olds this **free** event will inspire and motivate. Hands on interactive features will give visitors a chance to get a real taste of different future career options, as well as being able to talk to real people doing real jobs and find out what is needed to succeed in a chosen career. Information will be available from experts on work based learning, education and training.



Taking place on **17th to 18th March at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry** the IMI will be on stand 29 for visitors interested in a career in the motor industry to find out more about the exciting and rewarding career opportunities available.

[For more information click here](#)

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IMI Annual Dinner 2010

The IMI Annual Dinner will be held on Thursday 11th March 2010 at The Landmark, London, and will again feature the Skillmiles Recognition Awards. Skillmiles is a UK-wide initiative to drive skills development and the Recognition Awards acknowledges support and commitment from participants.



The IMI Annual Dinner has become an established event in the automotive industry calendar and it is a rewarding networking evening which is open to everyone associated with our industry through work or training.

For booking information please call Marianne Clarke on 01992 511521 or email marianne@motor.org.uk. Alternatively click on the link below to download a booking form. Closing date for bookings is the 18th February.

[Download a booking form here](#)

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IMI Research and Labour Market Intelligence

One of our core activities at the IMI is conducting research and providing up to date and robust Labour Market Intelligence to employers, Government and stakeholders concerned with our sector. We publish regularly publish new reports to our research section on the IMI website.

[Click here to look at our research and labour market intelligence on the web](#)

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Funding Advice

The IMI Funding Advice Service has been developed to assist employers and training providers to find out more about the Government funding available across all four nations and to provide guidance on how it can be accessed.

[Click here for information](#)

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Tech Talk - Technical Training Information

If you are involved in delivering technical training you may find the Tech Talk area of the IMI website useful. To see the latest article on Torque & Power please [click here](#)

To see previous editions on this subject plus other subject areas, please [click here](#)

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Drive Forward Archive

To see previous editions of Drive Forward newsletters please [click here](#)

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Any comments or feedback on Drive Forward are appreciated, please send to adrianl@motor.org.uk.

Regards

Adrian Lawson

Development Manager - Quality Improvement

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