

Drive Forward in Motor Industry Skills Training - June 2009

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.

In this newsletter...

[Automotive employer skills needs consultation taking place now! - opportunity for employers you work with to take part.](#)

[IMI research shows benefits of automotive apprenticeships](#)

[Group Training Association \(GTA\) /Apprenticeships Training Agencies \(ATA\) Prospectus, closing date for applications 1st June](#)

[14 - 19 Reforms and You](#)

[Opportunity for Industry Placements!](#)

[Helping apprentices through redundancy](#)

[Motor Industry Magazine](#)

[IMI Chief Executive goes Head-on with Repairer TV](#)

[Move up a gear - a free event for the NI Motor Industry](#)

[Headlight - schools initiative](#)

[14,000th technician achieves national standard of competence](#)

[Drive Forward archive](#)

Automotive employer skills needs consultation taking place now! - opportunity for employers you work with to take part.

The employer skills needs survey is taking place this month. The research aims to survey over 1000 employers in our industry to talk about their business' current and future skills needs and to gather more evidence on the effect that the recession is having on our industry. ORC international, an independent research agency, will be carrying out the survey, largely by telephone from now to 12 June.

We would like to give the opportunity for as many employers as possible to contribute to this consultation, so we have also created an online version of the survey. If you work with employers and think they would like to contribute to this consultation, please send them the web link below.

http://websurveys.orc.co.uk/start/j96088/J96088_start_imbedded.htm

The survey consists of 32 questions regarding recruitment, training and development and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

If you would like more information or have any questions about the survey please contact our Research Manager, Alison Rhodes, on 01992 511521 or by email alisonr@motor.org.uk

[Back to top...](#)

IMI research shows benefits of automotive apprenticeships

Research from the IMI shows that apprentices in the automotive sector find the whole experience positive and believe it has been beneficial for their future career.

The research found that the benefits of undertaking an apprenticeship included learning and developing job skills relating to current work or for future employment, improving job prospects and gaining valuable qualifications. Employment prospects also improved following a successful completion of an apprenticeship with 83% of

those questioned finding work immediately following their completion. 45% of these found employment with the same employer they did their apprenticeship with.

To read the Press Release [click here ...](#)

[To read the research in full, click here ...](#)

[Back to top...](#)

Group Training Association (GTA) /Apprenticeships Training Agencies (ATA) Prospectus, closing date for applications 1st June

The GTA/ATA prospectus has now been published by the National Apprenticeship Service website www.apprenticeships.org.uk/About-Us/Publications.aspx

The primary objective of this prospectus is to generate innovative Apprenticeship delivery models, based on the key characteristics of GTAs and ATAs, with integral employer engagement, to drive up numbers of Apprenticeships.

Organisations interested in bidding for GTA/ATA funding, who are not LSC providers, need to complete an application via the LSC's E-tendering solution 'BRAVO'. To access the GTA application form you will need to register as a user on the BRAVO system at <https://lsc.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml> Please note the closing date for applications is 1 June 2009.

[Click here to download the National Apprenticeship Service & GTA/ATA prospectus](#)

[Back to top...](#)

14 - 19 Reforms and You

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) have developed resources to give an overview of the 14-19 reform programme and help providers prepare for changes to the 14-19 year old landscape.

The 14-19 Reforms and You toolkit is a resource pack containing a range of materials summarising the reforms, the reasons for introducing them and the main facts about each of the different elements (Diploma, Apprenticeships, etc). The materials are designed to be adapted to reflect local circumstances.

[For more information about the programme click here](#)

[Back to top...](#)

Opportunity for Industry Placements!

Business Interchange is a new initiative encouraging businesses and training providers to work together, to ensure that the training being provided is up to date.

In brief, participants spend some time with local employers to update their industry skills.



The IMI are actively promoting and encouraging involvement in this exciting programme, and will be able to help find suitable placements if necessary.

At present funding is available to provide support for the organisations taking part.

[Click here](#) for more information, or contact Caroline Harris on 01992 511521 or email carolineh@motor.org.uk

[Back to top...](#)

Helping apprentices through redundancy

The Careers Team at the IMI has been working hard with training providers and employers to try to assist apprentices in our sector who have been facing redundancies.

An example of one apprentice helped through redundancy by the IMI is Guy Cutter. Guy was three months away from completing his apprenticeship when unfortunately he was made redundant. The IMI worked with independent training provider, VT Training to help find a new work placement for him. VT Training was successful in matching him to a vacancy at Whittaker Fleet Care in Birmingham.

For further information and assistance please contact the Careers Team at the IMI on 01992 511521 or email careers@motor.org.uk

[Back to top...](#)

Motor Industry Magazine

The Motor Industry Magazine (MIM) contains all the latest industry news, articles and features. MIM, published ten times a year, is available by [subscription](#) and is free to IMI Members. For information about becoming an IMI Member and other membership benefits [click here](#). This month's edition of MIM includes:



Skoda's bid for 'super' stardom - After a frustrating spell in the World Rally league, Skoda is re-entering motorsport to compete in the Super 2000 series. [Read the article ...](#)

Norton back where it belongs

All eyes are on Stuart Garner to see what his plans are for Norton after bringing it back to its spiritual home. [Read the article ...](#)

[Back to top...](#)

IMI Chief Executive goes Head-on with Repairer TV

Sarah Sillars recently gave a video interview to Repairer TV in their popular Head-on slot. To watch Sarah as she discusses the challenges the industry currently faces, click on the link below.

[Please click here ...](#)

[Back to top...](#)

Move up a gear - a free event for the NI Motor Industry



On 25 June at Lagan Valley Island Conference Centre, Lisburn, a free event for the NI motor industry will be held which will be beneficial to everyone who runs a motor business or department. Supported by the Department for Employment and Learning, G & H Bell Ltd Insurance Brokers and the IMI, there will be inspiration and ideas to shift performance and bottom line results.

The day will include talks from Martin Hutchinson from the IMI, Sir Reg Empey, Minister for Employment and Learning and Philip Hesketh, business speaker, along with Specialist Workshops.

To book your free place register online at www.motor.org.uk/events or for more information contact Martin Hutchinson on 07887 591739, email

martinh@motor.org.uk

[Click here](#) for a downloadable pdf with information and programme details.

[Back to top...](#)

Headlight - schools initiative

Headlight, the initiative developed by the IMI in conjunction with specialist teachers through the National Schools Partnership (NSP), includes

innovative curriculum-linked teacher and student resources with the motor industry as the backdrop.



Schools have the opportunity to enter a national competition where students create promotional campaigns focusing on the launch of a new vehicle. The students will gain an insight into the exciting opportunities available within the sector, focusing on non-technical roles initially, while building links with local employers and developing students business and enterprise knowledge.

The entries will be judged by industry experts, and a fantastic prize will be awarded to the winning team and their teachers of a trip to the Audi Forum, Ingolstadt.

Closing date for the competition is 24 July 2009.

Copies of the resources are available from the Careers Team, and for more information please contact headlight@motor.org.uk. For more details on Headlight and other careers information [click here](#)

[Back to top...](#)

14,000th technician achieves national standard of competence

Andrew Millar, who works at BB Body Repairs in Dumfries, is the 14,000th technician to achieve the Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) standard.



Andrew has worked in the motor industry since he left school, joining BB Body Repairs over twenty years ago in 1988. He achieved his accreditation at Senior Paint Technician level at Motherwell College, one of five ATA approved assessment centres in Scotland.

To mark the 14,000th milestone, Andrew was presented with his ATA card and a bottle of Champagne by Sandy Burgess, the IMI's National Manager for Scotland.

To go to the ATA website [click here](#)

[Back to top...](#)

Drive Forward archive

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

[Back to top...](#)

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

Regards
Adrian Lawson
Development Manager - Quality Improvement

If you would prefer not to receive further emails from us, please email imiustop@motor.org.uk