

Drive Forward in Motor Industry Skills Training - May 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.

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Apprenticeship Standards Consultation

The Consultation on the Specification of Apprenticeship Standards for England (SASE) has a deadline for responses of 29th May 2009. This specification sets out the requirements with which each recognised Apprenticeship framework in England must comply.

Attached is the full consultation document, which requests feedback in 15 areas. These include:

Question 6a - Do you agree that all six PLTS (Personal Learning & Thinking Skills) should be included in apprenticeship frameworks?

Question 8 - Do you agree that 250 hours of off-workstation training (across the duration of the apprenticeship framework) is an acceptable minimum?

Question 13 - What requirements could reasonably be made of apprenticeship frameworks to facilitate flexibility of progression between apprenticeships and diplomas?

In order to ensure that Apprenticeship Frameworks for the Automotive Retail sector are fit-for-purpose and accurately reflect the desires of stakeholders, it is important that feedback to the SASE is given.

For more information on apprenticeships contact Lynne Johnson on lynnej@motor.org.uk

[Consultation Document](#)

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Progression through Apprenticeships

This is the final report of the Skills Commission's Inquiry into Apprenticeships. Specifically the report aims to focus on progression and emphasise the importance of apprenticeships as a high-quality route to success. Attached is the full Research Report, which details findings and recommendations, which include:

Recommendation 1: The Government should ensure that local authorities devote

sufficient funds to Connexions so that it is able to deliver high-quality, impartial careers guidance on all routes, including apprenticeships, to all 14-19 year olds.

Recommendation 8: Programme-led apprenticeships require clearer definition. Vocational courses that involve full-time attendance at an educational institution and come with no guarantee of an employer-led apprenticeship place upon completion should continue to be full-funded, but should be re-named "pre-apprenticeship training". It must be communicated to learners how the learning they undertake as a programme-led apprentice relates to an employer-led apprenticeship.

Recommendation 22: The Government should commission systematic research enabling it to monitor former apprentices who progress to advanced further education and higher education, and those former apprentices who have already progressed. A study should be built up year on year until the Unique Learner Number starts to produce informative data.

For more information on apprenticeships please contact Lynne Johnson on lynnej@motor.org.uk

[Research Report](#)

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The General Professional Recognition (Learning and Skills) Scheme (GPRLS)

The GPRLS scheme enables competent and experienced teachers to be recognised according to the requirements established by the FE Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2007. The scheme is designed for those for whom undertaking an initial teacher training qualification would be inappropriate. Successful applicants are in a position to commence the process of professional formation prior to applying for Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) or Associate Teacher Learning and Skills (ATLS), the new licences to practise that are conferred by the Institute for Learning (IfL).

There are now three routes to General Professional Recognition:

GPRLS - Skills for Life

GPRLS - All Areas of Learning

GPRLS - B4

Further detailed information for each of these routes can be accessed via

<http://www.standardsverificationuk.org/2927.htm>

Noted benefits of gaining the Professional Recognition include: improved employment prospects; increased job security; IfL membership category increased to 'Member' for those in the full teaching role and 'Associate' for those in the associate teaching role.

The new scheme is open to:

- existing members of the workforce (pre-Sept 2007) as one route to gaining licensed status
- experienced teachers who are new entrants to the learning and skills sector
- those part qualified for their role when the 2007 regulations were implemented

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Women & Work

After two successful phases of the Women & Work funding initiative, the IMI can now announce the arrival of Phase 3. The IMI has devised a flexible programme for women in the retail motor industry, and their employers, to receive funding towards the cost of developing their skills. Less

than 20% of the industry's workforce is female and the sector needs to develop a more diverse workforce which will improve the industry as a whole.



For further information on how the IMI can give help and support, please contact Sue Short in the Careers Department of the IMI on 01992 511521 or email susans@motor.org.uk.

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SQA Accreditation Research: SVQs and Modern Apprenticeships

SVQs, devised by the Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) for their relevant industries and awarded by a number of awarding bodies, are used to make up the core content of a Modern Apprenticeship framework. Usually a SVQ is accredited for a period of five years before entering a lapsing period, when no further candidates can be registered but those that are already registered can complete their qualifications and receive certificates. At the end of the lapsing period, the qualification is finished and no candidates can be registered or certificated on the SVQ.

SQA Accreditation are carrying out a survey to ask for your views on this current system of accreditation and lapsing of SVQs within Modern Apprenticeships.

The survey takes no more than 10 minutes to complete, and your comments will be extremely valuable in assessing the impact the current system has on training programmes and any difficulties it may cause. All responses are anonymous.

For more information contact David Massie on davidm@motor.org.uk

[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

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New Retail Diploma

The new Diploma in Retail will equip 14 - 19 year olds with skills for the showroom and other customer facing and supply chain roles in the automotive retail industry. This diploma, along with the Diploma in Engineering, will allow young people to start gaining the right skills for the sector much earlier.



The Department for Children, Schools and Families has given the go-ahead for 42 pioneering partnerships of schools, colleges and training organisations to start teaching the Diploma in Retail for 14-19 year olds from September 2010.

Running alongside GCSEs and A Levels, the Diploma will combine classroom study with workplace experience and retail-based learning. As well as studying the retail business and its supply chain, young people will continue to study English, maths and ICT, and gain essential transferable skills, such as presentation and time management. Diplomas can be used to go into work or on to university.

To find out more about the Diploma in Retail Business please go to www.diplomainretailbusiness.com or www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas

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National Occupational Standards



Since August 2008, the IMI has been consulting with employers on the National Occupational Standards (NOS) which underpin all vocational qualifications in the automotive sector. The consultation process took place via the IMI website and via some 25 specialist Expert Working Groups made up of representatives from all areas of the industry, to ensure they reflected current job roles and took into account new technology and business practices.

The first stage of this development is now complete and we have now submitted suites of NOS to the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES) which contain 209 standards. 9 of these standards have been "borrowed" from other Standard Setting Bodies (SSB) or Sector Skills Councils (SSC) and 38 of these standards have been "derived" from other SSB/SSCs standards. This means that we now have 162 IMI owned and developed standards and prior to the latest development process, the same suites contained 127 standards of which 118 were owned by the previous SSC.

From our extensive consultation process so far, we have moved from 118 to 162 standards, which is an increase of 37.5% and this is an excellent achievement. The ongoing revision of the National Occupational Standards is a critical process for our sector as it will determine how new vocational qualifications will look for the next five years, and we would like to thank everyone who participated in this important work.

For more information on NOS, please contact Lynne Johnson on lynnej@motor.org.uk

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Signposting Teacher, Trainer, Lecturer and Assessor CPD

AK Training have scheduled a series of training events designed for teachers, trainers, lecturers and assessors involved in the delivery of technical programmes. The venue is Northampton College with course subjects and dates as follows:

Oscilloscope diagnostics: Tuesday 30th June 2009.

Petrol engine management: Wednesday 1st July 2009.

Common rail diesel fuel systems: Thursday 2nd July 2009.

CAN Bus and integrated systems: Friday 3rd July 2009.

Fees per person per course are £160.00 + VAT (total £184.00) payable in advance.
Lunch and refreshments are provided during the courses.

For more information and to book on these courses [click here ...](#)

For any further information on this and other CPD opportunities please contact
adrianl@motor.org.uk

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Attention ALP Members - Free Training Quality Standard Event

The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) is hosting a free one day event for ALP members who deliver training for the automotive sector. The event is to be held on the 28th May 2009 at the IMI in The Prince Michael Conference Centre, Fanshaws, and is for those members who would like to understand more about the Training Quality Standard (TQS) and Part B in Automotive Skills.



The TQS is an assessment framework designed to recognise and celebrate the best organisations delivering training and development solutions to employers. The framework is widely acknowledged as a robust development tool which can support quality improvement activities in training providers looking to become more employer responsive. The day will include a presentation from Jon Winter CEO at S & B Automotive Academy, who have achieved both Part A and B in Automotive Skills.

To book your place [click here ...](#)

If you are not an ALP member but would like to attend a similar event, or for more information, please contact Adrian Lawson, Development Manager- Quality Improvement on adrianl@motor.org.uk

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Drive Forward archive

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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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