

Drive Forward

in Motor Industry Skills Training - October
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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Good news for Apprenticeship Providers in England

Following the announcement from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) detailing the reduction in funding for Automotive Retail Apprenticeships, the IMI has produced a

sector report detailing:

- success rates of apprenticeships in the sector (in comparison to other sectors)
- the progression rates of Level 2 apprentices to Level 3 apprentices
- the expected growth of the Automotive Retail sector across the nine LSC regions

Based on this information, the LSC has agreed to put on hold the reduction in funds for the sector until the beginning of the next academic year 2010/2011.

[Read the report here](#)

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Update on NOS, Units, Qualifications and Specifications

A new document has been produced in which the relationship between National Occupational Standards, Units, Qualifications and Apprenticeship Specification is described. This document aims to provide an update for anyone who has an interest in the new qualifications based on updated standards and the implications for framework 5 qualifications.

[Read the document here ...](#)

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Framework 5 gets underway

An apprenticeship development document is now available which provides details of the activities currently underway and how they will contribute to Framework 5. It also details the direction of development the IMI will be focusing on in the coming year, from the establishment of the Apprenticeship Steering Group to the initiatives available to those apprentices facing redundancy.

[Apprenticeship development document available here ...](#)

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Funding Strategy: The Changing Landscape in England

As the LSC prepares to transfer its strategy for funding to the regional development agencies, and their implementation of the strategy to the newly established Skills Funding Agency, a set of frequently asked questions has been produced to describe

the relationship between the organisations. What this will mean for national providers versus local providers and what prompted this approach is explained in the FAQ document below.

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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Training Quality Standard Specialist Support Programme

The IMI are working in collaboration with [World Class Skills](#) to provide support on Training Quality Standard Part B in Automotive Skills. A programme of support, tailored to the needs of the retail automotive sector, is now available for LSC funded training providers and colleges wishing to consolidate their position as a sector specialist and achieve the Training Quality Standard with 'Excellence in Automotive Skills'. The support available will range from one-day events on the Part B framework, through to an intensive programme of consultancy support with a small peer group.



The activities are due to launch in November and if you would like to register your interest or find out more about either of these options, please contact Adrian Lawson at adrianl@motor.org.uk providing your details. Please [click here](#) to download a register of interest form. Please note, places are restricted and we regret that demand is likely to outstrip supply. For further information on the Training Quality Standard please go to www.trainingqualitystandard.co.uk or visit the IMI website <http://www.motor.org.uk/improving-training/training-quality-standard.html>

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Latest Training Quality Standard Achievers

The College of North West London and **Newcastle College** have achieved the Training Quality Standard with 'Excellence in Automotive Skills'.

Tim Bury, Head of School for Automotive Engineering, from the College of North West London said 'We are proud of our recent achievement of accreditation in TQS Part B in Automotive Skills. We feel it will benefit our operation in many ways and reassure motor industry businesses that this F.E College is in touch and providing services that are in line with their current needs. It is a direct recognition not only of current but past and consistent good practice in employer engagement. The process of application, assessment and accreditation was very demanding but input from all in the Automotive Engineering School Team ensured success. We found it a good experience for us as it made us take a critical look at how we deal with and respond to industry and employers. It also had the effect of refocusing our work in these areas'.

For more information on the Training Quality Standard go to www.trainingqualitystandard.co.uk or visit the IMI website at <http://www.motor.org.uk/improving-training/training-quality-standard.html>

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The logo for the Training Quality Standard is a dark green rounded rectangle with an orange border on the right and bottom edges. The words 'TRAINING', 'QUALITY', and 'STANDARD' are stacked vertically in white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

ATA Accredited Assessor Award



The IMI have been developing and piloting the ATA Accredited Assessor Award for ATA Light Vehicle route at Service Maintenance / Diagnostic

level. To achieve the award assessors (candidates) attend a one day assessor workshop in which they gain the specific knowledge of the ATA light vehicle route. They are independently assessed, both on their knowledge of ATA Light vehicle and setting up tasks and assessing candidates.

All those who have attended the workshops say they have gained valuable knowledge of the ATA assessment process. Further workshops will be held during October and also at the higher level of ATA Light Vehicle Master technician. The Award is due to be launched in early 2010.

If you would like further information please contact either David Oakeley, davido@motor.org.uk or Ian Gillgrass, iang@motor.org.uk or at the IMI on 01992 511521.

To visit the ATA website [click here](#)

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Business Interchange - work placement & exchange programme

The IMI and Lifelong Learning UK are working together on the Business Interchange programme to help automotive teachers, tutors and trainers keep their skills up to date to meet the needs of employers and learners.



Business Interchange is part of Catalyst, a Government-funded programme which helps learning and skills providers increase vocational expertise through structured vocational placements. Business Interchange placements aim to improve the relevance of the curriculum, build links with local and national businesses and help teachers, tutors and trainers deliver effectively to the learners they serve.

To find out more about how Business Interchange works, [click here](#) to read the case study of **Richard Pearson, Paint and Body Trainer for Manchester College of Arts and Technology** who has taken part in the programme.

[Click here](#) for more information or contact Caroline Harris at the IMI, via carolineh@motor.org.uk

If you registered for P1 within the last two weeks but have not yet received any confirmation, please call 01704 612231 and speak to Daniel Giles or Hannah Speering at STAR.

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Autocity - careers advice

Anyone interested in a career in the motor industry should take the opportunity to visit the IMI's Autocity website. Autocity provides young

people, adults and careers practitioners with valuable information about careers in our industry. It includes video case studies, using real people in real jobs, for the different job roles available.

Amongst the information on the site, visitors can find out about qualifications, salary guidelines and read job descriptions, as well as use links to the Awarding Bodies which deliver automotive qualifications.

To visit Autocity [click here ...](#)

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UK automotive team success at WorldSkills Calgary

The UK's automotive team achieved success at the 2009 WorldSkills competition in Canada, the biggest skills competition in the world.



Twenty two year old Daniel Cain from Grimsby won a bronze medal in the autobody repair category (pictured) and there were also Medallions of Excellence awarded to Dean Jones and Zak McLaughlan in automobile technology and car painting respectively. To qualify, Dean, Daniel and Zak competed in Skillauto, find out more about this competition [here](#).

WorldSkills 2009 was a successful competition for the whole team, with the UK winning three gold and six bronze medals in total and in addition, the UK was also awarded 14 Medallions for Excellence given to competitors who achieve at least 500 points, deemed the world class standard.

[Read more on WorldSkills 2009 ...](#)

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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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Motor Industry Magazine

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](#).



September's edition of MIM included:

Magic moment

With the Mini celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, Tony Ball recalls his role in the unveiling of a car billed as 'wizardry on wheels'. [Read the article ...](#)

Royale treatment for Kia?

A Korea-EU auto trade agreement will unfairly favour the Koreans, argue European carmakers. But do they have a legitimate case?

[Read the article ...](#)

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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

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imiustop@motor.org.uk