

Drive Forward

in Motor Industry Skills Training - September
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 Retail Sector - Quarterly Report](#)

[Scottish Apprenticeship Benchmark Report 2008-9](#)

[The Scottish Modern Apprenticeship Awards 2009](#)

[Understanding the Training Quality Standard - free event for AoC Members](#)

[2009 Bodyshop Event](#)

[IMI increases ATA network with City & Guilds](#)

[The heat is on ... become July 2010 compliant with ATA Air-Conditioning](#)

[Technical CPD for teachers, trainers and assessors.](#)

[Ofsted publish new Common Inspection Framework](#)

[Engaging Employers for the Learning Sector - National Conference](#)

[Learning Providers Autumn Conference](#)

[Funding Advice](#)

[Drive Forward Archive](#)

Automotive Retail Sector - Quarterly Report

UK GDP figures released in February showed the UK economy officially in recession as of the final quarter of 2008 and it is expected that the UK economy will remain in recession through 2009.

The UK and global slowdown has already started to be felt by the automotive sector. New car registrations fell dramatically in the latter part of 2008 and have continued to fall in 2009. The 'Automotive Retail Sector - Quarterly Report' aims to give a more current view of the industry, analysing employment and car production and sales figures amongst other key indicators.



[Click here](#) to read the key findings.

[Click here](#) to read the full report.

[Back to top...](#)

Scottish Apprenticeship Benchmark Report 2008-9

The latest annual benchmark review has been completed for Scottish Modern Apprenticeship frameworks that fall under the responsibility of the IMI. The report contains the latest key facts and figures including learner profiles and achievement rates. The report aims to draw insight from analysis of the reported figures and where appropriate makes recommendations where appropriate.

[Click here](#) to read the key findings.

[Click here](#) to read the full report.

[Back to top...](#)

The Scottish Modern Apprenticeship Awards 2009

Apprentices, learning providers, colleges and employers have contributed significantly to the development of the Modern Apprenticeship programme in Scotland. The 2009 MA Awards will



showcase those who have, through their involvement in Modern Apprenticeships, demonstrated initiative, enterprise and outstanding commitment to the improvement of skills development for the Scottish economy. Now in its 8th year, the Scottish Modern Apprenticeship Awards are a celebration of the high standards being reached by many employees, employers and learning providers involved in Modern Apprenticeships.

Entry is by online submission only and the closing date is noon on Friday 2 October. The automotive sector has seen success in these awards in the past so if you feel your organisation, an employee or one of your apprentices deserves recognition then visit the [Skills Development Scotland website](#) to register your entry.

This year, the ceremony will take place on Wednesday 9 December at the Radisson Hotel Glasgow. Each finalist will be a VIP guest at the Awards Dinner and the winner in each of the nine categories will receive a specially designed awards trophy. The Awards will be profiled in national and local press and promoted through Skills Development Scotland.

[Back to top...](#)

Understanding the Training Quality Standard - free event for AoC Members

The IMI, CFE and the Association of Colleges are working in partnership to deliver a workshop designed to help colleges if they are considering applying for certification for the Training Quality Standard Part A and Part B - Excellence in Automotive Skills. The event is aimed at colleges who are:

- members of the Association of Colleges
- delivering training in the retail automotive sector
- looking to develop and improve the responsiveness of their college to employers

- interested in applying for the Training Quality Standard including a Part B in automotive skills (Assessment and Certification).

The event will be held on 16 October at The Institute of the Motor Industry, Prince Michael Conference Centre, Fanshaws, Brickendon, Hertford, SG13 8PQ.

[Click here](#) to book and for further event information.

For any additional information please contact Adrian Lawson (Development Manager- Quality Improvement) adrianl@motor.org.uk

[Back to top...](#)

2009 Bodyshop Event



The 2009 Bodyshop Event is for all repairers, suppliers, distributors, insurers, accident management companies, consultants, trainers and associates to come together for a practical, informative and time efficient day. It is taking place at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole on 10 and 11 September.

BE2009 offers a mix and match programme for all attendees, whether for help and advice, product demonstrations, management tutorials, one-to-one meetings or simply to network and pick up ideas.

The IMI will lead an interactive workshop on Management and Leadership - a must-attend for all managers.

For further information call Emily Miles on 01296 642820 or email emily@bodyshopmag.com

[Back to top...](#)

IMI increases ATA network with City & Guilds



The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) has announced an agreement with City & Guilds to further extend the network of centres offering Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA).

ATA is a national, voluntary accreditation scheme designed to test the current competency of individuals working in the automotive sector and is regulated by the IMI, the industry Sector Skills Council and professional association. The new alliance with City & Guilds now means that two of the major awarding bodies in the automotive sector can offer ATA, with IMI Awards Limited already having a network of approved centres running assessments.

[Read more ...](#)

[Back to top...](#)

The heat is on ... become July 2010 compliant with ATA Air-Conditioning

The Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) scheme is reminding employers and technicians that there is now only one year to go before new European legislation regarding the handling of refrigerant gases comes into force in July 2010.

Last year in response to the forthcoming legislation, the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) which regulates the ATA scheme introduced the air-conditioning route to the accreditation scheme and all three levels within the discipline satisfy the minimum requirements set out in the regulation.

At present, there are sixteen independent centres approved to run assessments, if your organisation would like to be an approved centre please contact Ian Gillgrass on iang@motor.org.uk in the first instance.

[Back to top...](#)

Technical CPD for teachers, trainers and assessors.

AK Training's programme of technical training is ideal to bring teachers, trainers and assessors up to speed with diagnostics and understanding of vehicle engine systems.

All delegates receive a fully illustrated colour handout.

Taking place in Northampton, Buckingham, and Jersey, dates run from September to November. Details of the events can be found on [the IMI website](#)



Please [click here](#) for information on the Northampton and Buckingham events.

[Click here](#) for information on the Jersey events.

[Back to top...](#)

Ofsted publish new Common Inspection Framework

The new version of the Common Inspection Framework (CIF) is published on the Ofsted website. The revised CIF will be in use for all inspections from September 2009.

[To visit the Ofsted website click here ...](#)

[Back to top...](#)

Engaging Employers for the Learning Sector - National Conference

Engaging with employers is a vital issue for all stakeholders involved with learning past the age 14. It is certain that there will be substantial changes to funding, commissioning, Government policy or even the Government itself over the next two academic years. These changes will require improvement in the approach to relationships with employers.

The process of engaging with employers encompasses a broad spectrum of strategy and skills within the training and education sector. The relationship with employers is a critical measure of quality and success.

The conference will be held on Thursday September 24 at Lakeside Centre, Birmingham. More information is available [here](#).

[Back to top...](#)

Learning Providers Autumn Conference

A 2-day conference on 26 and 27 October at the International Centre, Telford, will focus on the wide range of issues affecting the skills agenda across all types of vocational training, learning, education and development. This conference will bring together six dimensions of focus on the issues and potential solutions to maintain the skills development agenda. Plenary sessions will focus on each dimension in turn whilst linked workshops will provide underpinning detail and different perspectives to the same dimensions. More information is available [here](#)



[Back to top...](#)

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...](#)

[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

[Click here to visit the IMI website ...](#)

[Follow the IMI on Twitter and keep up to date with our news](#)

If you would prefer not to receive further emails from us, please email

imiustop@motor.org.uk