

Torque

the Motor Industry Newsletter - June 2009

Welcome to Torque, the monthly newsletter from the IMI for Motor Industry employers.

As the professional association and Sector Skills Council for the automotive retail industry we would like to keep you up to date with news, views and information from our sector.

If you have any comments, or if you know anyone who may like to receive this Newsletter, please email marianec@motor.org.uk. We will not pass your details on to any other organisation.

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Skillmiles

The IMI's Skillmiles scheme awards points to individuals and businesses helping to support the Institute's work in raising skill levels, including financial as well as 'in kind' contributions, such as a person's time. A tiered points system ensures that contributions are weighted fairly with four levels of recognition - bronze, silver, gold and platinum.



Through the scheme, the IMI is able to show the Government that employers and individuals in the automotive retail industry are making valuable contributions to skills development, which has not been recognised previously on an industry-wide scale.

The Skillmiles web-site shows a list of those signed up and the level they have attained so far.

To read more and register on the scheme, [click here ...](#)

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Women & Work

The IMI has just entered into its third phase of women and Work, a flexible programme offered by the IMI for women in the retail motor industry, and their employers, to receive funding towards the cost of developing their skills. Up to £800 of funding is available per participant to develop their skills and abilities.



This programme requires a 50% match fund by employers which can be made up by time spent on training and any additional training costs incurred.

For further information and to ensure a place, please contact Sue Short on 01992 511521 or susans@motor.org.uk or [click here](#)

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Autocity - careers advice

Autocity has been designed to give an insight into the diverse roles available in the retail motor industry and, as an online tool, 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.



On the Autocity website information is available regarding qualifications, comprehensive job descriptions and salary guidelines, as well as links to Awarding Bodies delivering automotive qualifications.

To go to Autocity and our Careers area, [click here ...](#)

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IMI launches new funding advice service

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

Offering up to date information on funding for training and other business support via the IMI website, users will be able to find a summary of the funding available in each nation and guidance on how it can be accessed. Users can also request telephone contact to discuss potential funding possibilities.

To find out what is available to support you, and for more information [click here](#).

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Are you the perfect host?

Through Business Interchange - a work placement and exchange programme for further education providers and businesses in England, the IMI and Lifelong Learning UK are working together to help automotive teachers, tutors and trainers keep their skills up to date to meet the needs of employers and learners.



The IMI will help match candidates to suitable businesses, allowing training providers to build their expertise through industry placements, which will lead to stronger links between businesses and local further education providers.

If you work for a business in England that would be interested in taking part in the programme, by hosting a placement, please contact Caroline Harris at the IMI, via carolineh@motor.org.uk

For more information about Business Interchange, part of the Catalyst programme, please [click here](#)

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Latest Motor Industry News

New vehicle production figures

New figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) show that vehicle production has been hit by low business confidence and uncertainty in the financial world generally... [\(Full story\)](#)

Garages could clear up if they gear towards vans, says experts

Research shows that large vans have the lowest MOT pass rate so garages could make a lot of money if they direct their marketing towards them... [\(Full story\)](#)

Porsche release sales figures

For the first time Porsche will be presenting an interim report including the sales from Volkswagen... [\(Full story\)](#)

[For more of the latest Motor Industry News click here ...](#)

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Regards

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