

# North East Institute of Technology

Newsletter – August 2024







NORTH EAST

I N S T I T U T E O F  
T E C H N O L O G Y

## T LEVEL PLACEMENT AT DURHAM UNI PREPARES DYLAN FOR HIS **FUTURE CAREER**

We recently caught up with T Level Digital student Dylan Milburn, who is thriving as part of his extended industry placement in the data and IT department at Durham University.

"I mainly decided to do a T Level at EDC primarily for the work experience." said Dylan. "The opportunity to go to a real life working environment to develop my skills not only inside the classroom but outside of it too has been invaluable. It also allows me to create networking opportunities to hopefully develop my future career in a degree apprenticeship, a job or even leading on to university."

Dylan has just finished his T Level in Digital Support Services course at East Durham College, where he has been working in the college's purpose-built digital design suite.

Now that his course is wrapping up, Dylan has applied for a degree apprenticeship at the university. Management at the university is full of praise for Dylan and are supporting his application.

## LAND-BASED ENGINEERING UPGRADES AT HOUGHALL

It's an exciting time over the summer at EDC's Houghall campus, as significant investment in our land-based engineering offer means students will be coming back to completely revamped workshops, new equipment and fantastic industry specialists teaching.

The work has been ongoing for some weeks with an aim to be completed before the next academic year.

The land-based engineering programme at the college works closely with agricultural employers across our region to support their engineering apprentices. With the new investment, the college hopes to expand the programme even further and ensure that those studying with us get access to the latest equipment and up-to-date skills training on modern agricultural machinery.





# College tutors' AI work hailed at international conference



Two tutors at Middlesbrough College have had their cutting edge work on Artificial Intelligence (AI) hailed at an international conference.

Onike Amodu and Adel Shaban, who teach students at Middlesbrough College's MC Digital faculty, co-authored an academic paper on the use of AI in managing vehicle damage inspection, particularly in large car fleets.

After having the paper accepted by the academic journal Scitepress, Onike was invited to the 9th international conference on the Internet of Things, Big Data and Security at Angers in France to present the paper to an international audience.

Onike, who has an MSc from Teesside University in Artificial Intelligence, said: "It was a fantastic experience.

"There were people from all over the world – the US, Asia, Canada, Australia and across Europe –

in the room as well as others following online.

"Our paper got a lot of interest and people had a lot of questions about it. We've already talked to two professors – one from the US and one from Canada – about potential collaborations in the future off the back of it."

The paper – entitled 'Revolutionizing Vehicle Damage Inspection: A Deep Learning Approach for Automated Detection and Classification' – looks at how using Artificial Intelligence to examine photographs of vehicle damage has the potential to speed up processing vehicle inspections, improve their accuracy and process insurance claims quicker.

Onike explained that the technology and techniques used in this process also have the potential to be used for autonomous self-driving vehicles.

She said: "There is a lot of interest in this technology and the potential which it has and that was certainly reflected in the reception which the paper got in France."

Onike has been teaching students on T-levels, HND and BTEC Level 3 courses at Middlesbrough College for the past year and praised the support which she and Adel had received from the College in putting together the paper and going out to the conference.

Onike said: "We got a lot of support and encouragement from our manager at the College, not just on writing and



publishing the paper but also in terms of funding the trip to France.

"We get a lot of motivation from the College in terms of our development and that makes such a big difference.

"It also means we can bring a lot of this knowledge into our teaching of the students at the College – we did a presentation to the final year students at the College, which was great preparation for the conference."

Onike and Adel, who has a PhD in Computer Science from Teesside University, are now looking at ways in which Artificial Intelligence can help in the educational sphere.

Onike said: "We are now looking at ways to bring AI into the classroom and into teaching.

"We are currently working on two papers which are in the draft stages and which we are looking to submit to other publications next month."

Zoe Lewis, principal at Middlesbrough College, said: "We're delighted that Onike and Adel's knowledge and expertise is being recognised on an international level.

"Career development is vital for our staff as it means that their progress enhances the tuition which they can provide to our students.

"We wish them every success as they continue their work at the cutting edge of Artificial Intelligence research."



## CECA Bursary

New College Durham is proud to announce that student Jessica Welsh has been awarded a £500 bursary from the Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) UK. This award celebrates Jessica's dedication to her studies in Civil Engineering and Construction.

The college hosted a presentation evening for Jessica and her parents, where she received the award from CECA UK representatives and faculty members. Jessica expressed her gratitude, noting the bursary's role in helping her connect with industry professionals and develop essential skills for her future career in surveying and project management.

CECA UK Chairman Ross Markwell highlighted the bursary program's aim to support at least 50 students over the next decade. The initiative, part of CECA's Social Value commitments, seeks to cultivate future Civil Engineering talent. New College Durham's Tori Screen praised the bursary for easing financial pressures and inspiring students to excel. The college congratulates Jessica on her achievement and looks forward to her continued success. Thanks again to CECA for their on-going support.



## New College Durham Triumphs at North East Apprenticeship Awards

New College Durham has been named Training Provider/Programme of the Year at the North East Apprenticeship Awards, celebrating the dedication and innovation of its staff in delivering top-quality apprenticeship programs. Principal Andy Broadbent praised the award as a testament to the college's commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. He also highlighted the college's fifty-year history of supporting apprenticeship opportunities and its recent sponsorship of the Intermediate Apprentice of the Year category to promote these valuable programs. The ceremony, held at Newcastle United's St James' Park, was hosted by Katie Bulmer Cooke, a fitness entrepreneur and former contestant on BBC's The Apprentice.

Natasha Francis, Director of Apprenticeships at New College Durham, emphasised the college's strong relationships with hundreds of employers, which benefit students through high-quality placement opportunities. Natasha expressed pride in the recognition and the college's contribution to the apprenticeship landscape.

In addition to their own win, New College Durham celebrated the success of two apprentices: Benjamin Urwin, who was named Professional Services Apprentice of the Year, and Kieron Harden, recognised as Intermediate Apprentice of the Year. Other nominees included Amy Mackay, Arran Whittaker, and Jenna Worthington.



## New College Durham's Construction Centre of Excellence Progressing Well



New College Durham's £1.7 million Construction Centre of Excellence project, in collaboration with Esh Construction, is approaching part completion. Set to open in September 2024, the facility will feature modern classrooms, breakout areas, and a practice zone for trade subjects. Significant progress includes a new mezzanine floor, updated cladding, and internal partitions for teaching spaces. This project builds on the success of our T.H.E Hub, which opened in September 2023 with 23 new teaching spaces. Principal Andy Broadbent highlighted the project's role in enhancing learning environments and benefiting the community.

Esh Construction's social value team is supporting the project with career sessions and apprenticeship opportunities. We look forward to opening this new centre, which will initially focus on brick curriculum and later expand to include building maintenance and decorating.





Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship

# Product Design and Development Engineer

Three specialist strands to support electrification and advanced manufacturing

- Batteries
- Power electronics, machines and drives
- Automation and control
- Develop your team
- Close the skills gap
- Drive innovation

Inspire

## BEng Product Design and Development Engineer

Degree Apprenticeship

Develop the skills and expertise needed to drive critical engineering innovation in electrification and advanced manufacturing in your organisation

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

[go.ncl.ac.uk/productdesign](https://go.ncl.ac.uk/productdesign)

NORTH EAST  
I N S T I T U T E O F  
T E C H N O L O G Y

COURSES  
MAY BE  
FREE\*

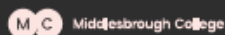
# Specialist retrofit training available now!

The retrofitting industry is predicted to be worth billions in the coming decades... and we can give you and your workforce the latest training to be at the forefront.

Right now there's a skills gap in the retrofitting industry and the North East Institute of Technology has a range of part time retrofitting courses starting in September to help close that gap.

Training for retrofit assessors, advisors or co-ordinators is available at our campuses across the North East.

Enquire now at  
[neiot.ac.uk/subjects/retrofit](http://neiot.ac.uk/subjects/retrofit)



\*Subject to eligibility/company size/CITB registration.

# Our retrofit courses

## **NEIoT Retrofit Advisor** Level 3, 110 hours

The NEIoT Retrofit Advisor course equips you with the skills to becoming a Retrofit Advisor. As a Retrofit Advisor, you'll guide and support customers, landlords and homeowners in improving their homes' energy efficiency. Led by industry experts, this course offers face-to-face learning and real-world scenarios, equipping you to provide expert advice, personalised recommendations and ongoing support, ensuring optimal energy savings and comfort for customers and effectively informing key stakeholders.

## **NEIoT Retrofit Assessor** Level 3, 224 hours

The NEIoT Retrofit Assessor course equips you with the skills to becoming a Retrofit Assessor, assessing dwellings for retrofit, exploring energy efficiency measures, and monitoring retrofit projects in line with PAS 2035 standards. Dive into the heart of current domestic home adaptations and become a pivotal force in reducing carbon emissions, creating more comfortable environments and combating climate change.

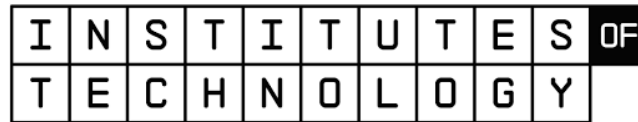
## **NEIoT Retrofit Co-ordinator** Level 5, 170 hours

The NEIoT Retrofit Co-ordinator course equips you with the professional skills required, to operate in the new professional role of Retrofit Co-ordinator. This role has been created by government to ensure quality and value for clients and contractors engaged in the property retrofit and property management sectors, within the framework of a new quality standard PAS2035. The role is responsible for ensuring compliance with procurement, specification, and delivery of measures in domestic retrofit projects.

Enquire now at [neiot.ac.uk/subjects/retrofit](https://neiot.ac.uk/subjects/retrofit)







## The National Network of Institutes of Technology

Responding to workforce needs at a local and national level through the delivery of higher technical education.

✦ Introducing the new Executive of the National Network of Institutes of Technology! ✦

We're delighted to introduce our new Exec team: [Claire Arbery](#) and [Dr. Sharon Grant](#) join [Paul Rolfe](#) as Vice-Chairs, and [Rosa Wells](#) has been named as Chair.

Our new Exec team were elected from among network members to represent the full diversity of the IoT network on a national scale.

"Our strength is in the breadth and depth of our network. We need to support each other to showcase the innovative work that we are all doing"

- Rosa Wells, Chair, National Network of IoTs

See our website to read more about our brilliant new Exec: [t.ly/aPbmY](https://t.ly/aPbmY)

[Chichester College Group](#) [Greater Birmingham and Solihull Institute of Technology](#) [North East Institute of Technology \(NEIoT\)](#) [Weston College](#)

[#InstitutesofTechnology](#)



Introducing the new Executive of the National Network of Institutes of Technology

[institutesoftechnology.org.uk](https://institutesoftechnology.org.uk)

[Introducing the new Executive of the National Network of Institutes of Technology | Institutes of Technology](#)







Engineering & Manufacturing Network

# emcon

SHOWCASING ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE

THUR 12  
SEPTEMBER  
2024  
Rainton Arena  
Houghton-le-Spring



Engineering & Manufacturing Network

## EMCON Visitors



- 900 plus visitors
- 74% from Engineering & Manufacturing sector
- 90% with buying, investment or management responsibilities
- 30% from out of region and increasing year on year

EMCON has built a strong reputation for attracting key representatives from the major engineering and manufacturing businesses in the North of England. The caliber of EMCON's visitors attracts exhibitors year after year and is one of the reasons retention is high.



NORTH EAST  
INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY



Uniting companies from across the automotive supply chain to connect, showcase, exchange ideas, and inspire growth.

# North East Automotive expo 2024

**Connect. Showcase. Exchange. Inspire.**

Thursday 26 September 2024  
Beacon of Light, Sunderland



[www.northeastautomotivealliance.com/events/north-east-automotive-expo-2024/](http://www.northeastautomotivealliance.com/events/north-east-automotive-expo-2024/)

# A new world of opportunity for everyone.

In partnership with



Your Future is matched to education and employment in Sunderland and the Northeast. Come and see how through extraordinary exhibits, TED-style talks, workshops and competitions.

FREE visitor passes for up to 2,000+ students at this 3-day event including festival evening programme for residents

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!**

f i in X  
@exposunderland

**Your Future Expo**  
**18-20 March 2025**  
**Beacon of Light**



[www.exposunderland.com](http://www.exposunderland.com)





## 2024-25 ICE CityZen Award is on the way!



We're pleased to tell you that our 16-18s [ICE CityZen Award](#) is back for 2024-25 with the addition of a new activity, [ICE CityZen Pollution Control challenge](#) - a separate competition for 14-16s. Both competitions are free to enter and great for skills development.

**Can you support our efforts to grow the future pool of engineers by sharing information about the ICE CityZen competitions with your networks and stakeholders please?**

The students who took part in 2023 enjoyed the ICE CityZen experience. In their feedback they told us they learned new skills, and many became interested in engineering careers.

Since the 2023 competition, the ICE CityZen game has received two accolades, [2023 Learning Technologies Gold Award](#) for Best Learning Game and Winner of Secondary Free Digital Content App or Open Educational Resource category in the [2024 Bett Awards](#).



### Executive MSc. In Supply Chain Management

Experience a dynamic partnership between two world-renowned institutions, working together to deliver an exceptional collaborative programme.

Our two-year part-time Executive Master's in Supply Chain Management blends on-campus modules with online learning for a comprehensive educational experience.



#### The Programme

Immerse yourself in our comprehensive programme, delivered through a dynamic blend of on-campus modules and online learning. This unique opportunity encompasses four compulsory modules and four elective modules, offering specialised supply chain management courses and a strategic supply chain project that focuses on real-world problem-solving with industry partners.

#### Key Facts

- Cost: £17,500
- Start: September 2024
- Duration: Two years
- Programme: Part-time
- Delivery: Taught online with in-person visits to Durham and Mannheim campuses

For more information about the programme or on how to apply scan here:

Email: [exec.ed@durham.ac.uk](mailto:exec.ed@durham.ac.uk)



SCAN ME

[www.durham.ac.uk/business/courses/supply-chain-management-executive-n2pb09/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/business/courses/supply-chain-management-executive-n2pb09/)

NORTH EAST  
INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY

**Sharon Grant**  
**Director of NEIoT**

0191 375 4050  
sharon.grant@newdur.ac.uk

**Maxine Lee**  
**Administrator**  
**(Principalship & Corporate Services)**

0191 375 4336  
maxine.lee@newdur.ac.uk

