

North East Institute of Technology

Newsletter – November 2024





TWO FINALISTS FOR EDC AT NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP AND SKILLS AWARDS 2024

A massive congratulations to EDC's very own Peter Earl and Dylan Milburn, who have been selected as finalists for the National Apprentice and Skills Awards for T-Level engineering (Peter) and T-Level digital (Dylan)!

Peter is currently working as a teaching apprentice with the college after completing Level 2 and T-Level engineering with the college.

Dylan is a former EDC student, completing his T-Level placement at Durham University, where he has now been offered a full time position.

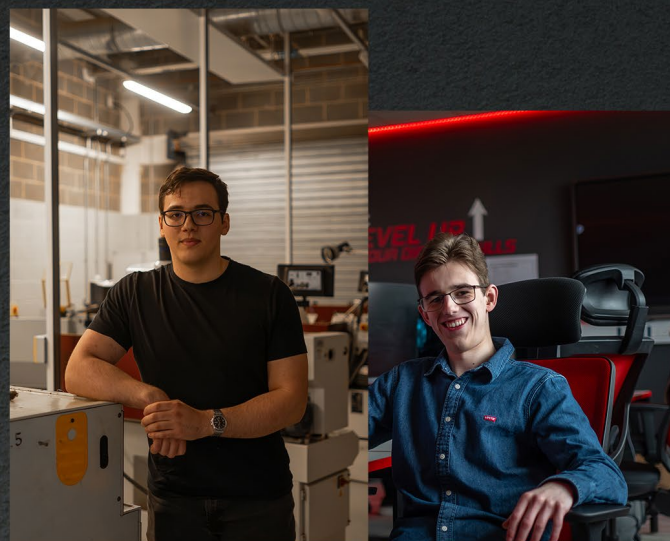
NEW LAND-BASED ENGINEERING WORKSHOPS UNVEILED AT HOUGHALL

In the last edition of this newsletter, we reported on planned upgrades for our existing land-based engineering workshops over at our Houghall campus in Durham.

We're now thrilled to report that the work has been completed, and our workshops are open for our land-based engineering apprentices to use!

The new spaces are brighter, more vibrant and full of all of the equipment they need to thrive with their training.

The workshops are overseen by Mike Herrington, a highly-experienced engineer who is passionate about ensuring our students get access to the very best equipment during their studies with us.





Supporting Tomorrow's Engineers: T Level Student Work Placements Needed

New College Durham is excited to partner with industry leaders in supporting the next generation of skilled engineers through T Level work placements. T Levels are a nationally recognised, rigorous two-year qualification that combines classroom learning with hands-on industry experience, equipping students for high-demand engineering roles.

Our Engineering T Level students come prepared with practical skills in essential tools and technologies, including AutoCAD/Inventor, CNC machinery, lathes, and bench-fitting tools, and are eager to apply these competencies in a professional setting. These placements, similar to BTEC work placements, but with a longer duration and regular check-ins, are unpaid and unassessed, focusing solely on providing students with real-world experience to fulfil their qualification requirements.



By hosting a T Level student, your organisation will play a pivotal role in developing a capable, future-ready workforce while benefiting from the fresh perspectives and commitment our students bring.

If your company is interested in supporting a T Level work placement, please contact Rebecca Goundry at rebecca.goundry@newdur.ac.uk or on 07583021526; your support would be greatly appreciated.

NCD Welcomes the Institute of Carpenters

As one of the selected 10 colleges across the UK to be included in the CITB-IOC Mentoring Champions Scheme, last week saw New College Durham host the CITB-IOC Timber Industry College Hub seminar.

Learners received a variety of guest speeches to allow them to gain an understanding of different areas of the sector, to enhance their journey in carpentry, joinery and woodworking skills.

A huge thank you to our guests for attending and delivering such an insightful and inspiring session.



Higher Technical Qualifications

NCD continues to actively expand its Higher Technical Qualification (HTQ) offer with Level 4 Certificate in HE Housing now approved and FdA Data Analytics in development stages. For more information on all HTQs available at NCD: [Higher Technical Qualifications \(HTQs\)](#)



Inspiring NEIoT Tutor has Paper Published

Middlesbrough College's Mohamed Alwaheshi recently had his article, titled *"Innovative Use of Student-Led Questioning to Promote Cognitive Development for Civil Engineering Students,"* published through the University of Central Lancaster this year.

Mohamed's article highlights how inquiry-based, student-driven approaches can enhance critical thinking and problem-solving in engineering education.

He said: "I am deeply honoured to have my article published. I hope

it inspires educators to adopt more interactive methods that foster deeper learning and better prepare students for professional challenges.

"I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported me throughout this journey. Your encouragement has been invaluable, and I am grateful to be part of an institution that values innovation and continuous learning."

Mohamed joined Middlesbrough College's Construction department in 2023 and has since played an integral role in delivering employer-focused programmes to aspiring civil engineers. He teaches the Higher National Certificate in Construction Management at University Centre Middlesbrough, an Institute of Technology course that prepares students for rewarding careers in design, manufacturing, project management and IT.



TYNE COAST COLLEGE SECURES FUNDING FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT TO BRIDGE INDUSTRY SKILLS GAP

In a significant boost for the local engineering and manufacturing industry, Tyne Coast College has received a substantial grant from the Government's Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) to invest in state-of-the-art machinery and equipment. This investment will allow the college to enhance its curriculum, better preparing students for the evolving demands of the industry, and addressing the skills gap that employers continue to face.

As part of this initiative, the college has acquired a highly advanced 'Markforged' 3D printer, capable of creating industrial-strength 3D printed parts reinforced with composite fibers. This cutting-edge technology enables students to develop accurate and robust prototypes, offering them practical experience with real-world industrial materials. By utilising this system, students will be able to bring their designs to life with remarkable precision and strength, mirroring the requirements of modern manufacturing.

To further align its programmes with industry standards, the 3D prototypes can then be measured using the college's Coordinate Measuring Machine (CMM) technology, allowing students to precisely measure and validate the accuracy of their 3D-printed prototypes before transitioning them to production on the college's industry-standard HAAS CNC machines. This end-to-end experience, from design to creation, will ensure that learners are fully prepared to meet the challenges of real-world engineering environments.

In addition to advancing its 3D printing capabilities, the college is making strides in welding training through the implementation of Soldamatic, a cutting-edge welding simulation platform. This technology provides an immersive, 100% safe environment for students to develop their skills using real materials before moving to the live workshop. The system allows students to practice muscle memory and techniques in a controlled, virtual setting, helping reduce the risks traditionally associated with early-stage welding training.



The introduction of advanced welding parts as part of the Soldamatic system allows the college to provide blended advanced welder training. This training platform is not only essential for developing new welders but also for testing and improving the skills of experienced welders across various processes, positions, and specifications. The college hopes this new technology will attract more individuals to the profession and accelerate the time needed to produce competent, certified welders for the local workforce.

Neil Bowen, Head of STEM and Green Initiatives, shared his excitement about the new developments:

"This investment represents a huge leap forward for our students and the local industry. By integrating advanced technologies like the Markforged 3D printer, CMM devices, HAAS CNC machines, and Soldamatic simulation, we are equipping our learners with the tools they need to thrive in engineering and manufacturing careers. Not only are we addressing the current skills gap, but we are also fostering a new generation of highly capable, work-ready professionals. Our goal is to create an immersive and practical learning environment that mirrors industry conditions, ensuring our students can seamlessly transition from education to employment."



**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**



*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

DIGITAL AMBASSADORS 2025

An Industry Education Collaboration

Calling all Construction and Built Environment businesses of the North East and Tees Valley - your local college needs your support to bring software to life through the delivery of a guest lecture, and the provision of lecturer CPD.

Join Digital Ambassadors to help:

- Update perceptions of our industry by showcasing digital construction.
- Improve the quality and relevance of teaching materials through the delivery of up to 4 guest lectures.
- Ensure students have experience of software applications used in industry before leaving college.
- Increase student interaction with inspiring industry professionals.
- Support lecturers who have opted into a 'Digital Swap' by inviting them to your workplace to learn more about the software's daily application, your business, and the wider C&BE industry.
- Put your business at the centre of digital skills development in our region, through continued interaction with Digital Ambassador college partners.
- Support our colleges to deliver the best quality education to our future workforce.



Interested?

Contact lucy.youlton@esh.uk.com to register for our business onboarding session on Monday 25th November and to view the DA25 lecture catalogue.



Electrification Masterclass Webinars

Upcoming webinar session dates are below, and you can register for them [here](#)

Friday 8th November 2024 - Hydrogen – Future fuel for combustion engines

Monday 18th November 2024 - Hydrogen – Fuel cells now or never

Friday 22nd November 2024 - EV System Integration Part #1 - Batteries

Tuesday 3rd December 2024 - Introduction to Battery Management Systems (BMS)

Thursday 5th December 2024 - EV System Integration Part #2 – Motors & Drives

Tuesday 10th December 2024 - EV chargers and charging

Tuesday 7th January 2025 - EV software – keeping it safe & secure

Thursday 9th January 2025 - The future of EV Battery technology



Durham
University

Business School

Durham University Business School is introducing the first in a series of free, one hour Masterclasses to encourage discussion on the latest supply chain topics. These are open to anyone working in the field of supply chain, logistics and procurement and please feel free to share within your organisation or network.

Held online via Zoom, to include Q&A, these are organised as part of the launch of Durham's new two year, part-time [Executive MSc in Supply Chain Management](#). Sessions on Sustainability, Resilience and Procurement to follow.

DIGITAL SUPPLY CHAINS - MASTERCLASS

Friday 15 November 2024

1.00pm – 2.00pm (UK time)

An excellent opportunity for individuals seeking to deepen their expertise in this critical field. Led by two esteemed professors from Durham University Business School - Atanu Chaudhuri, Professor of Technology and Operations Management and Kieran Fernandes, Professor of Operations and Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for Business Development. This masterclass will provide a comprehensive overview of the applications of various digital technologies and systems, including Artificial Intelligence, Additive Manufacturing, Blockchain, Supply Chain Control Towers, Virtual Warehousing and Advanced Planning Systems, within supply chain processes. Professor Chaudhuri will also examine the mechanisms through which digital technologies can influence supply chain performance, highlighting the capabilities organisations must develop to effectively manage digital transformation.

Reserve your space at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digital-supply-chains-masterclass-tickets-1026867346877>





A message from Kim McGuinness, North East Mayor

I wanted to personally let you know that from today, I've officially opened the consultation on my Local Transport Plan, and I'm keen to hear from as many voices as possible from across our region. This is a chance for you to shape the future of how we move around the North East, and your input is so important to get this right.

This consultation is about making sure we've got the big picture right: a vision for a transport network that works for everyone. We're asking whether our direction is right. Like me, do you want to see safer journeys, better connections, and making sustainable travel the first choice? This is your chance to reflect on what you think is needed for the North East.

The consultation will run until **Sunday, 26 January 2025**, and we're offering plenty of ways to get involved. You can complete an online survey [here](#) or you can find other ways to take part on [our website](#).

This is your opportunity to tell us if we've got it right, and I'd love for you to be part of this conversation.

If there's anything you think we should be doing differently in how we're reaching people or engaging with communities or you have any ways we can work with you on promoting this consultation, please [email us](#) or call **0191 277 7010**.

Thanks for your support, and I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Kim McGuinness
North East Mayor



A stylized illustration with a warm, peach-colored background. In the foreground, a person with long, flowing red hair, wearing a red jumpsuit, stands triumphantly on the peak of a mountain. The mountain is depicted with white and light blue patches, suggesting snow or ice, and dark blue outlines. The person holds a red flag on a pole high above their head. Above the person, a large, white speech bubble with a black outline contains a solid red heart. The sky is filled with soft, white, puffy clouds, small white stars, and several small, faint red hearts. The overall mood is one of achievement and love.

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