

spotlight

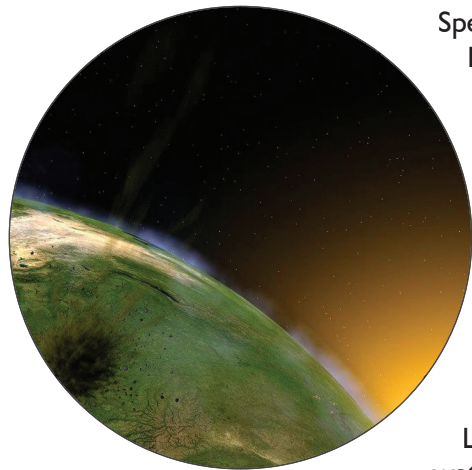
on skills for work

Yeovil College Training (YCT) the commercial division of Yeovil College, provides high quality work-based and professional training programmes to help employers and employees fulfil their potential and work effectively whether in the public, private or voluntary sector. With expertise in a wide range of areas we offer scheduled, customised and work-based learning programmes. Working closely with our clients to establish their exact needs and requirements we ensure that the correct training is delivered. Our courses can be held at any time or place to suit the needs of your organisation.

Over 60 employers, marketing professionals and students joined together recently to discuss climate change and sustainability issues in the South West.

The event, which was held at the University Centre Yeovil (UCY) on Preston Road, proved to be a great success.

The Bristol branch of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), together with the Institute of Directors (IOD) invited current members, students and local employers to join in the heated debate surrounding global warming and the future impact on local businesses and product development.



Speakers at the event included; Carole Bond of Carbon Data Environmental Communications at Bath, Keith Gillanders, Head of Business Development at Regen South West, who discussed renewable energy options and national and regional targets for power from non fossil fuels by 2010.

Rupert Farthing of Carymoor Environmental Trust based at Dimmer Landfill Site near Castle Cary, discussed water management and recycling and the

work they are carrying out with local schools and the public to raise awareness and the practical steps we can all take to minimise waste. Richard said: 'The event attracted a good turnout and the presentation prompted a lot of questions to all of the speakers. I was particularly pleased to have over twenty CIM marketing course students from Yeovil College present, as sustainability is becoming a major issue for marketers at all levels of industry.'



Employers!

Did you know that you can get **FREE** training for your employees at NVQ Level 2?

To find out if your business qualifies for **Train to Gain** please contact YCT on 01935 845392 or email YCT@yeovil.ac.uk

Shaun Hindle, Director of Business Training at Yeovil College was welcomed to the **Somerset Chamber of Commerce & Trade** at the recent AGM in Taunton.



Photograph shows Shaun Hindle (left) with Rupert Cox, Chief Executive of Somerset Chamber.

Find out more about how we can help your **business develop** with **skills training**

Call **01935 845 394** or email yct@yeovil.ac.uk

spotlight on

This issue, the spotlight is on **Priority Newstrade Mailing & Digital** who are based in Downton near Salisbury.

The original enquiry for training for this company came from the Skills 4 Business broker in Wiltshire.

Yeovil College had been recommended to Priority Newstrade on the basis of the successful training undertaken with other companies within the manufacturing sector in Wiltshire.

The suggestion was that the PMO (Performing Manufacturing Operations) NVQ Level 2 would be the ideal qualification as the majority of the employees were involved in the automated poly-wrapping and mailing process of mail order catalogues and subscriptions of magazines and periodicals. Alternative qualifications were considered but it was agreed that the manufacturing NVQ best suited the needs of the employees and the company.

The company operates a two-shift system comprising of a day shift and a night shift.



Photograph shows: Terry Turner, MD Priority Newstrade (second from left); Jeff Cassidy, PMO Assessor, Yeovil College (6th from left); Sheila Merton Jones, Personnel Manager, Priority Newstrade (far right) with the successful candidates.

Adrian Bromfield from Yeovil College met with Sheila Merton Jones, Personnel Manager at the company, and discussed the training and the commitment required from the company to support the employees throughout the course. As the employees worked different shifts it was agreed with Jeff Cassidy, manufacturing tutor, that Friday afternoon/early evening would be the best time to deliver the training. There were naturally some reservations about the training as many of the employees had left school with few formal qualifications. However, as the training started so the enthusiasm for the course

took over with all of the candidates completing their assignments on time.

Sheila was very supportive of the employees, helping them find the evidence necessary for their portfolios. Many of the candidates soon realised the benefit of the NVQ and started to put forward ideas on how their respective jobs could be made easier by making improvements to their particular area of the production line. None of the candidates dropped off the course and all achieved their qualification within the allocated time allowed.

YCTA



Nebosh

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Apprenticeships

Do you have employees **under the age of 19** who would like to gain a qualification linked to their job role?

If yes, have you considered offering them an **Apprenticeship**?

If no, have you ever considered recruiting a young person to support them gain an **Apprenticeship**?

Funding is currently available to support employers who would like to train or recruit a young person on an **Apprenticeship** scheme.

If you would like more information please call

Sue Gettings on 01935 845344 or email sue.gettings@yeovil.ac.uk



University Centre students complete 'Business Plan Challenge'

A group of students have completed the Business Plan Challenge as part of their Foundation degree in Business and Management at the University Centre Yeovil (UCY). Georgina Metcalfe, Hayley Owen and Will Pearse won the competition and £100 prize, as the team with the strongest plan. Their business Easydays Ltd provides 'festival' packs, containing equipment for music festival attendees.

Chris Merrick, NatWest's Business Development Manager for Somerset and Dorset, and Jon Stocker from local accountants Milsted Langdon have been working with second year students, helping them identify business opportunities and developing business plans.

Chris and Jon have visited the UCY regularly to offer advice on aspects including planning, competition, product choice, the market place, cash flow projections and targeting customers.

Tom Jordan, Department Manager for Business at Yeovil College, added "We are delighted to be working with two successful organisations once again. At Yeovil College and the UCY we actively encourage the generation of live projects to support the learning process and such partnerships provide valuable knowledge and experience to our students. The foundation degree in Business and Management is an area of huge growth with superb progression opportunities from our Business Academy. There are now also expansion plans at the UCY to meet the growing demand from students in the Business area plus the increasing popularity of University level courses in Somerset, and especially in Yeovil."



Photograph shows from left to right: UCY students Hayley Owen, Will Pearse, Georgina Metcalfe with Jon Stocker from Milsted Langdon and Chris Merrick from NatWest Bank.

Yeovil College retains its IiP status



Yeovil College has just received confirmation that it continues to be an **Investor in People** at the new higher level. The reviewer 'was impressed as ever by the College's numerous strengths and areas of good practice.'

Find out more about how we can help your **business develop** with **skills training**

Call **01935 845 394** or email yct@yeovil.ac.uk

Age Discrimination

From 1 October 2006 the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations make it unlawful to discriminate against workers, employees, job seekers and trainees because of their age. These regulations apply to all employers, whether in the private and public sector, vocational training providers, trade unions, professional organisations, employer organisations and trustees and managers of occupational pension schemes.

Fairness at work and good job performance go hand in hand. Tackling discrimination helps to attract, motivate and retain staff and enhance your reputation as an employer. Eliminating discrimination helps everyone to have an equal opportunity to work and to develop their skills. Employers will not be able to take into account a person's age when dealing with employment issues, even in retirement it will be illegal to consider 'age' as a reason for dismissal.

LIFE Centre celebrates second anniversary

The Learning is for Everyone (LIFE) Centre has recently celebrated its second anniversary with a series of presentations to successful learners. The Centre was launched in July 2004 when Jimmy Johnston - Senior Vice President HR at GKN Aerospace declared the Centre officially open. The focus of the Centre is on learning opportunities that are accessible, flexible and fun - with the aim of removing potential barriers to learning and encouraging people to try something new. The Centre was established through a partnership between the company, Yeovil College, the on-site trade union Amicus and the South West TUC Learning Services



Keith Smith, an employee at GKN who attends the Centre, was presented with an 'Outstanding Achievement to Learning' Award by Terry Cornford a Senior Manager at GKN. Terry is a keen advocate of the project. Keith, from Yeovil, started on an Introduction to Computers course and then the CLAiT (Computer Literacy and Information Technology) and then progressed on to the ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence). Keith was nominated for the award by his tutors, Marie Evans and Margaret Cressey.

To find out more ... ACAS 'Guidance on Age and the Workplace', is available at www.acas.org.uk

If you need to develop your skills, YCT offers the following courses:

- Successful Selection, Recruitment & Induction
- Employment Law for the Small Business
- Personnel Practice for Owners and Managers

For further information please contact YCT on **(01935) 845 394** or email YCT@yeovil.ac.uk

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FEBRUARY 2007!**

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for further information or to book your place.

Matrix Quality standard

MATRIX is the quality standard for information, advice & guidance and accreditation. Following a recent assessment, Yeovil College has been accredited for the next three years.



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