

CASE STUDY: STOKE ON TRENT COLLEGE



Category: Further education college
Region: West Midlands
Sector: Engineering and manufacturing



In focus:
Business-Improvement Techniques (B-IT)
NVQ - Level 2, 3 & 4
VRQ - Level 2

Adopting new approaches helps employers maintain productivity and competitiveness in the workplace. Developed to National Occupational Standards, EAL's Business-Improvement Techniques (B-IT) qualifications use the philosophies of lean manufacturing to eliminate waste, reduce costs and boost productivity.

- Master the tools and techniques of continuous improvement and lean manufacturing.
- Maximise revenue by eliminating waste, reducing variation and preventing defects.
- Improve responsiveness by making effective use of people and physical assets.

Centre profile:

As one of the largest colleges in the UK, Stoke on Trent College has the facilities and resources to match. An EAL centre since 2003, the college works with employers of all sizes and sectors, including global manufacturing giant Michelin Tyre PLC, to deliver practical courses which help improve performance and productivity.

"This approach shows our commitment to developing our personnel. The EAL qualifications and training provided through Stoke on Trent College have been essential in helping us to develop a culture of employee development leading to progress within our business."

Kenny Johnson, training manager, Michelin Tyre PLC

The challenge:

As well as supporting Michelin's engineers and electricians in achieving EAL's engineering and building services NVQs, Stoke on Trent College helped 35 operators achieve EAL's B-IT NVQ at Level 2 as part of a restructuring operation at the company's site in Stoke.

The solution:

The college delivered EAL's B-IT qualifications on-site to suit varying shift patterns at Michelin's Stoke factory. The qualifications helped employees to develop a new set of skills giving them more flexibility and recognition within the workplace.

The results:

All 35 operators completed the Level 2 NVQ with a 100% success rate. The NVQ has been such a success that Michelin are planning to open up the qualification in association with Stoke on Trent College to their other operators in the next 12 months. Senior managers at the Michelin site at Stoke have recognised B-IT as a valuable tool in developing their personnel.

The benefits:

Stoke on Trent College has benefited from using EAL's Online Services which reduce lead times for training and assessment by making it easy to register new candidates. Michelin personnel in Stoke have been impressed by the fast response, and have benefited from readily available support and a simple verification process.

The future:

The college will continue to use EAL's B-IT and management qualifications to support the achievements of Michelin Tyre PLC and other forward-thinking employers.

For the latest information, please visit www.eal.org.uk or contact Customer Services on:
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