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EAL's Cabling Qualifications Help Businesses Diversify

Leading awarding body EAL has worked with the Electrical Contractor's Association (ECA) and SummitSkills to develop a suite of cabling qualifications, designed specifically for the electrotechnical sector. EAL's NVQ qualifications in Installing Structured Cabling Systems at Level 2 and Electrotechnical Services Level 3 recognise competence in electrotechnical activities including pathways for installing and inspecting structured cabling systems and electrical installations.

Ann Watson, Managing Director of EAL, said: "We are delighted to be working with the ECA and SummitSkills to deliver certificates that equip candidates with the high levels of aptitude and understanding that employers require. With 76% of all engineering N/SVQs in the UK being awarded by EAL, replicating this success in other sectors is an important objective for us."

The Level 2 qualification comprises of 5 mandatory assessment routes, which include implementing safe site working practices, along with preparing to position, and installation of structured cabling systems. The Level 3 qualification comprises of 2 pathways, Installing & Inspecting Structured Cabling Systems and Electrical Installation comprising of 10 and 8 mandatory assessment routes respectively. The topics include installing electrical wiring systems, enclosures and equipment, as well as terminating, testing and rectifying structured copper cabling systems.

Iain Macdonald, Head of Education and Training at the ECA comments: "We have worked with EAL to develop high quality, specialised qualifications in response to demand from the industry. These qualifications allow firms to diversify in to other areas of expertise and unlike many short courses on offer, as national qualifications, they offer operatives a progression route to further qualifications, such as NVQs at Level 3 or 4."

Mr. Macdonald continued: "We look forward to developing more qualifications with EAL as part of our ongoing efforts to assist our members to demonstrate the highest level of skills against nationally approved standards and reap the business benefits."

The NVQs are available at colleges and other training providers across the UK, and the Level 3 forms part of the SummitSkills advanced apprenticeship framework.

-ENDS-

Editor's Notes:

NVQs in the Electrotechnical Services Suite are available at colleges and other training providers nationwide. Prices vary. For further details, please visit www.eal.org.uk, or contact customer services on 0870 240 6889.

About EAL

EAL (EMTA Awards Ltd) awards vocational qualifications in the building services sector. With more than 40 years experience, EAL's qualifications are recognised as representing the highest standard of practical achievement.

Committed to service excellence, EAL was ranked first for customer service amongst its peers in its Customer Satisfaction Survey for both 2006 and 2008. EAL awards qualifications across a variety of sectors, including manufacturing and engineering, with 76% of all engineering N/SVQs in the UK being awarded by EAL.

About ECA

The ECA represents the interests of 2,900 member companies involved in electrical installation work. Collectively, the member companies have an annual turnover of more than £5 billion, employ over 30,000 operatives and support 8,000 apprentices in craft training. The role of the ECA is to provide a focus for the electrical industry in terms of safety, training, qualification, technological development and industry performance www.eca.co.uk.

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