

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: THURSDAY, 30 APRIL 2009

YEOVIL COLLEGE GETS FIRED UP FOR APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME...

Yeovil College has teamed up with leading fire alarm company Gent by Honeywell to run a new engineering apprenticeship scheme. The Get Fired Up initiative will create the next generation of specialist fire and safety engineers, with five out of the 26 apprenticeship places available nationwide, starting their two-year Fire, Security & Alarm Systems NVQ course at the Yeovil College, North Dorset Skills Centre in Shaftesbury.

The scheme has been designed by Gent to support the Fire Industry Association's (FIA) objective to create a more definitive career structure in the industry. The apprentices on the course will divide their time between college, gaining a theoretical grounding while acquiring vital practical experience through working for one of Gent's approved System Integrators (SIs).

The scheme is targeted at technically minded school leavers from the age of 16 and above looking to gain skills and qualifications, while earning money as they train. North Dorset Skills Centre Manager Tracey Zimmerman said *"The Get Fired Up scheme is great for our apprentices because it gives them the first step on their career ladder while studying and gaining practical experience with a successful local employer."* *"Whilst taking part in their apprenticeship they will also have access to the latest fire alarm equipment for hands-on learning helping to build strong links with the companies involved, bridging that gap between completing the qualification and a career."*

Dina Mistry, the Get Fired Up scheme manager for Gent, said: *"The fire and security industry is a serious business as it supplies the skills and tools that contribute to saving people's lives. The Get Fired Up scheme tackles a major industry issue, providing opportunities for work-based apprenticeships and training throughout the UK. We are grateful for the support of Yeovil College to help us make this idea a reality.*

At Gent, we are acting to meet a deficiency of qualified fire service engineers. We are taking the burden of finding and training apprentices off our SIs by providing them with candidates and ensuring they receive the right training to become skilled engineers."

Skills for Security; the industry Sector Skills Council, has worked in collaboration with Gent to ensure the Knowledge of Security and Emergency Alarm Systems (1852) course is delivered by colleges to meet industry standards. Students on the course will work towards an NVQ Level 2 assessed by City & Guilds, with an option to continue to Level 3.

During the second year of the course, the Gent apprentices will be treated to Education Days at Gent's headquarters in Leicester, where they will see first hand the development and manufacture of the company's fire systems to gain a greater understanding of the product.

...ENDS

Notes to Editor;

There are six colleges throughout the UK signed up to delivering the NVQ course to apprentices on the Gent scheme. Potential applicants must be motivated, enthusiastic, willing to learn and must have the equivalent of four GCSEs or expected passes at Grade A-C in Maths, English, IT and a Science related subject. For more information log on to www.gent.co.uk/apprentice.

The North Dorset Skills Centre is a successful local centre for Yeovil College, serving the needs of the community in Shaftesbury and the surrounding areas. The centre operates a number of work-based apprenticeships for students ranging from 14-16 up to part time adult and professional bespoke employer programmes and short courses. Courses are available through the main course areas of Electrical, Plumbing, Hairdressing, ICT, Business and our Entry to employment courses.

For more information on the courses and opportunities available please call 01747 856010,

Or visit www.yeovil.ac.uk

Honeywell International is a \$37 billion diversified technology and manufacturing leader, serving customers worldwide with aerospace products and services; control technologies for buildings, homes and industry; automotive products; turbochargers; and specialty materials. Based in Morris Township, N.J., Honeywell's shares are traded on the New York, London and Chicago Stock Exchanges. For additional information, please visit www.honeywell.com.

All press enquiries to;

Lisa Pyrke, Head of Marketing & Communications, Yeovil College t: (01935) 845322

Or Kirsty Reid or Jo Mathers at Seal Communications on t; (0121) 616 5800

Photo 1 from l-r: Gary Spiller, Trevor Jenks (Lecturer), James Hedderly, Adam Nash (Red helmet), Gregory Richards, Shaun Pass, William Rogers and Ben Drewett.

Photo 2: Ben Drewett

Photo 3: Trevor Jenks (Lecturer), Ben Drewett and Gregory Richards

Photo 4: William Rogers