

PRESS RELEASE



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BIGGEST EVER ENGINEERING AWARDS

Yeovil College's Engineering Faculty has held its biggest ever Engineering Apprentice of the Year awards as part of Festival Fortnight celebrations.

Nearly 150 employers, friends and family joined staff and students to mark another successful year for the department. The event encompassed the whole spectrum of students and courses offered by the Engineering Faculty, including 14-16 Diplomas, Full-time and Apprenticeships.

Nearly 30 different awards were presented to students in recognition of student achievement over the last academic year. Awards included Certificates of Achievement recognising effort and improvement, Best Machinist, which went to **Gilberto Serra**, Best Welder, received by **Dante Strong**, and Best Transmissions Machinist, which went to **Scott Davis**. Level 1 students **Jay Stewart** and **Charlie Mead** of Holyrood School also received recognition for their hard work.

The Full-time Apprentice of the Year award went to James Earp. In ascending order, **Ryan Bastable**, **Peter Williams** and **Tom Russell** were highlighted for their work on wiring and testing electrical equipment, while **Jade Tavener** (third), **Jack Padfield** (second) and **Matthew Read** (first) received awards for their outstanding work carrying out aircraft details fitting activities. For assembling and testing electronic circuits, **Martin Crane** (third), **Jack Padfield** (second) and **Scott Jones** (first) received awards. **Ben Peach** (third), **Matthew Read** (second) and **Jade Tavener** (first) were highlighted for producing composite mouldings using pre-preg laminating techniques.

The two top awards were the Most Improved Apprentice award and Engineering Apprentice of the Year. These awards went to **George Fowler** (17) of Chard and **Matthew Read** (23) of Yeovil.

Matthew (23) of Yeovil is a Performing Engineering Operations apprentice with Agusta Westland. He said "*I originally did my A Levels in Design, Photography and Business with Yeovil College before going into full-time employment with Ribcraft Ltd, a boat manufacturing company in Yeovil. I worked fitting the electronics to boats and engines before deciding that I wanted to do more qualifications and go back to the College. I like the apprenticeship because it gives you clear direction and goals to meet, as well as plenty of options and routes, meaning that there are plenty of doors open to you at the end of the course! I'm hoping to stay on with Agusta Westland after I finish my apprenticeship and hopefully eventually get a management role.*" Matthew is a former student of Buckler's Mead Community School.

Director of Construction and Engineering Andy Davidson welcomed guests to the ceremony. He said “*This event is a celebration of the year, looking back at all the students’ hard work in 2009 and 2010 and seeing how far they have come. By the end of their time with us, the students have gained new skills, qualifications and knowledge which will stand them in good stead for the future and ensure that they can offer great value to their future employers. We’re also delighted by our continued excellent relationships with employers, which we will continue to develop over the coming year.*”

For more information on Yeovil College’s Engineering courses, visit www.yeovil.ac.uk.

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Notes to Editors

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Complete List of Award Winners

Award	Student
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Billy Biss (17) of Chard
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Dan Wills (17) of Ilminster
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Jay Stewart (16) of Chard
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	John Martin (18) of Yeovil
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Lloyd McCarthy (17) of Yeovil
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Marcus Pitman (17) of Sherborne
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Ollie Beaton (18) of Sherborne
Certificate of Recognition for Effort and Improvement	Scott Davis (18) of Chard
Best Machinist	Gilberto Serra (19) of Yeovil
Best Welder	Dante Strong (16) of Bridport
Best Transmissions Machinist	Scott Davis (18) of Chard
Apprentice of the Year (Full-time)	James Earp (18) of Sherborne
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 033 Wiring and Testing Electrical Equipment and Circuits) (Third)	Ryan Bastable (16) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 033 Wiring and Testing Electrical Equipment and Circuits) (Second)	Peter Williams (21) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 033 Wiring and Testing Electrical Equipment and Circuits) (First)	Tom Russell (19) of Ilminster
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 08 Carrying out Aircraft Detail Fitting Activities) (Third)	Jade Tavener (22) of Martock
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 08 Carrying out Aircraft Detail Fitting Activities) (Second)	Jack Padfield (17) of Sherborne
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 08 Carrying out Aircraft Detail Fitting Activities) (First)	Matthew Read (23) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 036 Assembling and Testing Electronic Circuits) (Third)	Martin Crane (17) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 036 Assembling and Testing Electronic Circuits) (Second)	Jack Padfield (17) of Sherborne
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 036 Assembling and Testing Electronic Circuits) (First)	Scott Jones (17) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 044 Producing Composite Mouldings using Pre-preg Laminating Techniques) (Third)	Ben Peach (19) of Weymouth
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 044 Producing Composite Mouldings using Pre-preg Laminating Techniques) (Second)	Matthew Read (23) of Yeovil
Outstanding Achievement (Unit 044 Producing Composite Mouldings using Pre-preg Laminating Techniques) (Third)	Jade Tavener (22) of Martock
Most Improved Apprentice	George Fowler (17) of Chard
Engineering Apprentice of the Year 2010	Matthew Read (23) of Yeovil