



Construction Centre of Vocational
Excellence (CoVE)

NEWSLETTER

News from RESPONSE Industry Skills and
Training, Centre of Vocational Excellence



The Skillset Screen Academy & Construction

Students and Lecturers in Construction at RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training have been working with the Skillset Screen Academy to bridge the gap between student skills and film industry needs.

As part of this exciting program lecturers attended the Pinewood film studios, and inspected the set of the latest 'Bourne Identity' chapter, and Carpentry and Joinery students attended Leavesden Studios, to study the sets for the next instalment of the Harry Potter films!

"I am delighted that our Carpentry & Joinery, Electrical and Plastering students and staff at RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training are involved in this exciting project. This offers real opportunities for students to gain an insight into the construction side of the film industry through this work experience project, and could lead to career opportunities for some"

**Jim Gallagher, Building Crafts & Services –
Division Manager**

The specialised training will be put to good use when the Construction students are involved in the production of 3 short films (music video/TV advertisement/drama) in early July. The films will be crewed entirely by students.

Outstanding Students

Construction students from Acton have had great success in the Regional SkillBuild competition, with six of the apprentices entered finishing in the top 4 for their chosen skill. Further, Acton Advanced Practitioner of Carpentry and Joinery Noel Hall, was 1 of only 2 SkillBuild judges selected in the country!





INDUSTRY SKILLS AND TRAINING



Word from the Director

It has been an exciting year for our Construction department, with a number of accolades received by RESPONSE. The Quality Improvement Agency (QIA) presented teachers and staff with a Beacon status award, putting our institution in the upper echelons of Further Education.

I'm also proud of students, and their ongoing success at the SkillBuild challenge. Six students finished in the top 4 rankings, with one student finishing 1st in the competition. A testament to the hardworking students and their dedicated teachers.

Looking forward there is much planned at RESPONSE over the summer period. There will be further developments in Building Crafts and Services, with the expansion of the carpentry and electrical engineering areas.

Further, the Work Based Learning (WBL) department will be increasing the number of apprenticeship portfolios, and will actively be looking for companies in terms of taking on apprentices and working in partnership to access funding.

Construction now seeks to execute new developments, transform learning in workshops, and deliver flexible onsite, on demand, bespoke vocational training to all employers.

It's been a successful time for RESPONSE, and we are planning to build upon this, taking vocational Further Education to new levels.

Mike James
College Director



Beacon Status



RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training has picked up a Beacon status award cementing its reputation as a shining light in the world of education and training.

RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training is one of only four organisations in west London to receive the accolade, and one of only 108 across the UK.

The quality standard was awarded thanks to our reputation for “excellence and innovation” and was also judged on our achievements from our most recent Ofsted/ALI inspection, in which 94 out of 100 areas inspected were deemed “good” or “outstanding”.

Bill Rammell MP, Minister of State for Education and Skills, was quoted at the awards ceremony;

“I would like to congratulate those receiving Beacon status today – it is thanks to your expertise, brilliance and creativity that we are helping equip people for a successful future”.



Apprenticeships

RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training Advanced Practitioner of Carpentry and Joinery Noel Hall talks about how apprenticeships are beneficial for both parties.



“Apprenticeships work for both the employer and young apprentice. The employer gets a skilled, motivated and more productive employee, and the apprentice gains the skills they need to progress, while achieving industry recognised qualifications.”

“Apprenticeships provide work based training to young people and adults who want to learn new skills and gain qualifications while working.”

At RESPONSE we have a pool of motivated students who have completed a year at college and acquired skills to help your business be successful. We will provide CV's, tutor's references, and arrange interviews on request. You may also be able to claim grants; contact a

member of the apprenticeship team for information.

Free Short Courses offered at Employer Forum

The department of Building Crafts & Services will be offering FREE short courses at the upcoming Employer Forum on the 27th June.

Free places will be offered on the following existing courses;

- 2377 – Portable appliance testing
- 2381 – 16th edition courses
- 2391 – Inspection & testing
- Water regulations
- Un-vented hot water systems

Further, the Building Crafts & Services team are happy to explore tailored courses that will meet your specific needs at cost! What could your staff be more skilled in?

The Employer Forum will include speakers on the following topics;

- Building Services Training Regulations Update
- CITB funding presentation
- Hammersmith & Fulham Council presentation on White City and expectations of employers.





New Construction EEM

Sean Poche has joined RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training as the Employer Engagement Manager in Construction. Sean will be coordinating the upcoming Employer Forum and can be contacted directly on 020 8231 6518.

Reconfiguration of Construction

The Division of Building Crafts and the division of Building Services have merged to form the one Division.

The newly formed Division of Building Crafts and Services is now positioned more strongly to respond to Train2Gain, expand the number of apprenticeships, and offer further quality improvements for all areas of activity delivered in construction.

Employer profile

Sandwood

Sandwood has undertaken a range of new build and refurbishment projects, however it has increasingly specialised in the new build Social Housing sector.

Although a small company, Sandwood aims to be at the forefront of the long overdue changes in the industry and has particular views on the future of partnering and procurement.

Director Gerry Lennon has enjoyed a strong relationship with RESPONSE Industry Skills and Training over the years:

“At present we are working with RESPONSE to redress the balance of women in construction.”

Contact Details

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Dates for your Diary

Employer Forum:

27th June 2007: 5.00pm – 6.30pm

Acton Open Day:

13th June 2007