

ACBE NEWS

PETROC SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

CUT THE CARBON

ConstructionSkills recently launched the 'Cut the Carbon' campaign, to ensure that contractors have the practical support and training needed to benefit from new opportunities emerging from the low carbon economy.

The three year campaign, organised with the Federation of Master Builders and the National Specialist Contractors Council, is a massive opportunity for small and medium contractors to undertake the relevant training to ensure they are ready for when the Government release the funding under the Green Deal.

With 26 million homes in need of retrofitting by 2050, to meet the Government's carbon emissions reduction target, ConstructionSkills deputy chairman, Judy Lowe, says small businesses need to realise the opportunities that will be available.

She advises that the construction industry should be training and up-skilling as fast as possible to meet this anticipated demand.

By 2020 construction will be a low carbon industry. In order to survive, companies need to become carbon clever and develop their knowledge, skills and expertise – or risk losing out.

(www.cskills.org)

In October 2010, Petroc and CITB ConstructionSkills (Future Skills Unit) attended the largest retrofitting conference in the UK – Interbuild Onsite at the NEC in Birmingham – to provide knowledge and skills to SME contractors in installing low carbon technologies into buildings.

The Retrofit Rig was designed to showcase how existing housing stock can be upgraded to make them more carbon efficient – a two storey demonstration area where visitors could see practical demonstrations covering a variety of retrofit solutions.

It was also a key information point for visitors looking to find the latest retrofit knowledge, requirements, training and certifications.

Petroc was responsible for the practical demonstration areas including installation of solar thermal, domestic photovoltaic and air source heat recovery systems. Other areas being showcased were solid wall insulation, general insulation, energy advice and thermal imaging.

You can see the Retrofit Rig online:
www.petroc.ac.uk/news/n618/petroc-at-interbuild-2010



INTERESTED IN APPRENTICESHIPS?

Look out for Issue 3 and keep an eye on our website as we are recruiting 15 APPRENTICES in the New Year www.petroc.ac.uk/jobs

RENEWABLES IN THE REGION

Petroc is at the leading edge when it comes to providing training for the renewable energies sector.

Demand is increasing for competent operatives, following the Government's introduction of Feed In Tariff (FIT) and the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

SummitSkills, the Sector Skills Council for the building services engineering sector, has projected that the need for environmental technologies training will grow considerably over the next few years.

Petroc is working with Somerset College and a number of other further education and private training providers in the South West, to secure their place as a cluster, delivering Environmental Technologies programmes.

The initiative was instigated and promoted by SummitSkills as a National Skills Academy for Environmental Technologies.

Nick Welch, deputy head of Petroc's School of Architecture, Construction and the Built Environment, has taken a key role in the initial presentations and meetings, demonstrating to SummitSkills that the South West's training facilities and lecturing staff are equipped and qualified to meet demand.

With campuses in North and Mid Devon, Petroc is geographically well positioned to meet this growth.

Specialist workshop facilities and training rooms are already well established at the Barnstaple Campus and further workshops are being developed at the Tiverton Campus, to accommodate the increased demand for quality programmes in low carbon technologies.

To find out more, please contact Edwina Stevenson on 01271 338060.

APPRENTICES: THE SEARCH IS ON

Petroc is at the heart of a new initiative to create 101 new Apprenticeships in 100 days, in North Devon.

The challenge starts in January 2011 and is led by the area's Employment and Skills Board.

"The benefits to individuals, businesses and the local economy are wide ranging," said Steve Pitcher of North Devon+, who chairs the ESB Board.

"Apprenticeships provide cost effective recruitment and skills training for new employees and the retention and upskilling of existing employees."

The campaign is a chance to encourage a better future for employers, staff and people from all over the area.

"It's important to note that Apprenticeships are not limited to school leavers, they are open to older students and existing employees," Frankie Upton of The National Apprenticeship Service added.

"They offer learners a progression pathway right up to degree level which should address the perception that Apprenticeships don't lead into Higher Education and managerial level roles."

Forthcoming events include an employer showcase event on 8 February in Barnstaple. The event will be delivered by employers, for employers with Apprenticeships from hairdressing and hospitality, through business administration and retail, to manufacturing and construction on show.

North Devon+ is co-ordinating the 101 Apprentices challenge. Call 01237 426426 for further information.

PLASTER MASTER CLASSES

Petroc is now an accredited training centre for Lafarge; the largest manufacturer of plasterboard in the world.

Recognition of this has opened up fantastic new opportunities for local plasterers and construction companies.

The plastering workshop at the College's Brannams Campus, in Barnstaple, has already gained Academy status and plans for continuing growth include offering more evening short courses, as well as building upon the Apprenticeship launched in September.

"Last year we approached Lafarge to see if they could donate any resources for our new Plastering Academy," said Petroc senior tutor, Jason Quinn.

"They came back to us and said that they could come down and do some demonstrations - we jumped at the chance."

"They then asked if we would like to host some training events for their staff; in return they would train and demonstrate their products to our students and local builders, as well as donate the materials for free."

In December, Lafarge's drywall site technician, Simon Watkins, spent two days at the Brannams Campus training colleagues and Petroc students.

He introduced some of Lafarge's newest products including its waterproof plasterboard; a product that will have a direct impact on the efficient operational ability of the industry.

"The training helps students to go out into the workplace with skills in new techniques putting them ahead of the competition," Jason added. "It gives the students added knowledge, as we're covering things that aren't in the curriculum."

In addition, Petroc has also been granted membership into the British Gypsum, Drywall Academy Thistle Training Partnership programme. British Gypsum is the largest producer of plaster in Europe and the company has donated over £1,500 worth of materials to aid the College's training provision.

If you are interested in plastering courses at Petroc, please phone 01271 338094 to find out more or book a place.



UPSKILLING & CARPENTRY

Petroc students studying Site and Bench Wood Occupations at the Tiverton Campus were invited to visit the Boat Building Academy at Lyme Regis.

The students were invited to visit the centre by Principal Yvonne Green in order to find out what the Academy can offer and to have a tour of the workshops and facilities with Academy Instructors.

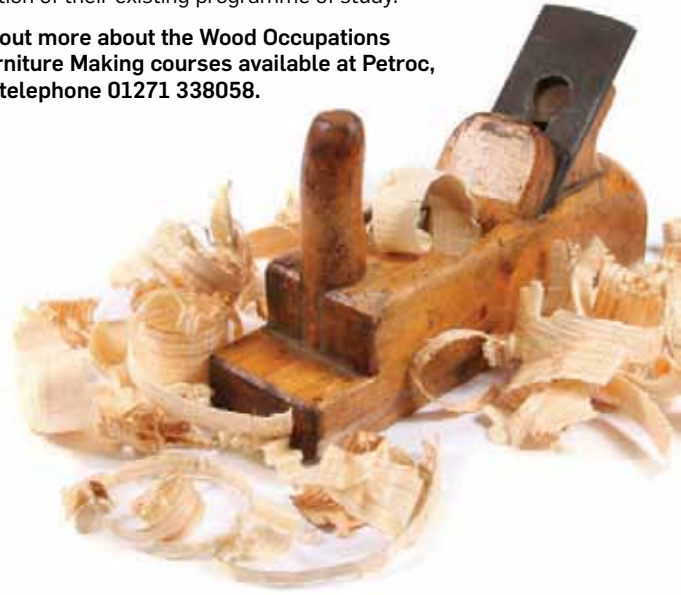
Petroc course tutors Nick Bradford and Lloyd Sampson arranged the visit to demonstrate the strong links between boat building and furniture making and to give students the chance to experience the high level skills required by the industry.

The Boat Building Academy attracts students from all over the world and aims to equip students with the confidence and practical skills that will enable them to work in the woodworking industry.

During the tour the students learnt about hand and power tools and the different skills required for both boatbuilding and furniture making. This linked directly into their trade knowledge and skills, broadening their outlook across wood occupations. The techniques used in boat building are transferable to those required for furniture making and provide solid foundations for general woodworking skills.

A high skill level and quality of craftsmanship is required for both industries. The students found the visit truly inspirational; it provided different options for career progression following completion of their existing programme of study.

To find out more about the Wood Occupations and Furniture Making courses available at Petroc, please telephone 01271 338058.



PETROC HOT COURSES

ConstructionSkills Certification Scheme (CSCS) Health and Safety Revision and Test

CSCS cards are increasingly demanded as proof of occupational competence by contractors, public and private clients and others.

The aim of the scheme is to raise standards of health and safety on construction sites and reduce risks and accidents throughout the industry. The half day course contains a review of construction health and safety and revision for the CSCS online test.

The course is available every Monday afternoon at the Barnstaple Campus and is available subject to demand at the Tiverton Campus.

The cost of the course and online test is £49.

Unvented Domestic Hot Water

This one day course is designed for heating and solar heating engineers and plumbers. It covers installation, servicing and commissioning of unvented domestic hot water storage systems to enable self certification under G3 of Building Regulations.

Certification must be renewed every five years.

The cost of training and assessment is £110 plus £25 certification fee.

NEW FOR 2011

ConstructionSkills Site Safety Plus Site Management Safety Training Scheme

This five day course is designed for site managers, agents and those who are, or are about to be, responsible for planning, organising, monitoring and administering groups of staff and workforces. The cost of the course is £650.

Date: One day a week for five weeks starting on 19 January 2011.

To book your place, or arrange for renewal of your certification for any of the above courses, please call 01271 338189.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Electrical Installation

17th Edition Wiring Regulations – Full Version (City & Guilds 2382-10)

Four days (Tuesdays day release), Tiverton
Starting 4 January **£350**

Four days (Monday to Thursday), Barnstaple
Week commencing 7 February **£350**
Week commencing 11 April **£350**

17th Edition Wiring Regulations – update from 16th Edition (City & Guilds 2382-20)

One day, Tiverton or Barnstaple
14 March **£190**

Certificate for Domestic Electrical Installers (inc. Part P)

Five days and home study, Barnstaple
Week commencing 24 January **£795**
Week commencing 21 March **£795**

Inspection, Testing and Certification of Electrical Installations (City & Guilds 2391-10)

Five days (Mondays day release), Tiverton
Starting 31 January **£450**

PAT Testing of Electrical Equipment (City & Guilds 2377-002)

Three days (Tuesday day release), Tiverton
Starting 1 February **£250**

Three days (Tuesday to Thursday), Barnstaple
Starting 15 March **£250**

Environmental Technologies Solar Thermal Hot Water

Two days, Barnstaple
16-17 February **£249**

F-Gas Regulations

Barnstaple
Week commencing 21 February **POA**

Installing and Testing Domestic Photovoltaic Systems (City & Guilds 2372)

Five days (Monday to Friday), Barnstaple
Week commencing 28 February **£650**
Week commencing 28 March **£650**

Health and Safety

CSCS Revision and Test

Half day, Barnstaple
Every Monday as required **£49**

Site Management Safety Training Scheme

Five days, (Wednesday day release for five weeks),
Barnstaple, 19 January **£650**

Ladder Access and Working at Heights

One day, Barnstaple
28 January; 25 February; 25 March **£70**

Asbestos Awareness

Half day, Barnstaple
28 February **£90**

Gas Oil and Water

Gas and Oil Training and Assessments

Available throughout the year as required. Costs vary according to training/assessment programme.

Energy Efficiency for Domestic Heating

One day, Barnstaple
4 February; 21 March **£147.50**

Legionella Prevention and Water Treatment

One day, Barnstaple
14 February **£165**

Unvented Domestic Hot Water

One day, Barnstaple
15 February; 11 March **£135**

Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme (WRAS)

One day, Barnstaple
22 March **£155**

Prices quoted include certification and examination fee where applicable.

All courses are available on demand in addition to these calendar dates. For a quick response and to meet your needs, please contact the Short Course Administration Team on 01271 338189 or e-mail shortcourses@petroc.ac.uk