

Community

The Year in Industry

The Year in Industry is a national scheme that provides pre-university and undergraduate students with a chance to spend a year working in a company on a challenging project before moving on to complete their University degree.

The main award was won by Holly Cornish from Saint-Gobain Pipelines, who won the top regional prize – a £500 cheque sponsored by the East Midlands Engineering Employers Federation.

Sue Otter, a member of the judging panel, commented: "Holly is a remarkable young woman who tackled a complex technical project in a difficult environment with extraordinary maturity and good humour. The quality of her work has been recognised by Saint-Gobain, and her control system is being assessed by factories in China, France and Germany. The impact of her work on the business was clear and impressive."

"Initially, I found it rather daunting as I had no previous engineering experience. However I learnt a lot very quickly, including knowledge of the process and practical skills. As well as improving my organisational skills, my involvement in organising Red Nose Day enabled me to get to know people in other departments. Another highlight away from work, was putting a team into the Derbyshire 10K race and raising money for Wateraid."

Holly Cornish from Saint-Gobain Pipelines



Students from Selby High School

Holly Cornish from Saint-Gobain Pipelines

Partnership

Saint-Gobain Glass UK at Eggborough has been working closely with Selby High School and the North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership to generate internet-friendly computer packages for pupils.

Saint-Gobain Glass UK training developer Sandra Blakeston pioneered the project with Selby High's lead manufacturing practitioner Amanda Lumb. Both teachers and students have visited the Eggborough plant to further their skills and knowledge, with plans to expand the scheme to develop links with Sherburn High School's applied science course.



British Gypsum is maximising the potential of budding plasterers by running four-day training courses at its training facility in Erith for 'Construct your career' – a training initiative run for 16-24 year olds by East Thames Housing Association's East Potential Group.

Kirkby Thore People Development

A team of four talented sixth formers, with their teachers from a local school or college, work with our engineers for six months on a project chosen by ourselves.

There is a formal Scheme Launch involving seminars and activities, including team work, problem solving and project management. The teams attend a three or four-day university Residential Workshop (RW) where the project is progressed with the assistance of university personnel and resources.

The Scheme culminates in a high profile Celebration and Assessment Day (CAD) when the projects are assessed by teams of eminent professional engineers. The next stage is to continue the links with local schools and to expand this to local universities, with a view to a graduate recruitment programme.

Benefits include:

- A raised profile within the community
- Opportunities to assess companies' own training and career structures
- Development of project management skills in company engineers
- The opportunity to strengthen education/industry links and enhance teachers' knowledge of engineering.

Local Communities

As part of our social responsibilities as a major manufacturer in the UK, we appreciate that local communities need our support. Each of our sites work closely with local charities, schools and community groups, providing funding, free of charge materials, labour and even advice on projects that all make a difference to local lives.

Projects like:

- **Bradley Stoke United**
They are not quite ready to take on the might of Real Madrid, but the youngsters of the Bradley Stoke United FC under-13's team looked good in their new Gyproc Kit, following our sponsorship deal.



Bradley Stoke United