NEW ENGINEERING

POWERING EDUCATION : ENRICHING LIVES

Apprenticeships & the role of the Modern Class of Technician

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Apprenticeships – the benefits to date

Re-engaging young people's pride in work and skills

Providing an alternative route for school-leavers

Highly motivational route for trainees

Increasing the status of vocational training

Improving productivity in many businesses

80 business sectors taking part

239,000 Apprenticeship starts and nearly 143,000 achievements
Additional 35,000 advanced & higher apprenticeships over 2 years

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Apprenticeships – how they can do even better

Are apprenticeships fostering the workforce which can deliver in the modern economy?

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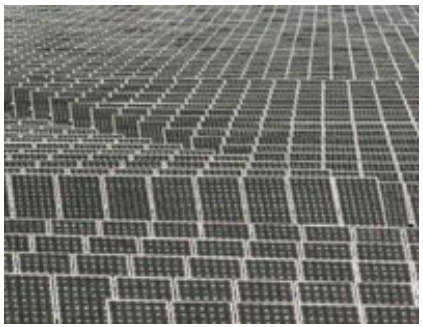
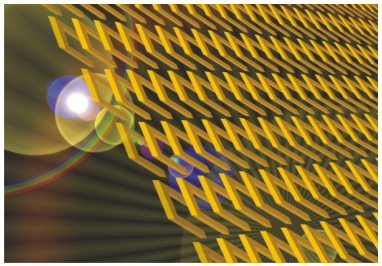
The Future… Areas of economic growth…

Energy & Power



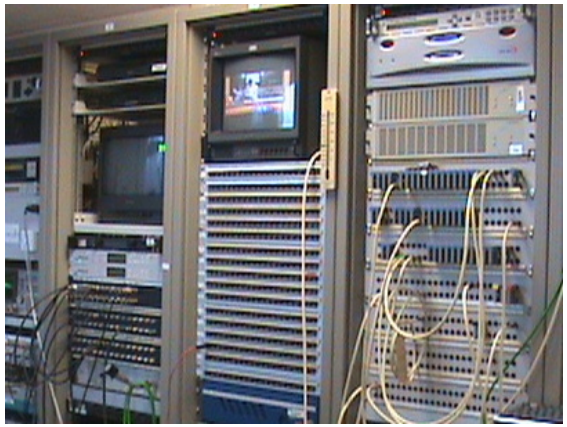
Transportation

Smart Materials

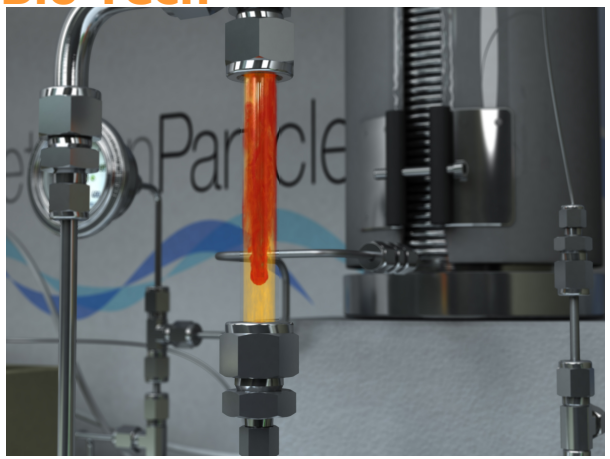


Eco Construction/Building

Telecoms



Bio Tech



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Three big issues

- Qualifications
- Specialism
- Progression

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Qualifications

- **A high-status award which will:**
  - Increase completion rates
  - Impress employers (currency & recognition)
  - Establish status alongside traditional qualifications

Most employers are looking for what we have termed as ***"level 3 Plus"***.

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Specialism

- **More focused training content which will:**
  - Create expertise which is less generic
  - Prepare trainees to work with emerging technologies
  - Meet the increasingly niche requirements of industry

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Progression

- **Take measures which will:**
  - Better alignment with progression routes (e.g. FDs) to HE and other forms of vocational and technical qualifications
  - Instil a desire for further learning upon completion
  - Increase recognition relative to academic qualifications

Less than 4% progress to Higher Level Education!

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"Professional Registration"
An approach to wider Recognition & Status

- **Professional registration schemes at technician level exist in a number of sectors and impact positively to:**
  - Build the credibility of professional technicians and attract talent
  - Provide an overarching professional framework for career development
  - Enable continuous learning and professional development
  - Support strategic planning on skills and provide a means to assess the health of the technician profession in a robust manner
  - Promote the 'value of the technician' role

Professional Technician > Professional Technologist > Chartered

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Technical College Status (TCS)
A " Total System" Approach

- ***A cross-disciplinary approach to STEM curriculum development, teaching and training***
  - *STEM knowledge and skills* (understanding of the basic 'science' principles as well as more technically specific aspects)
  - *Sector specific related knowledge* (knowledge of the tools, equipment, materials and supplies that are used in the sector)
  - *A range of generic skills* (problem solving and team working and a set of attitudes, traits and behaviours including professionalism, resourcefulness, and orientation to quality and improvement).
- ***A joined up approach to STEM staff professional development***
- ***Alignment of professional and occupational standards with qualifications to achieve the linearity in the level and quality***
- ***A recognised and accepted approach that fuses together workplace, college-based, and individual learning.***

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Rationalisation > Specialisation > Innovation

Intelligence on skills needs in key sectors of growth → Qualifications

Developing new specialist provision rapidly → Specialisation

Integrating employment and higher level skills → Progression

Differentiated Technical Education & Training System

Attracts Strategic Investment

Creates the right conditions to drive wealth creation

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Creating a Modern Class of Technician requires a fresh approach to recognition and continuous learning and professional development

Thank You

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