

# UPDATE



## September 2018



## The Big Bang Fair Scotland

The Big Bang Fair run in partnership with EngineeringUK's Tomorrow's Engineers initiative was held at Perth College UHI on 12 June 2018 and brought together over 60 exhibitors from industry and colleges along with 13 inspirational speakers from industry partners.

Attended by over 1300 school pupils from schools across Scotland it provided the opportunity for those attending to participate in interactive activities, meet Careers Champions, attend inspirational talks and to be inspired through having fun.



Additionally, the event hosted the Scottish Big Bang Competition, Tomorrow's Engineers Lego Robotics Challenge Scottish final and the Bloodhound Scotland Rocket Car Challenge final.

Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science Shirley-Anne Somerville attended and said:

*"Developing Scotland's STEM talent is key to achieving our ambitions of being a modern, dynamic and open economy. Our goal is to connect education and training to the needs of employers to deliver an excellent workforce,*

*both now and in the future. Colleges have an important role to play in increasing the number of people with STEM skills and it was great to see so many young people from across Scotland taking part in this interactive event and hearing real stories from inspirational people working in industry."*

## STEM FESTIVAL @MCLAREN HIGH SCHOOL

McLaren High School in Callendar held a highly successful STEM festival on Saturday 8th September with 50 pupils demonstrating their innovative projects, alongside a robotics competition which included teams from 8 Scottish primary schools. ESP supported the event and attended to provide a demonstration of the IHR VR unit.



**FIRST LEGO LEAGUE** First Lego League is a science and technology challenge to encourage students to take an interest in real world issues and develop key skills that are crucial for their future careers. The students work together to explore design, build and program an autonomous LEGO® robot to solve a series of missions.

ESP hosted the launch event in Stirling on 24 August and Tournaments are planned for December 2018 in Inverness, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Borders & Outer Hebrides. The theme for 18/19 is Space.

## SHARING STEM BEST PRACTICE IN TRAIN THE TRAINER WORKSHOP

Staff members from secondary schools across the Scottish Borders were recently welcomed to a pilot training event, hosted by Borders College, aimed at encouraging shared Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) resources within the region.



[Read the full press release here](#)

## GSC SCIENCE LATES

On 12 September ESP Attended the Glasgow Science Lates event to demonstrate the iHR Virtual reality kit.

The event offered attendees the opportunity to enjoy and experience a wide range of workshops and shows including coding, 3D printing, LEGO and many more.

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## A.C. WHYTE SKILLS ACADEMY



A.C. Whyte, a main contractor in the major refurbishment of homes throughout the UK and specialists in installing external wall insulation recently launched The A.C. Whyte Skills Academy in partnership with West College Scotland.

Working extensively with ESP, A.C. Whyte identified that the shortage of skilled workforce was a future risk to the industry. Together they met with West of Scotland College and began to develop the Academy. Months of dedicated time and resource went into planning and developing the inimitable course, which includes relevant content tailored specifically to A.C. Whyte and the energy efficiency industry's needs.

## SEMTA MOU

Following the establishment of the Engineering Strategy Group in 2017, an early outcome from the group was for ESP to form a stronger working relationship with Semta. A MoU is now in place and some key priorities for collaboration identified include:

- Strategic Priorities and Projects
- Government and Industry Groups (Influence)
- Funding and Resources
- Capability and Capacity in Support of Emerging Technologies and Emerging Opportunities
- Curriculum and Learning and Teaching Development
- Benefits to Scotland

## SEMTA NOS AND MODERN APPRENTICESHIP CONSULTATION EVENTS

On 12 September SEMTA in partnership with ESP hosted a consultation day event for colleges and industry to discuss and review the following topics

- National Occupational Standards Consultation sessions for Boat Building & Repair
- MA developments and Science, Technical, Formulation Processing MA developments

A third drop in session was also held in Inverness on 11 September to gain views and feedback on SEMTA NOS And Modern Apprenticeships.

## TRANSITION TRAINING FUND (TFF)

The Transition Training Fund (TFF) is administered by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and was set up to assist people if their employment has been impacted by the downturn in the oil and gas industry. The fund's there to help them to retrain, up-skill and get a qualification to help get a new job. To date, 88% of people on Transition Training Fund courses have secured employment at the end of their training. For more information visit here: <https://www.south-lanarkshire-college.ac.uk/news/free-training-youve-made-redundant-oil-gas-industry/>

## AIMING FOR AWESOME

ESP has secured 40 Aiming for Awesome kits from the RAF. These kits will be distributed to schools following a CPD day on 26 October.

Work is ongoing with Education Scotland to develop supporting lesson plans at various levels aligning the activities to Curriculum for Excellence.



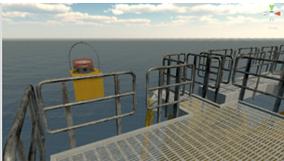
## OFFSHORE WIND FUNDING

The Scottish Government has announced up to £2m in funding to boost innovation in the offshore wind industry and help reduce project development costs. Grants have been awarded to the Carbon Trust's Offshore Wind Accelerator, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult and the Energy Skills Partnership.

## AUTOTEST/SAFE DRIVING

ESP have been discussing establishing a student Autotest competition linked to safe driver awareness for College Automotive department students. The first event was held at Knockhill Race Circuit on 4 September and proved very successful. Future events will be announced soon.

## IHR VIRTUAL REALITY



Phase three of the iHR Virtual reality mobile units has now been fully completed. The VR experience which simulates the experience of working at

heights on top of a wind turbine now includes 3 levels of exploration and presents a 3 minute walk through allowing individuals to diagnose faults in the foundations, the interior and exterior of the turbine.

Additionally ESP have secured funding from Scottish Government to purchase two more mobile units (giving a total of 4) which will be based at colleges of key importance to the wind industry providing a good geographic spread.

## AUGMENTED REALITY TRAINING

ESP have organised a training workshop on 5 October for college staff on the use of Augmented Reality (AR) software. This software was developed as part of the Erasmus+ ELITE project and allows the user to develop construction and engineering plans and drawings which can be viewed in a three dimensional perspective using the software to provide a more in depth learning experience. This software will then be rolled out within the colleges as a teaching aid.

## OMRON INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION

ESP recently met with OMRON Industrial Automation. Plans are now being put in place for a CPD visit (mid Nov TBC) for college staff to two organisations in the central belt currently using OMRON equipment.

## PARLIAMENTARY RECEPTION

ESP and several member colleges attended the annual Colleges Scotland's Parliamentary Reception on Tuesday 25 September 2018.

The theme for this years reception was 'Industry 4.0'. Among those in attendance at the event were members of the Scottish college sector, Scottish Parliament and stakeholders.

## SEMTA SKILLS AWARDS 2019

The Semta Skills Awards celebrate the talented individuals and companies that make the advanced manufacturing and engineering sector one of the highest skilled sectors in the UK.

Entries are open from 1st September until midnight on 30th November. The awards are free to enter and entries can be made in multiple award categories.

<https://semta.org.uk/enter-now>

## EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

28 September, Dundee	Automotive Training Network meeting at Dundee & Angus College, Hella Gutmann, Advanced Driver Assist Systems (ADAS) CPD event
2 October, Coventry	Food & Drink Lean, Productivity and Continuous Improvement summit
2 October, East Kilbride	Big Bang@South Lanarkshire (South Lanarkshire College)
3 October, Motherwell	Big Bang@North Lanarkshire (New College Lanarkshire)
4 October, Coatbridge	Big Bang@North Lanarkshire (New College Lanarkshire)
11 October, Dumfries & Galloway	First Lego League JR Expo
26 October, Stirling	Aiming for Awesome event

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