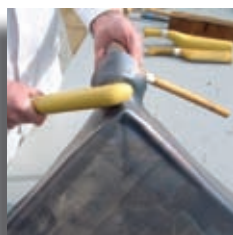


ROOF OVERVIEW

The voice of roof training



Apprenticeships



Lead sheet



Site safety



Self-certification

Issue 7
Spring 2011

... plus much
more!

THE magazine about your roof training groups, leading federations and key industry figures

Editor's view



Contact: Sue Clement

Fernau Editorial Services
Fernau Cottage
Wivenhoe Road
Alresford
Colchester
Essex
CO7 8AJ

Telephone: 01206 823775
Mobile: 07860 368159
E-mail: sue@fernaueditorial.co.uk
Website: www.roofoverview.co.uk

Welcome to the Winter 2011 issue of Roof Overview, which is packed as usual with news and training opportunities from regular and new contributors.

Although the long-awaited economic upturn is slow to manifest itself, every training group, college, federation and business in this issue is facing the year with a range of courses, training initiatives, awards and general optimism that it is business as usual, or even better, than in recent times.

Roof Overview now has its own website up and running, so please visit www.roofoverview.co.uk to view and download past issues. Page rates are also available and there will soon be information on how to advertise on the website itself. And don't forget – this year you can take

advantage of the new ¼ page availability. As a result of feedback from past issues, this new option is to extend the scope of the magazine to members of training organisations, federations, etc, who would like to be included in Roof Overview – or indeed, anyone involved in roof training who prefers to take this option.

Roof Overview is published quarterly and copy date for the Spring issue is Friday, April 1.

We can accommodate late requests but please let us have enough time to do justice to your article!

– South Wales & South West Roofing Training Group –

Don't miss out on new training initiatives



Contact: Martin Rickard

South Wales & South West
Roofing Training Group
Unit 8C
Mill Park Industrial Estate
Whitecross Road
Woodbury Salterton
Exeter
Devon
EX5 1EL

Telephone: 01395 233667
E-mail: swrtg@btconnect.com
Website: www.swales-swest.rooftraining.co.uk

Places are filling for two major training initiatives due to start next month, so please book now to avoid disappointment for either.

The new **management and technician course** starts in Dorchester on February 22. This well-respected 18-week course culminates in sitting the Institute of Roofing (IoR) associate examination, leading to associate membership of the IoR and use the designation AIoR.

For further details ring the South Wales & South West Roofing Training Group on 01395 233667.

The **pitched roofing training course**, based on day-release at our Exeter training centre, begins on February 24. Trainees work towards QCF/NVQ Level 2 in roof slating and tiling. The course is fully funded by ConstructionSkills for 'in-scope'



companies and uses an ideal format that blends on- and off-site training to provide the flexibility required by employers and employees alike.

For further details contact the South Wales & South West Roofing Training Group on 01395 224695.

Opportunity available for self-employed assessor

We have recently recruited a new NVQ assessor for slating and tiling, based in South Wales, to increase our capacity. In addition to this, we are also looking to recruit a fully qualified, self-employed assessor for roof sheeting and cladding, who will bolster our team even further, to cover the South West and South Wales. Anyone who is interested should contact Martin Rickard on 01395 233667.

As always we can provide the run-of-the-mill courses, but remember – we are always keen to work with companies to develop bespoke new courses to suit the needs of an ever-changing industry.

All we ask for is the opportunity.

– J Wright Roofing –

Jason's call to training action

Jason Wright is starting the year as he means to go on – by investing in his workforce to ensure the success of his business.

The managing director of Nottingham roofing company J Wright Roofing has just taken on 11 apprentices to learn their trade in roof slating and tiling. Aged between 17 and 20, they will spend the first six weeks learning the basics, both in the classroom and on the roofing rigs, and of course the all-important health and safety.

After completing their two-year apprenticeship they come away with an NVQ Level 2 and guaranteed employment with Jason for a further two years if they want to take advantage of it – which most of his apprentices appreciate.

“We encourage them to remain with us for a further two years so that they can gain more experience before either setting up on their own or finding employment with another employer,” explained Jason.

‘We’re not here to waste time – we’re here because it’s something we all want to do’

Taking on apprentices is second nature to Jason. After setting up his own business in the 1990s, he quickly realised that people coming to him for employment didn’t have the skills necessary for the quality of roofing Jason required, or the qualifications to prove to his clients that his company offered the highest standard of workmanship.

“It became our policy to train our employees as soon as they left school, because we could then mould them and train them specifically to our company’s work,” he said.

“At the time it was unheard of, but we were the first company around here to take on a dedicated apprenticeship scheme.”

This determination to bring his employees up to the required high standard soon encountered a very large hurdle – a lack of training facilities anywhere in the area.

“This meant that all our apprentices had to be sent out on block release to train elsewhere,” explained Jason.

“So we decided to set up our own training centre and our current intake of apprentices is the



first at our new East Midlands Roofing College (see page 4).”

The college is something of a godsend for local roofing companies and is a culmination of investment by J Wright Roofing and funding from the East Midlands Development Agency.

“I think the country as a whole is losing vital skills and has been doing so for years,” said Jason.

“Unless we start training people for their specific jobs we’re going to end up with nobody able to provide these skills, and in 20 years’ time we’ll all be moaning about it.

“So the time for action has come – we need to invest more in the training of young people.”

New apprentice with J Wright Roofing is 19-year-old Gregory Miller (pictured), who said: “I’m enjoying it a lot so far. It’s very different from college because the people who are here know what they want.

“We’re not here to waste time – we’re here because it’s something we all want to do and it gives a much more concentrated atmosphere, which I like.”



The first class of 2011, pictured with Jason Wright (far right), ConstructionSkills regional roofing training adviser Mike Harris (far left) and J Wright Roofing finance director Livia Williams



Contact: Livia Williams

J Wright Roofing
Dabell Avenue
Blenheim Industrial Estate
Bulwell
Nottingham
NG6 8WA

Telephone: 0115 927 1333
Mobile: 07851 192584
E-mail: lwilliams@jwrightroofing.co.uk

– East Midlands Roofing College –

College sets a milestone in the East Midlands



specialist training courses including Institute of Roofing (IoR) courses, and health and safety.

And as a satellite centre for the Lead Sheet Association, it runs basic lead welding and bossing courses.

“Because employers’ views were taken into consideration when designing the apprenticeship programme, it will run on a day-release rather than block-week release, apart from the first six weeks,” said Jason.

The programme is delivered over 18 months and apprentices will achieve a Level 2 roof slating and tiling diploma and NVQ Level 2.

“We want to ensure we work closely with employers and encourage them to put apprentices on courses and carry on training.”

The college is deeply involved in working with young students from the local academies, delivering taster days and work experience, as well as promoting careers in the roofing industry and encouraging young apprentices.

Because the college has been planned and set up from scratch, the facilities are second to none, including brand new classrooms, IT and computer technology, roofing rigs, and of course – the essential canteen!

Livia added: “We would like to encourage employers to take apprentices on and put them through the new college.

“Anyone interested in our courses is most welcome to come and visit us and see what facilities we have to offer.

“We are currently enrolling a second intake of Year 1 apprentices on the roof slating and tiling course, which will start on May 9.”

Employers of these apprentices will be able to claim the ConstructionSkills apprenticeship grant.

To enquire about any courses, please contact the college directly.

In these days of economic uncertainty, not least in the construction industry, creating a brand new training facility might raise a few eyebrows, to say the least.

But for anyone who has doubted the sanity of Jason Wright and Livia Williams in their plans to set up a roof training college, the first intake of roof slating and tiling apprentices at an East Midlands-based training facility has proved that such a need existed.

Jason – owner of the successful company J Wright Roofing – knew from experience the value of his own apprenticeship programme, and because there was no facility in the Nottingham area, decided to set one up himself.

The result is East Midlands Roofing College, based at Dabell Avenue, Blenheim Industrial Estate, Bulwell, Nottingham (M1, junction 26).

“Our plans are to take around 48 students a year from local roofing companies across the region,” explained Jason.

“There is no other training facility like it in the East Midlands – the nearest is in Birmingham.

“I am delighted that, despite the economic downturn, we have managed to open the new training facility and support the industry.”

East Midlands Roofing College is an accredited centre which delivers roof slating and tiling and heritage apprenticeships, and also NVQ Level 2 and 3 in roof slating and tiling via the on-site assessment and training (OSAT) route.

It will also deliver NVQs via the experienced worker practical assessment (EWPA) route, as well as various



Contact: Livia Williams

East Midlands Roofing College
Dabell Avenue
Blenheim Industrial Estate
Bulwell
Nottingham
NG6 8WA

Telephone: 0115 927 1333
Mobile: 07851 192584
E-mail: lwilliams@jwrightroofing.co.uk

– Lead Sheet Association –

Follow the leaders

The Lead Sheet Association is synonymous with excellent training facilities and a technical service unrivalled anywhere.

Last year training numbers were up, with the plumbing courses at the state-of-the-art training centre at East Peckham going from strength to strength, plus the launch of the heritage specialist apprenticeship programme in leadwork.

The LSA is widely recognised as the foremost independent technical authority on the design, specification and application of rolled lead sheet to BS EN 12588: 2006 in the construction industry.

The brand new website now assists architects and specifiers in every aspect of their work with lead sheet – many of their questions are solved at the click of a mouse at www.leadsheet.co.uk.

Design and installation? The information in these pages should make that task easier with downloadable AutoCAD and full specification sheets, plus comprehensive guidance on installation in every situation.

Free downloads of AutoCAD files, the Installers' Pocket Guide and latest bulletins are also instantly downloadable.

However, it is worth remembering that there is one very good reason why the Lead Sheet Association exists at all.

And that is lead sheet – the material itself.

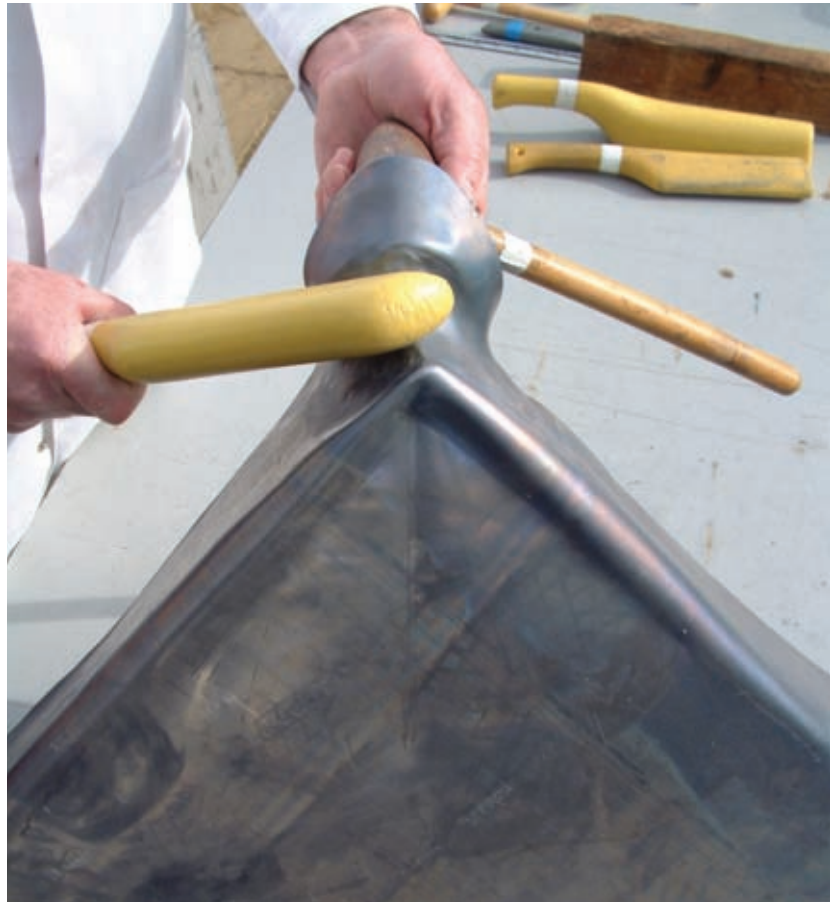
There's no denying that it may cost a bit more to begin with, but lead sheet will outlive any alternative building materials. One of the oldest and most durable building materials, lead sheet will age more beautifully than any of its synthetically-produced substitutes.

And it's recyclable, making it unbeatable as a sustainable building product.

- ◆ Lead is a natural metal – the earth's crust contains an estimated 290 million tonnes of it.
- ◆ Lead is 100 per cent recyclable, time after time – and it never deteriorates, no matter how many times it is recycled, retaining all the natural qualities that attract architects and designers to it in the first place.
- ◆ Recycling (due to lead's low melting point) requires low energy and supports the Kyoto protocol.
- ◆ All by-products created during re-processing are recycled.

So it's great value, for the pocket and for the environment. Not to mention how good it looks too.

Don't forget – lead sheet to BS EN 12588 must be fitted in accordance with BS 6915 and the recommendations of the Lead Sheet Association (as defined and illustrated in Rolled Lead Sheet – The



Complete Manual). Order your copy from the website now!

For a full range of courses and qualifications to bring you and your workforce up to speed with industry and consumer requirements, please visit the website or call 01622 872432.

Young Leadworker of the Year Award 2011

The Lead Sheet Association and Lead Contractors Association (LCA) have jointly launched this award to recognise the excellence of today's young leadworkers.

Open to members of the LCA for the first year of this award, entries will be made through an application pack, which requests a CV and photographic evidence of work. Six finalists, selected from these entries, will be invited to the LSA training centre in East Peckham for a one-day assessment. The winner will be chosen and presented with the award later in the year at the LSA's annual general meeting.

The award consists of the LSA's Rolled Sheet Lead – The Complete Manual, a set of leadwork tools worth £500, and a training bursary worth £3,500 towards a formal leadwork qualification.

The five runners-up will receive the manual and three days' personalised leadwork development training from the LSA.

Award entrants must be no older than 25 on the closing date for applications, which is March 31, 2011.



Contact: Nigel Johnston

Lead Sheet Association
Unit 10
Archers Park
Branbridges Road
East Peckham
Kent
TN12 5HP

Telephone: 01622 872432
Fax: 01622 871439
E-mail: info@leadsheet.co.uk
Website: www.leadsheet.co.uk

– South Central Independent Roofing Training Group –

Hard work pays off as **heritage SAP is launched**



It's up and running! After many months of planning and preparation, the pilot for the heritage special apprenticeship programme (SAP), which leads to an NVQ Level 3 in roofing, began at the training centre in Littlehampton last December.

It consists of 30 days' theory and practical in the workshop, followed by on-site assessment to complete the NVQ.

Richard Jordan, of Jordan Heritage Roofing in Derbyshire, has been leading this pilot course. Future courses will be led by

South Coast Roof Training tutors Yusof Abdullah and Peter Cullingham.

Group training officer Brian Middlemiss said: "We would like to thank all the manufacturers and suppliers who have supported the heritage programme to date:

- ◆ Keymer Tiles Ltd (traditional tiles and fittings)
- ◆ Singleton Birch Ltd (lime putty)
- ◆ Burlington Slate Ltd (random slates)
- ◆ WL West & Sons Ltd (clef laths)."

For further information regarding the heritage SAP please contact the group on 0845 678 0065.

CPD programmes

New courses often produce unplanned benefits, and the heritage SAP has done just this.

The group is about to offer continuing professional development which may be of interest to many people, including architects, specifiers, conservation officers, planners, manufacturers, suppliers and builders.

These courses will, like the heritage SAP, be held at the training centre in Littlehampton. Please call 0845 678 0065 for more information.

AGM attracts record numbers

Whether it was the venue, the speakers or just a chance to catch up with fellow members, attendance at this year's annual general meeting was up 43 per cent on last year's event.

Also attended by Institute of Roofing



members from that region, the event took place on November 18 at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club, near Basingstoke, where Single Ply Roofing Association (SPRA) director Jim Hooker gave an interesting and entertaining presentation on the future of single ply and the benefits of SPRA membership.

Jill Middlemiss presented Nick Piper, second-year trainee in roof slating and tiling at South Coast Roof Training, with this year's award (pictured).

Site managers – this is for you

The ConstructionSkills site management safety training scheme (SMSTS) course – 'Site Safety Plus' – is taking place at the training centre in Littlehampton. Beginning in March, it will be held one day a week over a five-week period, at a cost of just £590 per delegate.

For further details, please turn to London & Southern Roofing Training Group news on page 13.

Don't miss our open day

Here's a date for your diary; our group is holding an open day in conjunction with South Coast Roof Training at the training centre in Littlehampton. Why not come along and see what training is on offer? The day will be starting with a continuing professional development (CPD) seminar on air tightness of lofts, lead by Brian Middlemiss.

There's something for everyone so do try to make it!

Take up the solar challenge

With the support of several solar manufacturers – Solar Century, Velux, Veridian and Worcester Bosch – the group is putting together a programme, linked to the National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC), of one-day courses. The courses will be similar to those run previously by the group, but will contain more in-depth training.

Access training

This a must for many roofers – the group is working closely with Turner Access to provide training on the integral advanced guard rail system, BetaGuard.

This system allows erection without trip hazards at base level, a walk-through facility, simplification of tower erection, increased safety throughout and contributes to tower stability.

Going green

A two-day pilot for the design and construction of green roof systems was held in conjunction with Turner Access in January at South Coast Roof Training. More courses are planned for later on this year.



Contact: Brian Middlemiss

South Central Independent Roofing Training Group
15 Holland Pines
Bracknell
Berks
RG12 8UY

Mobile: 07791 377559
Fax: 01344 429071
E-mail: rooftraining@
googlemail.com
Website: www.
southcentralrooftraining.
co.uk

– The National Federation of Roofing Contractors Limited –

To Europe and beyond

Mention SkillBuild and most people involved in roof training are familiar with the industry's premier competition. On the other hand, despite quite a lot of publicity in the trade press, far fewer people are familiar with the IFD World Championships for Young Roofers. Kevin Taylor, technical and training officer for the NFRFC, which hosted last year's championship, explains how this fast-growing international competition is trail-blazing for young roofing talent from all over Europe and beyond.

IFD is a federation made up of roofing federations from countries all over Europe and even further, which work together on technical issues, standards, and to encourage training. The highlight of the year is the IFD Congress at which a skills competition is held to showcase the skills of the best young roofers from the member countries.

IFD 2010 – Belfast

The 2010 competition was held in November inside Belfast's prestigious King's Hall. Teams of two from Russia, Germany, Poland, Ireland, Switzerland, Austria, France, Belgium, Slovakia, Hungary, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom competed over three days to complete two compulsory tasks, plus one free-style optional task which carries the special president's prize.

The UK team of Martyn McAlister (Penrose Roofing Ltd), Matthew Timby (Prince's Trust), Neil Armstrong (Fulwood Roofing Services), Mark McAvoy (Watershed Roofing Ltd), Alan Fulton and Lee Mallin (Grainger Building Services) trained for up to ten days each.

This preparation was carried out under the watchful eyes of the expert mentors, Bob Coutts (Edinburgh's Telford College), David Ormesher (Icopal) and John Lindsay (National Construction College Glasgow) respectively, to make sure they knew the tasks back to front, and had the skills and confidence to reproduce what they had practised at the highest level.

Judging

In previous years, each mentor marked the other countries' work apart from their own, which looking back was quite ridiculous. Not only did the competitors have to suffer up to 15 judges hovering around while they were trying to work, there was more than a hint of the 'nul point' attitude made famous by the Eurovision song contest! In recent years, a team of independent judges (including myself), proposed and elected by the member countries, has ensured that marking is fairer, more transparent, and NFRFC has been instrumental in bringing this change about.

Result

The hard work paid off, and the UK came away with the best result ever: a gold medal in the

pitched roofing (slating and tiling), a silver in the waterproofing (single ply and bituminous) and the metal roofing (sheeting and cladding). We also picked up the president's prize for the fine, imaginative work done by the metal roofing team.

The UK was the only country to achieve a medal in all three disciplines, and we are rightly proud of our young roofers' achievements. Not bad when we consider the UK has won only three medals in the past ten years!

Groundwork

There are many similarities with SkillBuild in regard to designing specifications, creating drawings and marking schemes, sourcing materials and the build-up and break-down; however, as hosts, organising an IFD competition demands so much more.

The increase in numbers alone, from 18 competitors at SkillBuild to 48 at IFD, gives a clue as to the jump in scale of this event and the sheer amount of materials, rigs, judges and helpers needed. As the hosts, we were also responsible for the layout of the hall, health and safety, traffic management, translations, accommodation, transport, entertainment, power, all guests and visitors, and the closing awards ceremony.

Support

NFRFC is very proud of the IFD event, including, of course, the tremendous result. However, we could not have done this without the support of many others, so a big thankyou to all the colleges, training groups, tutors, mentors, employers, local contractors, associate members and ConstructionSkills who made this such a success.

When is the next competition?

The IFD has grown to such an extent that it has become too big an event to host every year and will now be held bi-annually. The next competition is in Switzerland in 2012, so aspiring competitors should look towards doing well at the 2011 SkillBuild competition.

And who knows? You could get the chance to represent your country!



Contact: Kevin Taylor

NFRFC Ltd
Roofing House
31 Worship Street
London
EC2A 2DY

Tel: 020 7638 7663
Mob: 07736 680300
Fax: 020 7256 2125
Email: kevin.taylor@nfrfc.co.uk
Website: www.nfrfc.co.uk

– Yorkshire Independent Roof Training Group –

A framework for roof training

Yorkshire Independent Roof Training Group is working with providers and funders to provide a comprehensive framework of training within the region.

The task of the group management is to identify need within the region and source suitable providers and funding for required courses. We seek to work with pro-active providers who are responsive to industry needs and demands, and with responsive funders who appreciate the specific needs of our sector of the construction industry.

In Yorkshire and Humber we are privileged to be working with the Skills Enhancement Fund* who provide assistance to companies seeking to upskill their workforce to make their businesses more qualified, competitive and productive through training their workforce.

The adjacent framework covers national fully funded training, training assisted by the Skills Enhancement Fund and additional mainstream and specialist courses which do not currently attract funding, that are arranged at competitive rates on behalf of members.

The role of the training group is to identify need, respond to demand and source training solutions from a range of providers, and arrange courses where provision is not available locally, or at reasonable cost.

**The Skills Enhancement Fund is co-financed by the Skills Funding Agency through the European Social Fund and funded by Yorkshire Forward.*

A BIG thankyou!

Group training officer Denise Cherry would like to say how grateful she is to Blackdown for another excellent green roof course held on January 26.

Date for your diary

Friday, March 11 – Visit to Sandtoft Broomfleet Works at 10am, finishing at 2pm. Includes full tour of factory, including heritage and hand-made pantile (practical session), lunch and presentation on Sandtoft products and services.

This visit comes highly recommended by group members who have experienced the Sandtoft tour on previous occasions.



Contact: Denise Cherry

Yorkshire Independent Roof Training Group
20 Britannia Mews
Pudsey
West Yorkshire
LS28 9EW

Tel: 0113 347 0645
Mobile: 07971 232645
Fax: 0113 298 7344
E-mail: denise@yirtg.org.uk
Website: www.yirtg.org.uk

Work experience required

for Leeds College of Building full-time Pathway to Construction roofing students living in Leeds

ConstructionSkills allowance of £65 per week to companies

Students available Monday and Friday and college holidays

Subsidised SMSTS courses

Available in Yorkshire for just £250

Train to Gain funding available for NVQ Diplomas in roof slating and tiling, roof sheeting and cladding and applied waterproof membranes

Plant operations – telehandler

(Sheeting and cladding and telehandler also available co-funded as a second Level 2 qualification)



Birkwood Plant Training,
Birkwood House Farm
Pontefract Road, Crofton
Wakefield WF4 1LN
Tel: 01924 860 444 – speak to Sally

www.birkwoodplant.co.uk

– Yorkshire Independent Roof Training Group –

Essential courses for 2011

CPD Continuing Professional Development

Management qualifications – NVQ Level 4
Site management, construction contracting operations
50% FUNDING assistance available for Yorkshire and Humber companies (conditions apply)
ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies

Institute of Roofing licentiate course
Arranged by YIRTG on demand

Site Management Safety Training Scheme

50% FUNDING assistance available for Yorkshire and Humber companies (conditions apply)
ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies

YIRTG quarterly briefings
Covering heritage issues, zero carbon, etc, free for members

CCD Continuing Craft Development

Technical and supervisory – NVQ Level 3
Slating and tiling, heritage roofing, roof sheeting and cladding, site supervision

50% FUNDING assistance available for Yorkshire and Humber companies (conditions apply)
ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies

Multi-skilled NVQ Diploma units

Slating and tiling, roof sheeting and cladding, applied waterproof membranes (single ply, felt roofing, liquid applied), green roofing, solar roofing

50% FUNDING assistance available for Yorkshire and Humber companies (conditions apply)
ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies

Core Qualification

Short courses

Abrasive wheels, asbestos awareness, manual handling, first aid, PASMA, etc
Cost-effective local training arranged by YIRTG to meet company requirements

ConstructionSkills grant available through training plan route

NVQ Diploma Level 2

Slating and tiling, roof sheeting and cladding, applied waterproof membranes (single ply, felt roofing, liquid applied)

FULLY FUNDED throughout England (conditions apply)
ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies

Apprenticeships underpin industry qualification and provide young roofers with the skills to secure the business's future goals. ConstructionSkills grant available for eligible companies.

– Ploughcroft Training –

Growing **greater and greener** with our new eco roof visitor centre

What a start to the new year! The Ploughcroft roofing specialist team have moved offices to a new, bigger and better location in Brighouse, and are sharing their good news with all their friends, colleagues and business associates.

The official opening is taking place on February 4 when the doors will be open to invited guests for the celebrations. Inside the new premises, not only is there more room for staff, but the extra space means that Ploughcroft's well-respected and highly accredited training centre can now offer better facilities than ever, including a conference and class room.

However, the theme of Ploughcroft's core business and training is obvious to visitors even before they park their cars. As they approach the buildings, they come face-to-face with an enormous green wall – in the eco, not the painted, sense. This provides a fitting introduction to the area immediately beyond the entrance doors, where an 'eco visitor centre' has been set up – a facility which promises to provide businesses and individuals with all the knowledge they need on solar and green roofing technology.

Explaining the reasons for the move and the eco centre, managing director Chris Hopkins said: "We had simply outgrown our old premises and here we have all the facilities we need to move forward and expand.

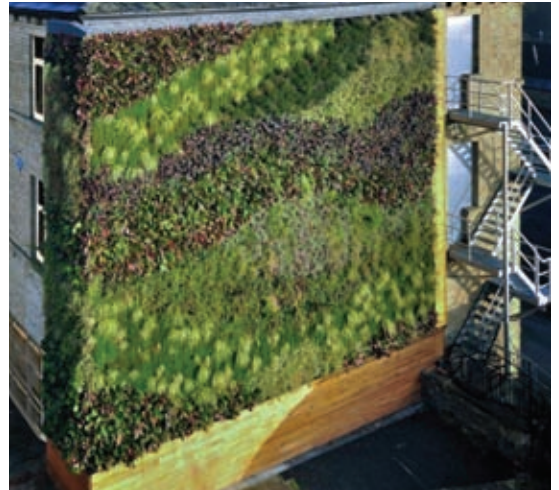
"Having started our solar roofing and training in the domestic market, we are now keen to move into the commercial sector. For some time now we have been approached by various colleges, hospitals, schools, etc, wanting to learn about solar, so this year we are putting a lot of effort into this business opportunity.

"Our eco visitor centre will provide ready-available knowledge for individuals and organisations keen to learn more about green roofing technology and confirm our position as leaders in this field."

Commercial courses set to take off

Training manager Joe Hennessy is also excited about the coming year. "I expect our new courses, especially the G59 – a solar course for commercial system – to really take off in the coming months," he said.

"With lots of demand in the commercial sector, this is the course that will be attracting attention,



and our increased training facilities are set to accommodate this."

Joe added that roofers with the necessary skill base for solar roofing should be able to pick work up easily, as many electrical contractors are now interested in large solar projects.

"The time is perfect for roofers to train in solar skills so that they don't miss out on the many opportunities unfolding," he said.

Looking ahead even further, marketing manager Babak Daemi revealed that the company is planning to train in the installation of wind technology and air-sourced heat pumps.

"There is a whole raft of eco technology at our fingertips and Ploughcroft aims, as always, to be at the forefront of its development and training," he said.

Once, twice, three times a winner?

Another boost to this year's business is the possibility of at least three major awards. Ploughcroft has been shortlisted for the Specialist Award 2011 for Training. In addition, Chris has been shortlisted for Entrepreneur of the Year and Ploughcroft Solar as Rising Star of the Year for the Rosenblatt 2011 Green Awards.

"It certainly makes my, and the sales manager's, jobs easier when we can make such strong statements about the company in terms of these and other awards," added Babak.

"They really highlight the hard work put in by Ploughcroft's staff to ensure we stay at the front of the pack. We're hoping that these will be three of many awards to come this year."



Contact: Joe Hennessy

Ploughcroft Training
Thornhillbeck Lane
St Pegs Mill
Mill 2
Brighouse
West Yorkshire
HD6 4AH

Tel: 01484 723344
Fax: 01484 723355
E-mail:
info@ploughcroft.co.uk
Websites:
www.ploughcrofttraining.co.uk
www.ploughcroftsolar.co.uk
www.ploughcroft.co.uk

– National Metal Training Group –

Courses for all in hard metal skills

The National Metal Training Group is dedicated to providing high quality, cost-effective training tailored to meet the needs of companies, employees and educational colleges.

In conjunction with ConstructionSkills, we have piloted the specialist apprentice programme (SAP) for hard metal. This has proved to be a successful response to a lack of pre-existing formalised apprenticeship, featuring both on- and off-the-job training.

Roofing hard metal SAP leading to NVQ Level 2

The apprentices are required to carry out 30 days' off-the-job training over a two-year period at our training centre. They attend the centre on five-day blocks, completing six modules within the two-year period.

When the apprentices have completed their training they will receive a NVQ Level 2 qualification, which ensures that these hard metal workers are fully skilled and providing quality work for their employers.

Funding for our SAPs is available for levy-paying companies from ConstructionSkills and NSAC, which has made the programme affordable for employers and provides an opportunity for companies to upskill at an economically critical



time. Grants are also available for smaller, non-levy-paying companies.

We have recently confirmed plans to host the SAP in the north west of England and Scotland. This confirms that our training courses are accessible for all hard metal companies in the United Kingdom who are interested in providing affordable training for their workers.

Mobile training

From this February our mobile training rig will be available to travel around the country and provide training courses in hard metals at your premises.



The programmes can be tailored from one to five days to suit your particular training requirements. In bringing the training to you, we can reduce your time and costs.

Management training

We are able to provide management courses to help senior staff run their companies efficiently and deal with any problems that may arise during contract works.

Examples of training that we have available are:

- ◆ Adjudication seminars
- ◆ Negotiating contracts
- ◆ Health and safety
- ◆ Credit insurance, insolvency and guarantees.

Everyone who completes training courses with the National Metal Training Group will receive a certificate to acknowledge their completion of the training, together with a training log book which provides an official record of all the training completed with the relevant training group.

The training log book is compatible with other training groups and recognised by many hard metal companies.

For further information on our management training, or to request a specific type of training, either practical or theory, please contact the NMTG at info@metalrooftraining.co.uk to discuss your specific needs.

Please check our website for on-site assessment and training (OSAT) at www.metalrooftraining.co.uk.

If you require further information on any of our training courses, please contact our office directly on 01293 614662 or e-mail info@metalrooftraining.co.uk.



Contact: Graham Cashin

National Metal Training Group
Unit 2
Oak Cottage
County Oak Way
Crawley
Sussex RH11 7ST

Tel: 01293 614662
Mobile: 07790 906795
Fax: 020 7983 9523
E-mail: info@metalrooftraining.co.uk
Website: www.metalrooftraining.co.uk

– Lindab –

THE rainwater system for green roofs

In Sweden they know a thing or two about sustainable building systems and their impact on the environment. So it's not surprising that Lindab's rainwater control system – Rainline – was specified for a building perhaps featuring the ultimate in 'green' roofs.

Rainline's carbon footprint appears to be, according to a recent environmental study, significantly lower than many of the rainwater systems currently on the market, making it the ideal choice when sustainability is a key requirement.

This, combined with high performance and competitive pricing, makes Rainline one of the most effective solutions for the control of rain drainage on all types of buildings – including green roofs.

Rainline's polyester-coated galvanised steel construction offers minimal thermal movement and UV stability.

It will not crack, fade, blister or peel, is highly resistant to corrosion and virtually maintenance free – all key performance factors for its being increasingly specified in preference to plastic, zinc, cast iron or aluminium systems.



Quick and easy to install, Rainline is precision-engineered to simply click together for a perfect watertight fit. Just click, fit, and forget it. On-site labour time and costs are also kept to a minimum.

Available in ten stylish colours, the finish of which is guaranteed for 15 years, Rainline is also available in a natural copper finish and Aluzinc.

At the end of its natural life, Rainline can itself be totally recycled, further underpinning its carbon footprint and whole life-costing credentials.

Lindab, sponsors of the Institute of Roofing, will be pleased to discuss with roofing contractors its product range, installation training and technical support services.

See the Lindab sustainable solution for rainwater control on Stand No S1525 at Ecobuild.



Lindab Ltd
Building Products Division
Shenstone Trading Estate
Bromsgrove Road
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 3XB

Tel: 0121 585 2780
E-mail: buildingproducts.
sales@lindab.co.uk
Website: www.lindab.co.uk

– Midland Roof Training Group –

Apprenticeships are essential for business growth

Group training officer Livia Williams focuses on apprenticeships and invites group members to sign a pledge to support the many apprenticeships within the roofing industry.

The National Apprenticeships Service is currently offering a £2,000 age grant to employers who have never previously taken on an apprentice, and would like to take a 16- to 18-year-old apprentice on, or before, March 14 this year. If you are interested, please contact me for full details and conditions.

The National Construction College Midlands at King's Norton, Birmingham, continues to offer courses in roof slating and tiling and built-up felt roofing. Sadly the sheeting and cladding course is no longer available here.

I am pleased to confirm that the National Construction College also has funding for NVQs, so employers still have time to qualify their workforce. Please contact me for any information on how to take advantage of the funding.

National Construction Week at the National Construction College Midlands

Don't miss it – on February 9 at 10am, the National Construction College Midlands is celebrating

National Apprenticeship Week by inviting employers to the 'Apprentice Factor' event.

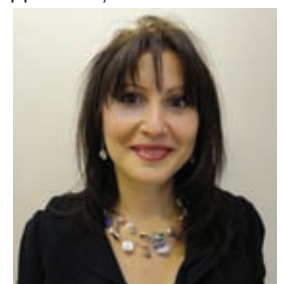
For more information or to book a place, please contact Gill Roberts on 07768 885763 or at gill.roberts@cskills.org.

Employers' invitation to East Midlands Roofing College open day

An important date for your diary – on March 3 at 10am, East Midlands Roofing College, Nottingham is proudly hosting an open day so that employers will have the opportunity to visit the excellent training facilities and discuss

in more depth the training programme and training needs.

If you would like to confirm your attendance please contact me on 07581 192584.



Contact: Livia Williams

Midland Roof Training Group
Dabell Avenue
Blenheim Industrial Estate
Bulwell
Nottingham
NG6 8WA

Telephone: 0115 927 1333
Mobile: 07581 192584
E-mail: lwilliams@
midlands.rooftraining.co.uk
Website:
www.rooftraining.co.uk

– London & Southern Roofing Training Group –

Site managers – safety has never **been more important**



Health, safety and welfare on construction sites are never more important than now, and any circumstances or incidents which demonstrate inadequacies in these areas can have devastating consequences.

The ConstructionSkills site management safety training scheme (SMSTS) course – ‘Site Safety Plus’ – was devised to assist site managers and potential site managers to develop knowledge, awareness and understanding of their legal, moral and social responsibilities in respect of health, safety and welfare on construction sites.

This course is one of the most highly respected qualifications for persons who are responsible for the management of construction activities such as construction, building maintenance or facilities management. Many employers insist that all their site managers hold the certificate.

So it is great news for group members that this course is taking place at the training centre at South Coast Roof Training in Littlehampton.

Beginning in March, it will be held one day a week over a five-week period, at a cost of just £590 per delegate.

And just in case you need further convincing of the importance of site safety...

HSE begins shutting down London sites

Group training officer Brian Middlemiss is urging members to be aware of the crackdown by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on small sites across London.

“Almost 25 per cent of the 150 small construction sites involving roof work, refurbishment and extensions to domestic properties visited so far have had prohibition notices served on them by the HSE – and more are to come,” he said.

“Inspectors are concentrating on how sites are managing roof repair, working at height and manual handling, as well as the welfare facilities for workers. They prefer to offer advice but will take enforcement action to stop unsafe work and ensure any essential improvements are made.”

HSE principal inspector Andrew Beal said: “Each year too many construction workers are needlessly injured or killed while working on site.

“Finding such poor work practices that we had to issue prohibition notices on nearly one in four sites is unacceptable.”

HSE figures show there have been 59 fatalities in London between 2004/2005 and 2009/2010, 30 being deaths from falls. Over 70 per cent of the deaths caused by a fall occurred on small sites.

Managers – know your responsibilities

This course has been run before, and will continue to run, for very good reason.

“There’s no getting away from it – senior management must take responsibility for the health and safety of employees working for them, and the group offers just the course to meet these legal requirements,” said Brian.

“Regulations are becoming tighter than ever and senior managers are required by law to know their responsibilities in this important area.”

The next course, jointly supported by the group and Capital Roofing, is taking place at Central Heights, Woolwich, on March 17. It normally costs £100 per person but is offered free to full members of the training group.

Asbestos kills!

Did you know that, as stated in the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006, it is mandatory for anyone to receive training who is involved in disturbing the fabric of a building (Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2006)?

This includes workers and others who may come into contact with, or who may disturb, asbestos, as well as those involved in asbestos removal work.

You must ensure that your company is compliant with HSE regulations. Non-compliance risks a custodial sentence/prosecution, personal fines and disqualification from directorship.

The group runs regular half-day courses, at a cost of just £65 per delegate, on asbestos awareness. Places are limited to a maximum of 12 delegates.

London & Southern
Roof Training Group

Contact: Brian Middlemiss

London & Southern Roofing
Training Group
15 Holland Pines
Bracknell
Berks
RG12 8UY

Mobile: 07791 377559
Fax: 01344 429071
E-mail: rooftraining@
googlemail.com
Website:
www.rooftraining.co.uk

– UK Trades Confederation –

Competent Person Scheme brings **new dimension** to the roofing sector

A long-awaited, government-authorised Competent Person Scheme for roofing work – known as the CompetentRoofer scheme – is widely expected to boost the industry’s performance and efficiency.

Managing director of the UK Trades Confederation Derek Vaughan said: “A Competent Person Scheme for roofing work has been long outstanding. Responsible roofing contractors will now be able to distance themselves from rogue traders who give the industry a bad name.”

Operated by the National Federation of Building Contractors (NFRC), the scheme is expected to contribute substantially to even greater roofing industry efficiency and performance while cutting down on statutory inspection costs.

NFRC’s chief executive Ray Horwood said: “The CompetentRoofer scheme has been the long-term aspiration of our members. In particular, it will endorse their capabilities of best practice, diligence and expertise in the face of the ongoing threat from ‘cowboy’ operators.

“We believe that implementation of the scheme will significantly ‘level the playing field’, ensuring that roofing companies can continually uphold standards while gaining business and best

servicing the public and other customers.

“All roofing companies will be able to apply, whether or not they are NFRC members, but they will be subject to inspections in the roofing disciplines in which they operate.”

Under the terms of the CompetentRoofer scheme, on completion of the roofing work a representative of the roofing company will sign a document endorsing that work has been carried out in full compliance with the Building Regulations.

Consequently the homeowner or building owner will not be required to pay for an inspection and will be issued with a certificate of compliance that will also go to the appropriate local authority building control department.



Picture courtesy of Ploughcroft



Apply today!

CompetentRoofer is now accepting applications for the scheme. Roofing companies who meet the inspection criteria will be able to self-certify in their approved roofing disciplines for Building Regulations on refurbishment roof work.

This will allow the owner of the building to receive a certificate confirming that the work was executed in full compliance with the Building Regulations. A certificate of compliance will be routinely issued to the appropriate local authority.

- Increase business
- Stay compliant
- Reduce costs
- To submit an application, call 0844 318 8888

www.competentroofer.co

CompetentRoofer is a government-endorsed Competent Person Scheme operated by the National Federation of Roofing Contractors Ltd (NFRC).

The scheme is administered by Certass and promoted by UKTrades on behalf of NFRC.



UK Trades Confederation
Spendale House
1st Floor
The Runway
South Ruislip
Middlesex HA4 6SE

Tel: 0844 8044575
E-mail: enquiry@uktc.org
Website: www.uktc.org

– Institute of Roofing –

Making a difference

Mike Goddard FIoR, construction/health and safety director for Rock and recently elected to the Institute of Roofing's board of governors, describes how training has played an important role in his career path and how he hopes his experiences will be of real value to the IoR.

The start of my career was thanks to the belief of a former fellow of the Institute of Roofing, Nick Totman, who in 1999 afforded me the opportunity to start on the road of roofing management as a site manager with Rock Asphalte, progressing to area manager within five years.

During that period I was responsible for various landmark buildings around the UK, the most notable being the Gherkin building in London, the Emirates Stadium, home to Arsenal FC, and the Lowry Galleria in Manchester.

It is also thanks to Nick Totman and his involvement with the IoR and his resolute belief in training that I enrolled on both the IoR licentiate and associate courses in succession.

After successfully passing these examinations, I went on to obtain NEBOSH, SMSTS and NVQ Level 5 qualifications. In addition to these, I was also accepted as a tech member of IOSH. Together, these have enabled me to improve and promote health and safety, both within my company and more broadly in relation to roofing in the construction industry.

In 2008 I became contracts manager for Rock and this position enabled me to assist area managers in both the financial and practical running of projects nationwide.

As part of this role I assisted in the development of the company, including involvement in the rebranding to Rock Complete Waterproofing and the continued development of new product lines, including incorporation of reusable energy and green technology.

I was then asked to take on the position of construction/health and safety director, enabling me to promote and develop roofing systems as well as improving training and development of all the company's personnel.

To this end, Rock is in the process of rolling out participation in NVQ training programmes as a minimum throughout the company. I firmly

believe that by ensuring continued enhancement, development and personal growth of individuals, not only will it be beneficial to them, but also to the company for whom they work.

My position also enables me to use the training opportunities that the Institute of Roofing can provide to further develop the skill base of the Rock construction teams, both on site and in the office.

Furthermore, I believe that the training courses currently available leading to IoR qualifications

would certainly be of benefit to women, who contribute so much to the roofing industry and in the past, I think, have been neglected.

They, like their male counterparts, have the same opportunity to gain industry-recognised roofing qualifications and, by becoming members of the IoR, I believe demonstrate to their employer or client that they are a competent and qualified roofing professional.

The IoR has a number of lady members who not only hold senior positions within the roofing industry, but have been former IoR Students of the Year – they are proof that it can be done, but we need more.

Throughout my time at Rock I have undoubtedly

gained a broad range of skills and experience and consider myself fortunate that I can still work closely with operatives 'on the tools' and have an understanding of their issues on site, yet be able to balance these concerns with the commercial realities of our clients.

It is because of this insight into the commercial realities of operating in the roofing industry, and my strong belief in the value of training, that I believe I can contribute to the benefit of the Institute of Roofing and its membership.

I feel extremely honoured to be given the opportunity by the IoR board of governors and members who voted me in as a governor, and hope I can deliver their expectations.



'I believe I can contribute to the benefit of the Institute of Roofing and its membership'

News from the regions

The news is positive from around the regions, both with meetings during 2010 and lots of diary dates for this year.

Scotland held its first regional meeting for several years on November 25 and is following up with another to take place this March.

Southern region held a joint meeting with South Central Roof Training Group at the group's AGM on November 18 at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club. Members and guests were entertained by SPRA director Jim Hooker, who gave a lively presentation.

Midland region's next meeting is to take place on March 16 at 17.30 at the Marley Training Centre. Further details will be provided to our members as soon as they are available.

Two meetings in Eastern region, to be held in February and March, will contain continuing professional development (CPD) presentations on Part L.

And rounding up the first quarter's activities will be a meeting on April 7 in Northern Ireland. The venue is still to be finalised, but members and non-members alike are most welcome to attend and hear IoR chairman Martin Adwick address the event. Don't miss it!



Contact: Carol Dukes

The Institute of Roofing
Roofing House
31 Worship Street
London
EC2A 2DX

Telephone: 020 7448 3858
E-mail: info@instituteofroofing.org
Website: www.instituteofroofing.org

Need any more information on issues raised in this magazine?

Please contact your local roof training group or the following contributors to this issue:



swrtg@eclipse.co.uk



rooftraining@googlemail.com



info@leadsheet.co.uk



sales@lindab.co.uk



lwilliams@jwrightroofing.co.uk



kevintaylor@nfr.co.uk



lwilliams@midlands.rooftraining.co.uk



lwilliams@jwrightroofing.co.uk



info@ploughcroft.co.uk



denise@yirtg.org.uk



rooftraining@googlemail.com



enquiry@uktc.org

Confederation of Roofing Contractors

Actively supports and promotes training throughout the UK. Proud sponsors of the Eastern Region Roof Training Group and the London & Southern Roofing Training Group.

For details of membership benefits, please contact Mike Wolfe on 01206 306600.



Confederation of Roofing Contractors
Association House, 22d Victoria Place
Brightlingsea, Essex. CO7 0BX

Telephone: 01206 306600
E-mail: enquiries@corc.co.uk
Website: www.corc.co.uk



info@metalrooftraining.co.uk



info@instituteofroofing.org

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in the pages of Roof Overview. However, the publisher cannot accept liability for any inaccuracies contained herein. In addition, the views and opinions expressed in Roof Overview do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher.



Front cover: an impressive example of hard metal roofing is The Public in West Bromwich, an arts centre where Richardson Roofing designed and constructed the substrates and the stainless steel covering.