

TOP OF THE CLASS – AGAIN

Group Members Jackson Jackson of Rochdale and Emerton Roofing (Western) of Nantwich are in the news again, as both took gold in the recent UK Roofing Awards 2017. This annual award ceremony, hosted by NFRC, celebrates all that's best in the industry, and this year, took place at the Park Plaza Hotel, Westminster Bridge, London. It was even more special this year, as it also coincided with the 125th anniversary of NFRC



Photos show Bev Sexton of Jackson Jackson receiving the CITB Exceptional Award for Training with Steph McGovern of BBC Breakfast fame and Mark Noonan, CITB Director of Industrial Relations, and Emerton Roofing, the Heritage Award for their exceptional work on the Boat House. We offer, somewhat belatedly, sincere congratulations to both winners.

A family affair, (L to R) Andrew, Will and Simon Emerton being presented by Kevin Williams (centre) of Klobber, Sponsor of the Heritage Award with Steph McGovern



ESF FUNDING CHESHIRE & WARRINGTON Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

REMINDER - If your company location is situated within the Cheshire and Warrington LEP area, you may qualify for FREE On site Assessment & Training (OSAT) NO college attendance, NO time away from the job – make sure all your staff are qualified. AND, providing you're registered with CITB, you can claim a minimum of £400 on completion. WIN WIN! Get in touch whilst there's still funding nwrooftraining@gmail.com tel 07801 278282

THE ROOFING INDUSTRY & VAT

Do you know that there is a major consultation going on about VAT in the construction industry which could have major implications for you?

Check out the NFRC web site to see Liz Bridge's analysis, proposals and the full story nfrc.co.uk



GROW YOUR OWN TALENT THROUGH THE APPRENTICESHIP ROUTE

We acknowledge that it takes time and that it can be fraught with practical difficulties & challenges, but this is the way to fill the skills gaps over the next five years. How do we attract the school leavers to our industry when there's a mind-blowing choice of careers? Roofing operatives are well paid and for the ambitious, the opportunities are endless. Perhaps we should take out a leaf of Les Perry's book, and employ a more mature apprentice? Barely a year ago, and in need of more staff, Les, based in Barnston, Wirral was faced with a dilemma – should he take the 27 year-old recently discharged from the Army, on the unemployment register and very willing to work, or should he sit and wait for a school leaver? He took the former option and just check out the result below! Perhaps it's a route you should consider?

TOP TEN IN THE UK

More celebrations in the North West included the performance of Ceiran Peel-Price, of Les Perry Roofing Contractors, Barnston, Wirral. Ceiran, now 28, was one of just 10 apprentices who qualified for the 2 day final of the Redland Apprentice of the Year event from 65 entries, despite the fact that he was in first year of NVQ2. Accompanied by his Tutor, Frank, from the Roofing Workshop, Bolton College , and supported by Les & Glenis Perry, Ceiran showed just what it takes to be a well-rounded apprentice in the final held at Redland at the end of last month. Aged 28, Ceiran is a “mature” apprentice and is married with four children. He joined the company around a year ago having previously spent time in the Army. Not only is he now slating and tiling, and popular with the customers, he's also maintaining the company's fleet of vehicles.



Ceiran Peel-Price in action!

WE'RE HERE TO SOURCE AND ORGANISE YOUR TRAINING NEEDS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES - GET IN TOUCH, WE'VE LINKS WITH LOADS OF DIFFERENT TRAINING PROVIDERS THROUGHOUT THE REGION

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Bolton Jobs and Skill Fair 2017

Bolton's annual Jobs and Skills Fair is back on **Thursday 28th September from 10am to 3pm** at Bolton College.

As the largest employment and training event in Bolton, with over 2,500 job seekers expected to attend, it's a fantastic free opportunity to recruit the staff you need. The Skills Fair is followed by the 'Futures 4 Me' event for Year 11 students and parents which promotes Post-16 choices and takes place between 3.30pm and 7.00pm. This event is also open to employers to promote career opportunities at their business. Ask us for details, and we'll even help you on the day!

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STAY SAFE IN THE SUN - WARNING FOR ROOFERS

Written by Gary Walpole, Technical & Health and Safety Officer NFRC and published in RCI magazine



Marley Eternit and the NFRC have issued a sun safety warning for all roofers, following new research which shows construction workers have a greater risk of skin cancer than any other occupation.

The latest study, which appeared in the British Journal of Cancer*, looked at the risks of skin cancer and outdoor occupations, estimating that there are 48 deaths and 241 cases of melanoma skin cancer each year caused by ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun at work. Construction workers accounted for a staggering 44% of these deaths.

As part of its annual Safe in the Sun campaign, Marley Eternit is urging all roofers to take action to reduce their skin cancer risk and is giving away free sun cream and UV wristbands, which change colour to show when sun protection is needed.

Katie Prestidge, who is leading the campaign at Marley Eternit, explains: “These latest findings show that there is no room for complacency when it comes to sun safety on site. Most people are careful about applying sun cream when they are abroad on holiday, but wouldn’t necessarily think of taking the same precautions when spending seven hours outside in the summer at work yet, it is just as, if not more, dangerous.

“It is thought that working in the sun could lead to one death and around five new cases of melanoma each week. Yet, 90% of all skin cancer deaths are preventable if workers on site take simple, sun safety precautions.”

The NFRC is backing Marley Eternit’s Safe in the Sun campaign and Gary Walpole, technical and health & safety officer at the NFRC, says: “70% of the workforce haven’t had any sort of training on the risks of working in the sun and with skin cancer cases on the increase in the UK, the Safe in the Sun campaign is an excellent way of highlighting the dangers of sun exposure.

Sun safety is an important part of the NFRC’s health strategy and we have recently pledged to the IOSH ‘No Time to Lose’ campaign, which aims to get carcinogenic exposure issues more widely understood and help businesses take action.”

Marley Eternit has issued the following Safe in the Sun advice:

- 1. Keep a shirt or jacket on and opt for tightly woven fabrics, which help to form a barrier to the sun’s harmful rays
- 2. Don’t leave exposed skin unprotected. Use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 and remember to reapply regularly
- 3. Wear a hard hat at all times, preferably with a brim and flap that will cover the ears and the back of the neck
- 4. Drink plenty of water and stay hydrated
- 5. Check your skin regularly for unusual spots and moles, or changes to spots and moles
- 6. Wear a UV wristband, so that even when it is cloudy, you know when you need to use sunscreen and cover up

Help Marley Eternit and the NFRC raise awareness about skin cancer risks:

- Get your free sun cream and UV wristband by sending your name and email address to info@marleyeternit.co.uk
- Join the debate on Twitter – @MarleyEternit #safeinthesun

For further information about the Safe in the Sun campaign, visit www.marleyeternit.co.uk/About/Safe-in-the-Sun.

* The burden of occupationally-related cutaneous malignant melanoma in Britain due to solar radiation - Lesley Rushton and Sally J Hutchings

British Journal of Cancer 116, 536-539 (14 February 2017)



SAFE2TORCH

Safe2Torch is an NFRC campaign developed in partnership with contractor and manufacturer members of the NFRC. Launched Monday 3 July 2017, it seeks to significantly reduce the risk of roof fires when using gas torches, either to dry out roofs or when used to install torch-on membranes



NO TIME TO LOSE A WAKE UP CALL FOR WORK CANCER

IOSH's No Time to Lose campaign aims to get carcinogenic exposure issues more widely understood and help businesses take action. NFRC has pledged to support and to promote the campaign throughout their membership and the roofing sector to raise awareness of the occupational health risks attributed to working in the construction industry.

You too, can pledge to take action...

Join the growing number of businesses leading on this issue and sign up to the pledge.



You'll get recognition as a responsible, forward-thinking business on the campaign website and in our campaign communications.



You'll be able to use the pledge as part of your in-house OSH or OH programme, building support around your own action plan and commitments.



When you've made your pledge, you will be eligible for an IOSH certificate demonstrating your commitment. You can also request an annual reminder to review and revise your action plan.



To help get you started with your pledge, IOSH has shown how a large company and a smaller business customised their pledge.

**Check out www.notimetolose.org.uk
Click on "Get Involved"**

MONEY FOR YOU & YOUR COMPANY FROM CITB



Many of you have paid levy for a number of years and now's the time to get some back! There's currently a CITB initiative going under the umbrella of Flexible & Structured funding, and if you haven't already applied for your share, now's the time to take action. Preparing and submitting any bid for funding is far from easy when your talents lie elsewhere, but we urge you to spend a little time checking out the section on the CITB web site citb.co.uk/funding. Once at that page, you can launch the information on the different types available. Most of you will easily be able to spend £5000 on skills and training, and this is the section where you can almost get instant decisions.

CITB organise "Webinars", and for the Skills & Training option, this lasts just 30 minutes and you don't even need to move away from your desk.. You do have to register to take part and the next ones take place on 29 & 31 Aug, & 1 Sep from 1230-1300. You can apply for this funding anytime up to 20 November this year.



Work related stress

Together we can tackle it - NW RTG will organise a half day workshop with M I N D on this pressing issue if enough of you are interested.

**Message us
nwrooftraining@gmail.com
07801 278282**



Breathe Freely is a BOHS initiative, aimed at reducing occupational lung disease in the UK, which causes significant debilitating ill-health and an estimated 13,000 deaths per year. Breathe Freely is about raising awareness both of the problem and how to do something about it: we can protect workers' health and prevent most of these diseases

and deaths. It is not just "the right thing to do", it is good for business as well. And broad acceptance of this is part of the solution..

ASBESTOS STILL KILLS

THERE'S A NEED FOR QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS TO MINIMISE THE RISK

DON'T COMPROMISE
Learn to recognise, evaluate and control the risk with BOHS qualifications and training.

Faculty of Occupational Hygiene
BOHS
WE'RE SETTING THE STANDARDS

"Widely acknowledged by staff, clients and professional bodies alike as the highest recognised qualification in the asbestos industry." Find out more.

REMEMBER, WE'RE HERE TO ORGANISE YOUR ASBESTOS AWARENESS TRAINING, WHEREVER YOU'RE SITUATED THROUGHOUT THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND & WALES

Right now, one in six workers in the UK is experiencing depression, anxiety or stress in the construction industry. It suggests 350,000 people are suffering at any one time. Life in construction offers jobs and careers full of energy with a unique mix of diversity, skills sets, opportunity and life experience. It offers workers across the UK a chance to change the face of the world we live in, both for themselves and for others. Because of this every single person in Construction deserves the chance of positive mental health.

If you'd like details of training your staff to become mental health champions, get in touch...

nwrooftraining@gmail.com tel 07801 278282



CONSTRUCTION AMBASSADORS

Your industry needs you to spread the word about careers within the roofing industry. We are looking for those of you out there who are passionate about our industry, to go into Schools, to attend Skills fairs, to attend Enterprise sessions, even if it's just once in a year. Along with CITB, we can offer an informal training session (around 5 hours max).

Some of you have already found that part of winning a contract involves spreading the word at the local schools, whether it's on health and safety, offering a taster session using mini-rigs, setting a questionnaire, or simply explaining the different roof coverings. . CITB will provide lots of resources to help and include goodies such as badges, pens and even a small exhibition stand

Our last training day took place in late April and we expect to run another in early Autumn. This opportunity is for all, whatever your role - from Craft apprentice to office-based staff to MD - there's room for all.

SPEAK UP FOR CONSTRUCTION - PROMOTE OUR INDUSTRY

WHAT IS A CONSTRUCTION AMBASSADOR?



A Construction Ambassador is someone who inspires potential new entrants about the industry able to convey what it's actually like to work in construction.



Very often they provide the first introduction to the construction industry for many young who are considering their future career choices.



By reaching out to local communities and highlighting the many fantastic opportunities available construction they can help to inspire the next generation of new entrants

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A CONSTRUCTION AMBASSADOR

- Personal development.
- Raising your company's profile within the local area.
- Enhancing or addressing your company's community benefit targets

CITB confirms levy rate ahead of consensus vote

The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) has confirmed its proposed Levy rate for 2018 – 2020.

The proposal is to cut the levy rate from its present 0.5% to 0.35% PAYE, with the subcontractor NET CIS rate staying the same at 1.25%, following CITB's biggest ever consultation with industry.



After receiving approval from the CITB Board and the Levy Working Party – which is made up of firms of all sizes and from across England, Scotland and Wales – the proposal will now go onto the formal consensus process, from early July to the end of September.

Consensus federations will seek the views of their members about this proposal and have all demonstrated to CITB that they have a transparent and robust approach. In addition, an independent survey will seek the views on the proposal from 6,000 employers, who are not members of Consensus Federations. This is a significant increase on the previous survey.

Following the formal consensus period, the result will be ratified by Government.

Sarah Beale, CITB Chief Executive, said: "We are pleased that this levy rate has been approved by the CITB Board and the industry-led Levy Working Party. We firmly believe this offers value to employers and will deliver great impact for our industry in generating the construction skills it requires.

WE NEED MORE ASSESSORS

CITB to fund over a hundred new on-site training assessors



The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) has announced it will fund a new £600,000 programme to help hundreds of people to become qualified on-site training assessors.

The Assessor Infrastructure project is designed to increase the number of on-site training assessors available across Great Britain. This in turn will increase the number of construction workers holding nationally recognised qualifications.

On-site training assessments are targeted at construction workers who have the skills, experience and training but no formal qualifications.

Assessors visit construction sites to confirm workers' skills and test their ability in the workplace and, if successful, award them a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) or Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ).

The new programme comes following the results of research undertaken by CITB last year in which small and micro-sized construction firms highlighted an increasing need for on-site training assessors.

Richard Miller, Assessment & Verification Manager at CITB, commented: "Small and micro-sized firms have told us they need on-site training assessors to help qualify more construction workers across the UK. The Assessor Infrastructure project will give workers with the right skills and experience the opportunity to become qualified and get the recognition they deserve without being away from the job. CITB is committed to ensuring the construction industry has a fully qualified workforce that's competent to build the homes and infrastructure Great Britain needs."



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO GO CONSTRUCT, the CITB Careers' website? It's completely free of charge and there are lots of resources you can use. Here's the link to registration – sort out your password, and sign up free!

<https://www.goconstruct.org/information-for-employers/resources/>

REMINDER FROM CITB

Complete a 2017 Levy Return by 31 July and start claiming training grants



Make sure you complete your Levy Return by 31 July, so you only pay what you need to and get access to Grants and funding for training.



CONTACT DETAILS

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