

Grantham college help Lincolnshire employees beat the credit crunch - Training award win-

Date of issue 23 June 2009

Publication number em-36Provider of the Quarter-june2009.doc

Grantham College has won the East Midlands Train to Gain Provider of the Quarter Award for its work with employers across Lincolnshire and the East Midlands.

Alison Fox, Head of Business Development from the College received the award at a special presentation at The Walker Stadium in Leicester for helping 582 employees from companies across Lincolnshire during the last year. The award for top training provider is a particularly striking achievement as the college have only held a Train to Gain contract since August 2008.

Train to Gain is the Government's flagship skills service, run by the Learning and Skills Council to help businesses succeed.

The college have worked on £816,000 worth of business in the last year. A key achievement in 2008 was successfully training 438 staff from the closed Fenland Foods factory in Grantham to achieve an NVQ in Food Manufacturing.

The college have also just achieved the Training Quality Standard; prestigious accreditation which demonstrates they offer high quality training at a time and place to suit employers.

Alison Fox, Head of Business Development from Grantham College, said:

“Our Business Development Team has worked hard to meet stretching LSC targets but the focus has been on building relationships with local employers and ensuring that we are providing high quality training.

“Receiving this award and achieving the Training Quality Standard is real testament to the hard work of the staff at the college.”

Tony Belmega, said:

“This new award celebrates the success of those delivering Train to Gain funded courses in the East Midlands and aims to recognise how providers like Grantham College are making a vital contribution to the needs of employees and individuals in the region. The work that Grantham College have done has been exemplary – especially for key areas for Lincolnshire such as the food sector

“The work they have done with Lincolnshire companies will have a genuine impact on companies across Lincolnshire: as a lack of qualified people in the workforce is cited by a significant number of businesses as one of the top three inhibitors to success. Skills are vital to productivity and by providing training to high quality standards Grantham College are making an important contribution to our economy.”

Notes to editors

Photographs available contact Helen Clarke at COI News and PR on 0115 9712787.

The Provider of the Quarter Award aims to celebrate the success of delivery within the East Midlands.

There are over 90 providers delivering training across the East Midlands.

The next Provider of the Quarter Award will be announced on DATE

About Train to Gain

Since its launch in 2006, Train to Gain has helped over 570,000 employees in England get training, and over 291,000 learners have achieved a qualification. An evaluation published this year revealed that some 43 per cent of people who had completed their training reported having received a pay rise, and 30 per cent reported having had promotion. The overall budget for Train to Gain, which is available free to all employers, is set to rise to 1bn by 2010-11.

For more information about Train to Gain visit <http://www.traintogain.gov.uk>

About Grantham College

Grantham College, a further education college, was established over 60 years ago, but the origins of technical education in the town can be traced back to the early 20th century when the need for technical education and training developed around the status of Grantham as a railway town. Since 2001 the college have operated an additional town centre operation which has been the focused on work-based learning and employer training – this function also delivers the Train to Gain contract (held since August 2008).

In addition to offering further education and apprenticeships, the college also offers a selection of higher education in its capacity as an associate college of De Montfort University, the University of Lincoln, and the University of Bedfordshire. The college was awarded an Association of Colleges Beacon Award in 2008 for its innovative health & social care foundation degree.

For more information about Grantham College, visit www.grantham.ac.uk or phone 01476 400200.

**Issued on behalf of the Learning and Skills Council by COI News and PR.
For media interviews or for further information contact Helen Clarke at COI
News and PR on 0115 9712787**