

Facia Graphics Ltd

BUSINESS SECTOR: Manufacturing

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 50-249

REGION: SOUTH WEST

Business Profile: Fascia Graphics Ltd is the market leader for the production of Membrane Keypads in the printed graphics industry.



"Since we started this improvement programme staff have come up with ideas for reorganising work areas that has helped increase capacity at the factory by between 15 and 25 per cent.

Gary Knowles
Training Manager

The challenge

Fascia Graphics, the market leader for the production of Membrane Keypads in the printed graphics industry has doubled the size of its sales force to eight as a result of making its processes more efficient.

The Company has now invested in increasing sales in order to make use of the extra capacity it has gained. In turn this is likely to have a positive effect on turnover figures, which have increased by between five and 10 per cent each year for the last three years.

The solution

The Chippenham based company originally got in touch with Train to Gain to find out about accessing funding for workforce training after a recommendation from a customer. Three workers at the company are about to complete Level 2 NVQs in Business Improvement Techniques.

Train to Gain is a service, funded by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and delivered throughout the South West by Business Link. Train to Gain Skills Brokers carry out an organisational needs analysis and offer businesses impartial advice on their skills requirements, matching skills and training needs with providers.

Train to Gain Skills broker David Keefe, of Business Link Wiltshire, worked with the company to find a training provider and source funding for employees eligible for training because they have less than five GCSEs.

Training carried out both on and off-site, was sourced through Avon Vale Training, which specialises in engineering training.

The results

David says that as a result of the qualification the production line has been rearranged and a "marked improvement" has been seen in working practices. He added: "The end result is that they now work more efficiently with their existing workforce and have gained 15-25 per cent more capacity without increasing their staff numbers or doing overtime."

Fascia Graphics now plans to put a further three employees through the qualification next year.

What is Train to Gain?

Train to Gain is a Skills Brokerage service, managed and funded by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) that helps employers find the training they need for their employees. Train to Gain links employers with Skills Brokers who work individually with them to find out what their employees' training needs are, work out a training plan, and then help to find the right training for them.