



Performing Engineering Operations NVQ **CASE STUDY**

## NEWMARKET COLLEGE

# Increased Vocational Offering, Revitalised Engineering Asset, Student Demand Driven



**Newmarket College** is committed to the success of all its students, ensuring that they have the best possible preparation for life after school. The College offers a wide, varied and developing curriculum which will meet the needs of young people in the twenty first century.

The College strives to provide the finest environment for learning with the right level of support and challenge to enable every individual to fulfil their potential. The College has excellent and developing facilities for its 570 plus students which are used to offer a rich and varied menu of opportunities. This case study is about the development of the Engineering facility in conjunction with **Cambridge Regional College**.

In the academic year 2007/8, Newmarket College identified a student demand and opportunity to widen its curriculum into new vocational areas. An underutilised engineering facility was identified as a potential area of development. Cambridge Regional College was asked to provide the staff and expertise to enable an NVQ engineering programme to get off the ground.

15 learners enrolled on the PEO NVQ level 2 course which was planned to be delivered one day per week over two academic years. The course involved both mechanical and electrical work, H&S, working in teams, fault finding on machinery, studying and implementing

basic electrical wiring and carrying out repairs. Evidence of work and competence was build into individual student portfolios

Learners received practical group lessons, plus 1:1 sessions optimised to their specific needs during the portfolio building stage.

Attendance on the course was very high and only one learner was unable to complete.

Building on the start up work provided by Cambridge Regional College, the Newmarket College has now employed its own staff to continue delivering engineering based courses.

### Training Impact

Mature Approach to  
Students – 15 NVQ  
Level 2 Achievements  
– Vocational Facility  
Established

**Tom Claydon, one of the students said** *"I really enjoyed the course; I was treated in a mature way and trusted with performing practical work. We did mechanical fault finding and wired up lighting and power circuits. It was just what I wanted as I intend to progress on to an apprenticeship qualification."*

**Sue Richards, Deputy Head commented** *"Students were given a new vocational choice - practical engineering work in a safe environment, on our site. This solution was green - no travel involved - and it brought into use an asset that was underutilised."*

*"We are very pleased with the outcome of this work with Cambridge Regional College"*