

7 June 2010

Press Release

## **TOP APPRENTICE PAINTS HIS WAY TO SUCCESS**

Cambridge Regional College Apprentice James Cook has been named the best young painter and decorator in the east of England after winning a prestigious competition.

The 18 year-old from Great Shelford completed a demanding day of testing to win the regional Skillbuild competition in St Albans, beating off stiff opposition to take the top prize in the senior category.



Award-winner James Cook works on his skills at CRC

The win was the second Skillbuild success for talented James - last year he won the regional intermediate competition.

The contestants had to carry out a number of tests during the day, including preparing and painting an intricate design of the South African flag, all aimed at demonstrating and promoting excellence in the competitors' craft.

CRC trainer Keith Bryant said James, who works for painter and decorator Trevor Corbett, shone in the competition.

"It was a solid and testing day of work, and James rose to the occasion," he said. "On the day he just shone. He does a really high standard of work, and takes competition seriously and his work stood out.

"We had two other CRC apprentices in the competition and they also produced work of a very good standard. I was very proud of them all."

James is now waiting to hear if he has won through to the national final. The ten regional finalists with the highest marks in the country will compete to become the UK's champion.

**- ends -**

#### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.