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Press Release

## **OUTSTANDING CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS CHOSEN TO BUILD ECO HOUSE AT WORLDSKILLS**

**Six star Construction students at Cambridge Regional College have won the opportunity to show off their talent at the world's leading vocational skills event, WorldSkills 2011.**

The top students have been chosen to represent the College in a unique construction project at the event next week – building an eco house in just four days in front of thousands of visitors.



CRC students Helen Coutts, Adam Johnson, Sam Cornwell, Ashley Swannell, Max Pugh and Jack Caro

It is the first time in 20 years that the UK has hosted WorldSkills, the Olympics of the skills world, when 1,000 young people from more than 50 countries across the globe will be competing against each other.

The eco house is one of the main 'Showcase' events of the occasion, designed to highlight outstanding talent from the vocational sector. During the four days of the building project at ExCeL, from 5 to 8 October, up to 150,000 visitors are expected to watch the students as they construct the house from the ground up.

CRC, a specialist in eco construction training programmes, is part of a team of eight major FE colleges involved in the project.

John Malone, head of CRC's Construction Academy, said the eco house project was a superb opportunity to showcase the skills of the College's students.

"All six students have been chosen to take part in this project because of their outstanding ability," he said. "They have been working hard in the run-up to the big event, practicing erecting and dismantling the house in our SmartLife construction centre, and we expect them to be able to put up the house in just six hours – which is an amazing feat."

Students Jack Caro, Adam Johnson, Sam Cornwell, Helen Coutts, Max Pugh and Ashley Swannell, will build the structure of the timber-framed house on the first day of the event. Over the next few days, students from other colleges will complete the project and install solar panels, air source heat pumps and rainwater harvesting systems.

Thousands of pupils and students from the region are expected to travel to the WorldSkills competition over the four days, and more than 200 top companies and organisations will be on hand to give advice about careers, training and job opportunities.

Cambridge Regional College will also be having a stand in the 'Make it Happen' exhibition, where visitors will be able to find out about the different training routes available through the College.

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### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, Communications & PR Manager, 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 further education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 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.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.