

APPRENTICESHIPS FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING

Case study PACE Ltd. (Precision Aerospace Component Engineering)



New skills result in financial benefits at PACE

"Skills Training UK were very positive and understood our business requirements and issues very quickly, giving frank and honest help. I have nothing but praise"

Tamara Williams, HR Manager

"Efficiency, lean, right first time – they have all been introduced by Skills Training UK through the BIT Level 2 training and will be expanded through Level 3."

Craig Glew, Head of Operations

"The level of skills growth achieved by Skills Training UK has assisted in promoting dramatic workplace process improvements, cultural changes, increased productivity and securing the long-term business future.

Ian Binns, Commercial Director



PACE (Precision Aerospace Component Engineering) manufactures high performance aerospace grade components which can be found on many of the world's most advanced commercial airliners and military aircraft.

A new management team redefined the company's priorities, in line with a changing and uncertain marketplace, to focus on efficiency and increased productivity. With a multi-cultural, diverse and aging workforce, it was evident that a massive skills gap existed concerning Lean Manufacturing Processes and Business Improvement Techniques. The senior team contacted Skills Training UK to help bridge that gap.

Upskilling the workforce in the language and practices of Lean Manufacturing was a key factor in helping align the team to best realise their company vision. Following consultation with Skills Training UK, a bespoke training package of BIT Level 2 training was launched with 25% of the entire workforce taking part.Classroom study was supported with practical learning, with a large focus on developing employees core skills to help identify and implement workplace improvement projects.



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<< Thus far the productivity cost savings which have been achieved through the completion of improvement projects are valued at £160,000 per annum, with an estimated £220,000 anticipated from on-going projects.

As well as the significant financial benefits, the working environment and day to day atmosphere has also changed, impacting the workforce and customers alike.

The strong and supportive working relationships formed between Skills Training UK and PACE Ltd resulted in a 98% full course completion of the BIT Level 2 programme. Key personnel have been identified for future progression within the company to support succession planning, and four members of the team have now moved on to a Level 3 programme.

There are also plans for the entire workforce to undergo the training as the development of skills from employees has been fundamental in PACE Ltd achieving its greater business goals. Productivity has never been higher, and efficiencies in all departments continues to grow.

What the learners said...

"Skills Training UK worked with us to introduce standardised cell working and create a production planning office. It's simplified the organisation and now we are in the same space we can work together and communicate better."

Matt Mullan, Production Planner

"The course has helped me look at the business as a whole rather than its individual parts, allowing me to work in a more structured and organised way."

Kasia Czech , Quality Inspector, Unit 2

"The standardised work stations, new visual management systems and new quality control means we are now producing and despatching products more efficiently. Our work spaces are more productive and we are experiencing the benefits of lean."

George O'Connor, Setter and Acting Team Leader, Unit 2



For further information about Skills Training UK and how we can create tailored Apprenticeship training for your business, email **apprenticeships@skillstraininguk.com** or phone **0800 612 6224**.