

Drivers get into gear with training course

Unipart Automotive drivers across the country are on the road to success thanks to a new training scheme launched in Birmingham.

The company's 1,500 drivers are being enrolled on a Train to Gain course created especially for their type of work.

Drivers will get on-the-job training and assessment in areas like Customer Service, Health and Safety and Vehicle Checks and will gain a new NVQ qualification.

The training and development programme will take two years to roll out across the UK and is being run by Impact Training Solutions in partnership with BCTG, based in Taylors Lane, Oldbury.

The collaboration between Unipart Automotive, Impact Training Solutions, BCTG and the Learning and Skills Council was launched at Partco Autoparts Ltd, in Walter Street, Birmingham.

Ted Rae, Managing Director of Impact Training Solutions, said: *"This type of Train to Gain partnership provides development across a range of skills and benefits both employee and employer, and we are delighted to be able to offer this service to Unipart Automotive."*

Chris Luty, Director of the BCTG, said: *"Train to Gain benefits both the employee, the employer and in turn the customer. Through a range of bespoke courses it offers high-quality training suited to particular employers' needs."*

"BCTG is delighted to work with Impact Training Solutions who secured a national contract with Unipart Automotive to benefit its staff up and down the country."

...from Unipart Automotive said: *"We are the UK's largest independent supplier of aftermarket components. We want to provide the best customer care and to do that it means investing in our staff."*

BCTG's Train to Gain programme is a £2.5 million training package which aims to boost the skills of thousands of West Midlands employed people.

BCTG secured funding from the Learning and Skills Council to run Train to Gain in August 2006.

ENDS



Notes to editors:

BCTG (Black Country Training Group Limited) works with a range of training organisations across the West Midlands delivering a range of publicly and privately funded training initiatives.

BCTG works closely with a range of public and private organisations, including the Learning and Skills Council, which support many of our activities.

BCTG has four main aims:

1. Engaging with young people and adults to take up vocational learning
2. Working with employers to help develop the skills their business needs to succeed
3. To improve the quality of education and training delivered in the West Midlands
4. Building partnerships across all the stakeholders interested in improving education and training.

BCTG offers a wide range of information, advice and training services to suit the needs of young people, schools and training providers and employers.

For more information go to www.bctg.org.uk

For media inquiries call Jane Williams on 01902 751565 or 07961 048613

Train to Gain is a new service run by the Learning and Skills Council, the organisation responsible for planning and funding high quality, vocational education and training for everyone, to make England better skilled and more competitive. In the West Midlands, more than 13,000 individuals are now involved in vocational learning through Train to Gain and skills brokers are working with more than 5,000 employers (February 2007 figures). www.traintogain.gov.uk www.lsc.gov.uk

