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Siemens inspires youngsters to become engineers

Leading traffic technology company Siemens, an employer of engineering staff in Yorkshire, has recently embarked on a series of school presentations in Wakefield aimed at encouraging young people to consider a career in science and technology. Currently, the company has vacancies for engineering trainees in the north of England and the interactive presentations have been aimed at a number of children due to leave school who have already expressed an interest in the work of the company.

At St Thomas à Becket High School in Wakefield, company representatives conducted games and activities to engage 35 students in the kind of work carried out by Siemens engineering staff across the UK including designing, manufacturing, installing and maintaining traffic signal equipment. With an illustrated talk, 2 video presentations and a number of group exercises, the activity was designed to encourage students to establish teamwork and recognise cooperation, as well as think about the health and safety aspects of working on the roadside or motorway.

On behalf of St Thomas à Beckett High School, Paddy Kiernan, Head of the Lower School said: 'It was a fantastic opportunity for the students, brilliant! We are very grateful to Siemens for sparing the time, the students truly gained from the experience. I hope it's the beginning of a long term partnership with the company and ourselves that can be built on year on year'.

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Commenting on the initiative, the company's contract manager, Steve Mitchell said: 'Good relationships with schools in areas in which we operate not only helps raise the company's profile in the local community but it serves to promote technology and engineering as a potential career path for young people considering their futures'.

The Field Services Trainee Programme has been running successfully for 6 years. This year, the company will recruit 11 new trainees nationally - 3 of which will be based in the north east. It's a fast track training programme designed to give young people the skills they need for the industry whilst supporting them attain a City and Guilds qualification (2330 Electrotechnical Technology) at a local college. Steve Mitchell adds: 'At the end of 3 years, the trainees become qualified, experienced Field Service Engineers and their development doesn't stop there - it's hoped that the trainees we recruit today will become effective managers as our business grows'.

To find out more about the Trainee Programme and apply visit:

www.siemenstrafficvacancies.com

Siemens has good relations with schools in the community and works hard to support education initiatives particularly promoting science. A grant to help fund science shows is also provided as part of a series Siemens has been running at twelve schools around the UK.

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About Siemens Traffic Controls

As part of the Siemens Industrial Solutions and Services (I&S) group, Siemens Traffic Controls designs, manufactures, installs and maintains a wide range of traffic engineering products and systems to enhance road safety and improve traffic flow in congested urban and inter-urban areas. In the United Kingdom, the company installs and maintains more traffic infrastructure than any other company and has 700 employees including 350 skilled service engineers dedicated every day of the year to maintaining over half of all traffic control equipment installed on the UK road network. The Siemens Industrial Solutions and Services Group (I&S) is an integrator of systems and solutions for industrial and infrastructure facilities, and global service provider for the plant and projects business covering planning, installation, operation and the entire life cycle.

About Siemens in the UK

Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 162 years ago. The company employs 21,122 people in the UK, including about 5,000 in the manufacturing sector. Last year's revenues were £3 billion, including exports of £500 million. Siemens provides innovative, high-quality services and solutions to customers in a diverse range of industry sectors, including power, automation and control, information and communication, medical, transportation, lighting, and household. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Bracknell, Berkshire. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit www.siemens.co.uk

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