



News Release

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COATBRIDGE STUDENTS GAIN THEIR COMPUTER WINGS

Staff from some of Lanarkshire's top employers have become the first Scottish students to benefit from a new series of bite sized training courses which promote the use of information technology in business.

Employees of TDG Logistics, Markon and NHS Lanarkshire are the first students to complete one of the Computer Wings short courses, currently being offered at Coatbridge College.

Computer Wings was devised by Q-Validus, a Dublin-based international certification solutions provider, and each short course has been endorsed by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

The courses focus on real-world tasks in the modern workplace and the practical skills students learn are designed to be transferable to their jobs and provide them with relevant expertise wanted by employers.

Each of the successful students learned how to use presentation software effectively and went on to develop new skills that can be applied in the workplace by means of undertaking the Computer Wings course, PresenterPro.

PresenterPro is specifically designed to hone the students' skills and enable them to prepare and deliver presentations professionally.

Iain McNeil of TDG Logistics said: "Going through the PresenterPro course provided a really valuable insight into how presentation software can be applied to its maximum potential. It was a very positive experience and I'm looking forward to applying the skills I have learned to my job."

"The course built on my existing knowledge and experience of delivering presentations and helped me understand how effective the software can be."

Colin Reid, Operations Manager at TDG, said: "The course has helped Iain prepare and deliver more confident presentations which will be invaluable when we are pitching for new business."

Coatbridge College is the first accredited delivery centre for Computer Wings in Scotland. Alastair McGhee, Commercial Development Executive at the college added, "Computer Wings is a powerful business tool that will assist employers and maximise their existing software suite and staff skills. Computer Wings will form part of the college's overall portfolio of business focused courses and will be available to employers through-out Scotland and beyond."

Joe Wilson, Head of New Ventures at SQA, said: "We're very excited about Computer Wings."

“The students at Coatbridge College have all done exceptionally well and I’d like to commend them for their efforts. They will be able to use the skills gained from this course in their respective workplaces, which I’m sure their employers will be delighted about.”

Garry Cleere, Managing Director of Q-Validus said: “We are delighted to work with Coatbridge as one of the oldest and most established colleges in Scotland. Coatbridge has taken a lead in setting up the first Authorised Centre for Computer Wings, and we have been very pleased to hear that candidates have both enjoyed and benefited from participating in their Computer Wings course, and gained some relevant new skills to enhance their productivity.”

Computer Wings is now set to be rolled out across the UK and Ireland. Using a flexible approach, it concentrates on key functional activities within a modern organisation. These include areas such as communication, marketing, IT, business development, process flows and project management. The programme aims to enhance individual skills and knowledge as well as help identify and develop hidden talent within an organisation.

For further information regarding the Units please visit www.computerwings.com or contact Liam Priest at liam.priest@sqa.org.uk.

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