

Construction – Pilot Training Project

Construction Site Operative

Delivered by Wakefield College, Consult DJH Ltd and i-Consult Ltd

The purpose of this pilot project is to develop a training course which formalises the skills, attributes and knowledge required to be an effective Construction Site Operative.

Currently, there is not a nationally, industry recognised career path or qualification for the general Construction Site Operative. Historically this role was known as 'labourer' – a label which is in part responsible for this occupation not receiving the recognition it deserves, despite being essential to any construction site. The industry has changed dramatically over the past 20+ years, health and safety and the environment (to name just two factors) have influenced and changed the culture on all construction sites in the UK, and with it the importance and value of the Site Operative who is now an integral part of any well managed site. Employer research carried out by CITB highlights the demand for skilled Site Operatives.

Development of a course specific to this occupation will provide existing employees with proper recognition of their skills which will increase their career opportunities, as well as providing them with additional competency in a range of subjects. New entrants to the construction industry will have a recognised career path which they can follow, and which is not viewed as a poor relation to a craft/trade.

As an entry-level course (level 1 and/or 2) it would be suitable for career-changers thereby providing much needed employment opportunities - increasingly important in the current (and future) economic climate. It would also be an excellent route for those looking to undertake a craft or trade but who first want to get an overview of the industry before committing.

The intention is for the course to cover subjects such as:

- Workplace health, safety, and welfare awareness (including electrical, chemical, biological, noise, slip and trip, and manual handling hazards).
- Safe working at heights.
- Operation of powered tools such as disc cutters and compaction plates.
- Groundworks excavation and preparation.
- Preparation and laying of paving and brickwork.
- Communication and teamwork.
- Work ethic, attitude and discipline.
- Basic digital skills.

Participants will receive course or unit accreditation for most of the above.

- Pilot course duration – One day per week for 14-16 weeks.
- **Pilot course is FULLY FUNDED (FREE)**

We are inviting expressions of interest from all small/medium construction companies in the Leeds City Region to be involved in this pilot project.

These pilot courses are only available to **existing employees** of small/medium companies.

Email Brydie Lund (West Yorkshire Consortium of Colleges) to register your interest - brydie.lund@westyorkshirecolleges.ac.uk