



Lloyds and MTC mark 5,000 apprentices, graduates and engineers milestone

- **£15 million partnership celebrates 10-year anniversary with commitment through to 2029**
- **Lloyds sponsorship helped to train next generation of innovators, leaders and technicians**
- **Apprenticeship programme assists UK SME manufacturers with growing their own talent pipeline**

Lloyds and MTC (Manufacturing Technology Centre) have marked a major milestone in their £15 million strategic partnership established to support the development of skills, and innovation in the UK's manufacturing sector.

The partnership, which celebrates its 10-year anniversary in 2025, has now trained over 5,000 apprentices, graduates and engineers through MTC's training centres in Coventry, Oxfordshire and Liverpool with the support of Lloyds sponsorship.

It is set to surpass its target of training 6,000 of such learners within its current funding cycle, which runs until the end of 2029.

Charlie Nunn, Group Chief Executive of Lloyds Banking Group, met with apprentices at MTC to personally mark the achievement and hear first-hand about their experiences and aspirations. His visit underscored the Group's commitment to investing in skills and supporting the next generation of UK manufacturing talent.

Lloyds' sponsorship has so far helped develop MTC's Apprentice Support Service Programme, which provides a dedicated service to help SME manufacturers to recruit apprentices and access salary support funding via the government's Apprenticeship Levy.

The partnership also aims to help address the skills gap in the manufacturing sector, providing a unique platform to connect manufacturers with high-quality training in areas such as electrification, digitalisation, and clean energy systems. Research from Make UK estimates that addressing the 55,000 industry roles that are currently unfilled could contribute up to an additional £6 billion a year to the UK economy.

To date, more than 700 SME manufacturers have been referred to the partnership, with more than 115 going on to work with the MTC on specific projects for their business, generating over £8million of additional benefit, through improvements and upgrades for equipment, automation, and sustainability led projects.

Dave Atkinson, UK Head of Manufacturing at Lloyds Bank, said: "Our long-standing partnership with MTC reflects Lloyds' commitment to supporting the future of UK manufacturing. Reaching the milestone of 5,000 apprentices, graduates and engineers trained is a testament to the transformative impact of investment in skills, innovation and SME growth.

"By helping manufacturers access apprentice and salary support funding to create high-quality opportunities for young people, we're not only strengthening individual businesses but also securing the long-term competitiveness of the sector. We look forward to building on this success and supporting thousands more apprentices in the years ahead."

David Grailey, Managing Director at MTC Training, said: "UK manufacturing stands at a pivotal moment as it looks to embrace new technologies, drive productivity and accelerate the transition to net zero. Closing the skills gap by bringing

Contact

Nicola Hammond | nicola.hammond@lloydsbanking.com | 0207 356 2374



through the next generation of talent is critical if the sector is to realise its full potential and remain globally competitive.

“Our partnership with Lloyds has been instrumental in this effort – giving hundreds of SME manufacturers the means to invest in training through Lloyds’ Apprentice Support Service. By delivering apprenticeships, we’re helping businesses access the skilled workforce they need, while creating well-paid, meaningful careers that strengthen regional economies across the UK.”

ENDS

About Lloyds Banking Group

- Lloyds Banking Group is a leading UK based financial services group providing a wide range of banking and financial services, focused on personal and commercial customers.
- As part of the Group, Lloyds provides expert financial support and guidance to the households, businesses and communities of Britain.
- We help businesses from all parts of the UK, and across all different sectors and sizes, giving them the funding and support they need to grow both at home and abroad.

Our support for businesses

- We’re proud to support almost one million UK businesses with leading digital and relationship banking services, as they start up, grow and thrive.
- In 2024 we helped 100,000 small businesses and charities with new banking.
- Through a network of relationship teams based across the UK, as well as internationally, we deliver a mix of local understanding and global expertise necessary to provide long-term support to our clients to help them fulfil their growth aspirations.
- We offer a broad range of finance beyond term lending, spanning import and export trade finance, structured and asset finance, securitisation facilities and capital market funding.
- Our product specialists provide bespoke financial services and solutions, including tailored cash management, international trade, treasury and risk management services.
- To see the latest factsheet setting out how we support UK businesses please visit: [Supporting British businesses - Lloyds Banking Group plc](#)

About The Manufacturing Technology Centre

MTC transforms how products are designed, made and built so that they can be produced on a commercial scale - more sustainably, effectively and safely.

Since 2010, our independent research and technology organisation has delivered pioneering solutions to help overhaul industries spanning Aerospace, Defence & Security, Power & Energy, Built Environments, Space, Agriculture, and Food & Drink. Always in collaboration. Always with purpose. We are proud to be part of the High Value Manufacturing Catapult, established by and working in partnership with Innovate UK.

In addition, MTC Training is creating the next generation of engineering talent while upskilling and reskilling existing workforces to support the industry and accelerate technological adoption.

For more information visit: <https://www.the-mtc.org/>

Contact

Nicola Hammond | nicola.hammond@lloydsbanking.com | 0207 356 2374