



**MEDIA RELEASE
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**Good News for Engineering Says ETB as Numbers of GCSE Students Sitting
Single Sciences Doubles since 2000**

Today's GCSE results bring excellent news for the engineering sector as the number of students sitting physics, chemistry, additional maths and maths has increased by 21%, 20%, 11% and 2% respectively since 2008.

Overall, the number of young people entering for engineering-related single sciences has doubled since 2000, which is a fantastic achievement for all involved, especially given there are 3% fewer 15-16 year olds overall in this school year.

The main upwards trends in entrants are as follows:

Physics:

21% increase in entrants up to 91,179
93.1% pass rate at grades A*-C

Additional Maths:

11% increase in entrants to 18,765
68 % pass rate at grades A*-C

Maths:

2% increase in entrants up to 754,738
57 % pass rate at grades A*-C

Chemistry:

20% increase in entrants, up to 92, 246
94% pass rate at grades A*-C

These large increases in entrants to single sciences must be viewed in context of the 8% decreases in science and additional science. Even taking both this decrease and the 3% decrease in the 15-16 year old group overall into account however, there remains a significant rise in the number of students taking science subjects.

Paul Jackson, Chief Executive of the ETB said:

“Whilst we must not be complacent, it is both refreshing and promising to see the hard work of the science and engineering communities beginning to pay off in school subject choices. Today's GCSE results support the view that young people have never been so

interested in science and engineering – but we must not rest on our laurels. We must work together to promote the creative and exciting aspects of science and engineering to young people and this includes providing the support the new engineering diploma requires to enable it to grow in success.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1.) The Engineering and Technology Board (ETB) is an independent organisation that promotes the vital role of engineers, engineering and technology in our society. The ETB partners business and industry, government and the wider science and engineering community: producing evidence on the state of engineering, sharing knowledge within engineering and inspiring young people to choose a career in engineering, matching employers’ demand for skills. For more information about the ETB please visit www.etechnology.co.uk.

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