



MEDIA RELEASE
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**OVER HALF A MILLION NEW ENGINEERS NEEDED BY 2017 TO ENSURE UK'S
ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

In order for the UK economy to recover, the manufacturing sector will need to recruit over half a million (587, 000) engineering and manufacturing workers with state-of the-art-skills by 2017, according to a report launched today by EngineeringUK, the independent organisation that promotes the vital contribution of engineers, engineering and technology in our society. Its annual report on the state of UK Engineering also reveals major obstacles to achieving this number, including a rapidly diminishing talent pool (16% fewer school-leavers overall by 2019), a 30% fall in Further Education Lecturers in engineering and manufacturing, and a 17 % drop in the number of Higher Education students going into Production and Manufacturing Engineering degrees.

The impacts will be greatest for successful UK industries such as aerospace, transport, construction and energy, and could affect the UK's position as one of the world's largest manufacturers.

What the UK is Missing:

- The manufacturing sector will need to recruit over half a million (587, 000) engineering and manufacturing workers with state-of the-art-skills by 2017.
- The transport sector will require an additional 366,000 workers, including engineers, technicians and machine and transport operatives by 2017
- The construction industry will need an additional 389,000 engineering technicians and other workers with skilled trades by 2017 to meet the UK's commercial and housing needs.
- An additional 21,000 workers will be needed in electricity, gas and water; mining, quarrying by 2017.

- The nuclear industry needs to recruit 1,000 new apprentices and graduates per year until 2025 just to replace the current workforce once they retire. In order to build a new nuclear fleet and add a potential £30bn to the UK economy, many thousands more will be needed.
- 60% of the Aerospace and Defence workforce will retire in the next 20 years.

At present 55% of all UK exports are derived from engineering and manufacturing. The UK therefore has great potential to rebalance its economy by drawing on its strong manufacturing base. However, shortages of new engineers and of the Further Education lecturers to train them could seriously jeopardise this, hindering long term economic recovery.

Paul Jackson, Chief Executive, said:

“EngineeringUK is calling for Government, business and education providers to work together to develop a clear road map for the UK engineering sector. Tax breaks and other regulatory incentives for SMEs will play a significant part, but what really matters is a long-term strategy, detailing all major infrastructure projects for the foreseeable future and inspiring UK engineering with the confidence it needs to invest in new skills and technologies.

Without the coherence and stability a clear roadmap will bring, the UK will not only miss out on the high-level manufacturing skills it needs to get the economy back on track but could also lose ground to other countries in many highly-competitive global markets.”

To read the Executive Summary, click below:

http://www.scenta.co.uk/db/documents/Embargoed_Executive_Summary_011209.pdf

To read the full report click below:

http://www.scenta.co.uk/db/documents/Embargoed_Final_Report_011209.pdf

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Notes to Editors

EngineeringUK

EngineeringUK, formerly the ETB, is an independent organisation that promotes the vital contribution of engineers, engineering and technology in our society. EngineeringUK 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 EngineeringUK please visit www.EngineeringUK.com,

EngineeringUK and its partners across the professional engineering community in the form of the Engineering the future alliance, are working to address skills issues.

Contributors include:

ADS, EEF, The Engineering Council, The Equality and Human Rights Commission, Energy & Utility Skills, FDF, Warwick Institute of Employment Research, the Nuclear Institute, SEMTA and Summitskills.

ADS

A|D|S is the trade organisation advancing UK AeroSpace, Defence and Security industries with Farnborough International Limited as a wholly-owned subsidiary. A|D|S also encompasses the British Aviation Group (BAG). It is formed from the merger of the Association of Police and Public Security Suppliers (APPSS), the Defence Manufacturers Association (DMA) and the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC). For more information see www.adsgroup.org.uk.

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