

**Company Bulletin** 

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Apprentices in the capacitor winding room at MPE: left to right: Gillam Prescott, Jacob Grosscurth, Jack Gorman, Bradley Reed, Liam Reed, Ben Meadley.



The new North West Training Council training facility adjacent to Bootle Docks in Liverpool

## NWTC

## MPE expands apprenticeship program

After their initial year of production assignments and academic coursework reported in Company Bulletin Issue 13, MPE's first two apprentices Dylan Cassidy and Ben Meadley, who started with MPE in September 2016, have now completed their threeyear Production apprenticeships. Accordingly they will be awarded their NVQ / BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering in the coming weeks. The apprenticeship courses were conducted in conjunction with the North West Training Council (NWTC).

Following on from this, in September 2019 Ben went on to commence two-year HNC level Electronic Engineering studies, which have been funded by MPE and will again be in collaboration with the NWTC.

Similarly, Fabrication apprentice Liam Reed, who joined the MPE team in September 2017, has successfully completed his NVQ Level studies. Liam finished these at an accelerated pace, one year early. He is now going on to study for his HNC in General Engineering and NVQ in Mechanical Manufacturing Engineering. The academic modules of his studies will again be undertaken at the NWTC.

MPE's other Production apprentices are Gillam Prescott, who also started with MPE in September 2017 and is now entering his third year of NVQ studies, and Jack Gorman, who joined MPE in September 2018 and has just completed his first-year NVQ studies.

MPE expanded its apprenticeship program even more in September 2019 with the recruitment of an additional Production apprentice and Fabrication apprentice. Bradley Reed and Jacob Grosscurth have joined MPE's apprenticeship scheme and will now complete their three-year NVQ studies. Bradley is studying again with the North West Training Council, whilst Jacob will be undertaking his studies at the Waterside Training College in St Helens.

This now sees MPE with a total of seven apprentices, representing some 13% of MPE's workforce. The company's commitment to a vigorous, continuing apprenticeship program was acknowledged by Make UK (formerly the EEF) in January 2019, when MPE was Britain's runner-up for the Developing Future Talent category at the National Manufacturing Awards in London.

More recently, The Manufacturer magazine has also recognised MPE's dedication to the advancement of young talent, with MPE being shortlisted as a Finalist within the People and Skills category of its Manufacturer MX Awards, in partnership with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. The showpiece Final will be staged in the Liverpool Exhibition Centre at the Waterfront on November 14th.