

News Release

Budding Brunels speed towards engineering

Young engineers learn about a fast-paced career

03 March 2009

Famous sports car manufacturer Lotus will show the country's next generation of budding Brunels how a career in engineering can be as exciting as Formula One racing on Friday (06 March), from 10.15am to 4pm, at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), 1 Birdcage Walk, London.

Engineering Your Future (EYF) is a series of one-day career events, organised by the IMechE in conjunction with other organisations. Lotus will be one of the four organisations involved in showing 120 pupils aged 16-18 what engineering is all about. The students – from secondary schools and colleges in Greater London – will be set a challenge to develop a structure to stop vehicles from crashing, using an egg, ramp, paper and cling film, similar to the one used on the racing cars designed by Lotus.

Other top engineering firms will also be providing students with workshops. Award-winning consultancy Ramboll Whitbybird, best known for its engineering flair, will get the students competing to build the tallest tower which holds the heaviest weight using materials such as card and newspaper. For the first time in EYF's history there will be a workshop by the Metropolitan Police Service, where the young people will learn how to select the right technology for a real-life task and then get the chance to try some of the equipment for themselves.

The day will provide insights into mechanical, civil, electrical and marine engineering and offer more information on the graduate and apprenticeship paths available. There will even be a 'speed dating' session where students can speak face to face with professional engineers!

It is the only careers event of its kind to have the backing of the UK's leading engineering groups and institutions and the IMechE has organised it alongside the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), Institution of Engineering Technology (IET), the Institution of Marine Engineering Science and Technology (IMarEST) and educational engineering charity, Setpoint London West.

The annual EYF Career Awareness Day is in its 9th year and such events always touch the lives of promising engineers. George Stephenson, inventor of the steam engine, founded the IMechE and events like EYF are organised in the hope of finding engineering stars of the future.

As well as the EYF scheme, the IMechE also prepares the next generation of mechanical engineers by offering membership to **Engeneration**, a scheme that aims to support students right the way through their studies. Free to join, members are provided with course advice, learning materials, mentors, and details of industry-led events. Students can easily sign up, with only the consent of a teacher and parent required.

James Coleman of Vehicle Dynamics Computer Aided Engineering, Lotus said: "We are delighted to be taking part in this event to show young people the exciting career they could enjoy with Lotus later in life. The workshop is an ideal opportunity for students to learn more about the company and the kind of engineering opportunities that could be available to them."

Schools taking part in the Greater London area are: Archbishop Tenison's CE High School, Barking Abbey School, Bexley Grammar School, Blackheat Bluecoat School, Blackheath High School, Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, Coombe Girls' School, Kidbrooke School, La Sainte Union Convent School, Langley Grammar School, Leyton Sixth Form School, Northolt High School, Stoke Newington School, Sydenham High School The Albany School, The Latymer School, Warren Comprehensive School, and Westminster Kingsway College.

Christopher Lowther, Chairman of the IMechE Greater London Region, commented: "This is a unique opportunity for the next generation of engineers to get an insight into the different types of careers available in engineering, as well as the various routes they can take into the industry. They actually experience the opportunity to speak to a professional engineer face to face. It will be up to the engineers of the future to solve the many issues facing our world today and they will be learning about real solutions to help real people."



Pic cap: Students participating in an EYF event

ENDS

For more information on companies hosting workshops please read the [EYF brochure](#)

Notes to Editors

- To attend the day please contact the IMechE Press Office for further information on 0207 304 6888 or email media@imeche.org.
- Engineering Your Future is a series of one-day career events aimed at showcasing the breadth and variety of career opportunities available to youngsters wishing to enter the profession. It is jointly coordinated and sponsored by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), Institution of Engineering Technology (IET), the Institution of Marine Engineering Science and Technology (IMarEST) and educational engineering charity, Setpoint London West.
- The Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) was established in 1847 and has some of the world's greatest engineers in its history books. It currently has around 80,000 members in 120 countries representing mechanical engineers involved in a diversity of fields such as the automotive, rail, aerospace, medical, power and construction industries to name a few. Visit www.imeche.org for more information.