



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF SHIPWRIGHTS

"Encouraging the involvement of young people in the maritime world"

Shipwrights Ark Appeal Supports Apprenticeship Growth!

Information on the Apprenticeship Expansion Scheme

The Ark Appeal for encouraging small businesses in the marine sector to train apprentices harks back to the founding principles of our Worshipful Company.

The launch of the Shipwrights Ark Appeal is highly topical given the Coalition Government's rhetoric on the benefits to society of skills training and apprentice programmes in particular. The Chancellor's Autumn 2011 statement is to be welcomed since the government is looking to incentivise small businesses through funding to take on apprentices, reminding us that skills training is vitally important for the future well being of the nation. However, small businesses are still daunted by the prospect of entering the

training game. Accordingly, the Shipwrights have studied a unique and proven pilot scheme (administered by Berthon), which encourages marine sector businesses to enter the training programme for the first time. The Shipwrights Ark Appeal seeks to underwrite the first year wages of a four year apprentice course, approximately £8500 per student per year (in conjunction with relevant government incentives).

The first year is generally cash negative for a business and therefore the funding overcomes the largest hurdle companies face when evaluating the risks associated with taking on youngsters. Furthermore, help is provided with the interview

process, wage rates, contractual, administration and mentoring processes, such that by the end of the first year real benefits are seen by the company.

The Shipwrights see this as a long term process, and aim to sponsor a minimum of five new apprentices per annum. Donors and their companies can therefore be sure that a five year rolling commitment will have a real and positive effect; and for larger sums committed, there is also the possibility to dictate geographically where funds are distributed and direct contact with the sponsored apprentice will be encouraged, the idea being to follow his/her progress through to graduation. Please give generously.

Berthon Agrees to Administer the Apprenticeship Scheme

BERTHON



In 2009, Lymington based Berthon Boat Co Ltd gained £850K of government funding to run an Apprenticeship Expansion Pilot. Berthon, as lead employer, engaged with Business & Skills competitors and its supply chain to bring a thriving apprenticeship model to 15 businesses (13 new to training) employing 60 new apprentices. National statistics show a graduation rate of 70% whilst Berthon has regular success rates between 90-100%.

Berthon's commitment to training has gained them two national awards in recent years, recognising not only their scheme but also their tireless effort in raising industry awareness to fill the real problem of the skills gap created by lack of apprenticeship investment and an ageing workforce.

Now government funding has ceased, Berthon has agreed to administer the Shipwrights' scheme free of charge and to ensure funding is directed primarily to smaller firms in the sector who are not training, offering advice and guidance addressing the perceived problems of hiring and training youngsters with the necessary skills for the future.

The proposal is in keeping with the Shipwrights' education and charities objectives and that of the Ark Appeal.

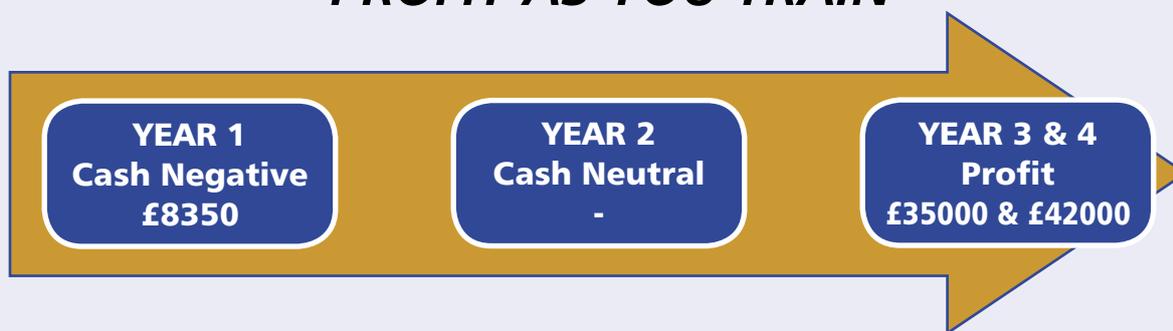


Marine Apprenticeships

The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights is committed to promoting the growth of Marine Apprenticeships in order to sustain the level of competency in traditional marine skills through the generations. The recruitment of apprentices can be of enormous benefit to employers, bringing renewed enthusiasm and a growing skilled labour force trained to their specific needs. It is recognised, however, that the early years of apprenticeship can be costly and may preclude smaller companies from considering this option. The Ark Appeal Apprentice Scheme will offset the funding for the first year of a four year apprenticeship, after which companies can expect to see a return on their investment in the employment of an apprentice.



PROFIT AS YOU TRAIN



Advanced Apprenticeship (4 years)

Year 1

- Work based Learning
- City & Guilds Level 2
- NVQ Level 2

Year 2&3

- Work based Learning
- City & Guilds Level 3
- NVQ Level 3

Year 4

- Work based Learning
- NVQ Level 3

How the Scheme Works

- Companies apply to the Scheme for funding – demonstrating that they have not previously employed apprentices and that they will commit to training for an Advanced Apprenticeship (4 years)
- Berthon will assist accepted companies to recruit their apprentice and enrol them with a training provider for day release education
- Companies invoice the scheme monthly for funding in the first year only at a maximum rate of £4 per hour up to 40 hours per week (including college day release and holiday)
- The scheme runs from August through to the following July to encompass the college academic year
- Berthon will provide advice and non-financial support to the company throughout the four year apprenticeship

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Lt Col Andy Milne RM
Clerk to the Shipwrights
The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights
Ironmongers' Hall
Shaftesbury Place
London
EC2Y 8AA

Tel: 0207 606 2376
E-mail: clerk@shipwrights.co.uk
Web: www.shipwrights.co.uk

Keith Longman
Yard Manager
Berthon Boat Co. Ltd
The Shipyard
Bath Road
Lymington
SO41 3YL

Tel: 01590 673312
E-mail: keith.longman@berthon.co.uk
Web: www.berthon.co.uk

Roderick Wordie
Managing Director
Ship Repairers & Shipbuilders Ltd
Broadwell House
Broadwell, Lechlade
Gloucestershire
GL7 3QS

Tel: 01367 860050
E-mail: roderick@shiprepairers.co.uk
Web: www.shiprepairers.co.uk