



EMPLOYER CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE

Marine, Defence, Engineering & Digital Technologies
Thursday 23 September 2021, 8.00am - 10.30am

It has been six months since we got together over Zoom to consider the future of the engineering industry in the wake of COVID and Brexit, whilst also facing the problems caused by a skills shortage.

The talks and presentations were informative and really stirred a lot of interest, but the virtual format denied the opportunity to properly discuss the matters on the table: and a conference is never quite the same without hearty discussion and debate.

With indoor hospitality now allowed, we want to invite you to enjoy another full programme of talks from industry leaders, but with the added bonus of being able to discuss your thoughts and opinions with like-minded industry colleagues who share the hopes and concerns for the future of this vital sector.



SCHEDULE

- 8.00am** Healthy breakfast and networking
- 8.30am** Welcome from your host - Steve Cardew
- 8.35am** Jackie Grubb - Chief Executive & Principal, City College Plymouth
- 8.40am** Donna Aldridge - Training Coordinator, Collins Aerospace
- 8.50am** Mike Heliwell - Head of Training, Learning & Development, Babcock
- 9.00am** Karen Friendship - Managing Director, Aldermans
- 9.10am** Lance Chatfield - Director of Technology, Marine & Renewables, City College Plymouth
- 9.15am** Table discussions hosted by higher education students
- 9.45am** Round-up and next steps - Steve Cardew
- 10.00am** Exclusive opening and tour of Augmented Reality Welding Suite
- 10.30am** Event close



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Engagement**

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SPEAKER BIOS



Steve Cardew

Able to oversee the running of this event is former Chair of Plymouth's Employment Skills Board and Non-Executive Director and Chair of Kawasaki Precision Machinery UK, Steve Cardew. With more than 40 years of experience in industry, Steve is heavily involved in promoting employee development and training, and is a strong advocate for Apprenticeships.



Jackie Grubb

A visionary and strategic leader, Jackie's extensive knowledge of the further education sector means she is able to lead the College through a period of transformation that seeks to have a lasting, positive impact on both the local community and economy.

The Oxford University alumna knows personally how further education and access to lifelong learning opportunities can change lives and this motivates her wish for as many people as possible to empower themselves through education.

Before joining City College, Jackie was Principal of the City of Westminster College, and has an excellent track record for managing institutions rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. Jackie is a firm believer in a holistic educational experience that not only includes learning the essential knowledge and skills for a particular career, but also develops self-confidence and resilience, and encourages all those who are connected to the College to enjoy the benefits of a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle.

Jackie also sits on the Plymouth Resurgam Board, Plymouth National Marine Park Board, the Plymouth Waterfront Partnership Board of Directors, Plymouth Education Board, Plymouth Area Business Council, Devonport Task Group, is an AGE UK trustee and is also training to be a yoga teacher.



Lance Chatfield

Lance is the Director for Technology, Marine & Renewables. As the strategic lead for the maritime, manufacturing, construction and built environment sectors, Lance oversees the development of the College's direction linked to these high-profile industries. After a successful bid through the CITB, Lance has overseen the development of immersive learning at both further and higher education levels and has been a crucial figure in the creation of new university-level courses and Higher Apprenticeships.



Donna Aldridge

A former City College Plymouth student, Donna completed her Human Resource Practice Level 3 Certificate in 2016 and joined Collins Aerospace as a training co-ordinator in 2019. She is currently studying for her Level 5 CIPD qualification at the College.

With over two decades of HR and training experience, part of Donna's current role is managing the Apprenticeship scheme, work experience programme and being the site lead for STEM related activities.

There are approximately 400 employees in Southway, Plymouth and over 78,000 employees globally. Collins Aerospace has over 300 sites globally with headquarters in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, USA.



Mike Helliwell

After serving in the Royal Navy for 22 years, Mike Helliwell took up the position of training officer at Babcock in 2008, and this year he was appointed Head of Training, Learning and Development.

A versatile leader, Mike has proven his ability to deliver in demanding circumstances, has experience of managing strategic recovery programmes in the defence sector and has delivered significant business growth by providing strategic insight into a number of UK and international training related bids.

Mike has an MBA from Exeter University, and has completed a number of qualifications related to teaching and learning. He is passionate about training and development, and he also supports Longcause Community Special School with its careers and enterprise provision.



Karen Friendship

Alderman Tooling is one of the South West's leading bespoke metal fabricators and is a true Plymouth success story. It was formed in 1969 by Bill Alderman, a qualified toolmaker.

Bill's daughter, Karen, graduated in Civil Engineering from Bristol University. In 1998, in the midst of her burgeoning career, she joined the family business for a short project and became enthralled with the world of metal fabrication.

Appointed as Managing Director in 2005, Karen has made staff training and development a priority. The company has recently been acknowledged as a regional manufacturing leader by scooping the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards for the Employer of the Year 2017, followed by the Herald Business Awards, Manufacturer of the Year 2018 and the MAKE UK, Developing Future Talent South Regional Winner in 2019.

As a local STEM ambassador, Karen strongly promotes STEM education and mentoring, working in close liaison with the University Technical College Plymouth, and the University of Plymouth. She also promotes the local manufacturing sector by chairing the Plymouth Manufacturing Group Network - a group of smaller local manufacturers, to promote best practice and skills development.



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