

# Skills Development

## in the Thames Gateway

**T**he Government has committed itself to the UK's long term skills needs to achieve a world class skills profile by 2020. This commitment has recently been reinforced by the announcement that the UK Government will make an investment of £3 billion in resources for adult training, raising to £3.6 billion by the end of 2011.

**One flagship example of how this money is being used in the Thames Gateway is Train to Gain, a scheme designed to help businesses in the area receive the training they need to succeed.**

Access to this scheme is made easier through the use of skills brokers who review business' needs. Ixion Holding's

Train to Gain brokers carry out a free skills analysis, suggest a range of training solutions tailored to a business' employees and allocate Train to Gain funding to the company so that it can implement the recommendations that have been made.

One of the businesses that has benefited from Train to Gain is Wright Kerr Tyson, a logistics company in the Thames Gateway. The company enrolled nineteen members of its staff onto fully-funded, on-site NVQ training courses after an initial skills assessment by an Ixion skills broker.

### Developing Staff

Wright Kerr Tyson's staff took part in a number of different courses, including: customer services, business and administration, distribution, warehousing

and storage operations.

The training took place on site to minimise the disruption to day to day business and each employee was individually inducted on to the training programmes.

### No Train, No Gain

Wright Kerr Tyson's commercial director, Peter Salmon was so impressed with Train to Gain that he has already gone on to recommend the initiative at two industry conferences. He commented:

**"This has been a great opportunity for both the staff and the company. It helped give staff more faith in their abilities and boosted everyone's morale."**

Peter Salmon, Commercial Director, Wright Kerr Tyson



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