

Doosan Babcock chooses 20|20 for ECITB approved Project Controls engineering training

Summary

- A unique course which can be available for ECITB funding
- Highly rated and designed to complement existing workloads
- Delegates obtain formal and recognised qualification in project controls

From Doosan Babcock:

“This is one of our best rated courses by delegates themselves and for good reason. It fulfills all the primary training requirements and offers a chance for individuals working in an area where few opportunities for professional development exist, to obtain a well-regarded qualification”

Billy Meldrum, Training Manager, Doosan Babcock

Summary

Many companies want to develop staff by offering specific training courses, but for those working in Project Controls, the options are extremely limited. Engineering firm Doosan Babcock identified a solution with 20|20 and now offers its project controls and engineering technicians a practical nine-month programme leading to a City and Guilds Certificate in Project Controls. This is the only course of its kind available to project control personnel based in the UK and Doosan Babcock have been working in partnership with 20|20 to successfully train its highly specialised workforce for over three years.

Background

As project management training experts, 20|20 delivers the ECITB Certificate in Project Controls (City and Guilds), as part of an exclusive partnership with The Engineering & Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB). Upon graduating from the nine month programme, students will be awarded a City and Guilds Certificate in Project Controls.

20|20 deliver this comprehensive training programme, which covers all aspects of project control. This course has been developed by the ECITB, over a number of years. It is designed by industry for industry. It is delivered using a blended learning approach, which includes distance learning via a dedicated Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), two day classroom based workshops conducted each month and ongoing online tutorial support. The programme consists of eight



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modules taught over a nine-month period, giving delegates the best balance between educational content and daily work commitments. Entirely funded and reimbursed through ECITB, the course is highly rated and provides ongoing opportunities and an environment for delegates to apply their learning in the workplace.

The City and Guilds qualification is well respected and nicely complements the Government's emphasis on the importance of vocational training and apprenticeships. 20|20's Project Controls course focuses on helping delegates to acquire specific skills and knowledge, using a very practical framework with team-based activities and case studies. *"Individuals get very direct training that they can apply immediately in the workplace. The training is kept very interactive and although materials are not light-hearted, they are delivered in a fun and memorable way,"* explains Billy Meldrum, Training Manager at Doosan Babcock.

Over the past three years, Doosan Babcock delegates who have completed this course have ranged from fast track apprentices, graduates, site supervisors, to those working in projects/project controls and senior managers. It is particularly suited to planning engineers and cost controllers and enables them to develop a greater awareness of project engineering. *"This programme has been advantageous because although we have a project controls apprenticeship, very few development programmes are available for existing staff wanting to move into different areas,"* comments Billy Meldrum.

One of the most beneficial features of the 20|20 ECITB Certificate in Project Controls is the way it has been designed to fit around the working week and delegates' existing commitments. Classroom content is delivered over one or two days per month over nine months, which is an easy commitment for delegates to manage and enables the team to build strong working relationships for group based assignments.

"The structure is fantastic because individuals are only out of the office for one or two days a month so it's very flexible for them and means they can fully commit to completing the additional workload of coursework," explains Billy Meldrum.

As a training specialist, 20|20 provides a complete service and course trainers are also responsible for marking all the activities, which Doosan Babcock acknowledge is a considerable undertaking. An online portal is used to coordinate the process and all materials are submitted to 20|20 electronically online. *"The team at 20|20 are fantastically organised and all materials are located exactly where they need to be, so it's easy and convenient for delegates,"* adds Billy Meldrum.

Results achieved

To date, 30 Doosan Babcock students have completed the City and Guilds training programme over a three year period. There has been consistent praise and excellent feedback from delegates for the quality of 20|20's course delivery and additional support received during the programme.

"Not only is there very good use of industry context and examples of theory being applied in the workplace, but there is prompt support outside of the course so individuals have their questions answered in a timely and professional manner," says Billy Meldum. *"They look after the welfare of students and ensure that if they are falling behind they get support and are able to get back on track. They never expect us to chase up students, but administer and manage everything."*

Course objectives are specific and by the end of the Project Controls programme, each learner will not only have an in-depth understanding of projects and the project lifecycle, but is able to assess the project schedule through its development stages and recommend remedial actions to the management team. In addition, they will be able to carry out estimating, planning and cost control activities on projects.