

INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY SKILLS GIVEN FURTHER BOOST BY CITB-CONSTRUCTIONSKILLS

Federations and employers across the UK will now be given additional support to provide management and supervisory training projects via CITB-ConstructionSkills' Management and Supervisory Transition Support (M&STS) fund.

A cash injection of £2million for the period 2011/2012, will assist projects that have already been successfully piloted via the Sector Skills Council's Management and Supervisory Development Programme (M&SDP), but are not yet available for mainstream grant support.

The aim of the M&STS fund is to give those M&SDP projects that need additional financial support, the opportunity to cover their running costs after the first year of their project.

Chief Executive of CITB-ConstructionSkills, Mark Farrar, said: "The M&STS fund shows that we are really listening and responding to the needs of the industry, helping businesses to succeed and grow. The new funding will bring additional support to those federations who are looking to build on the success of their established M&SDPs.

"By supporting federations and employers through the transitional stages of their M&SDPs, we will be helping to lend further financial assistance to some of the most exciting and innovative projects within the industry. The scheme is yet another way that CITB-ConstructionSkills is adding value to the industry ensuring that individuals working within it have the right skills for economic growth, both locally and nationally."

One federation which will be eligible for this additional M&STS funding is the National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC).

The Federation's "Innovative Green Roofing Management Project" was put in place to help develop generic supervisory and management training modules for UK roofing contractors, to be linked to NVQ achievement CC03, in installation of sustainable green roof systems.

NFRC worked closely with the Green Roof Organisation and other partners to develop a range of training materials to fill the skills gap at supervisory and management level in the uniformity of specification and installation of sustainable green roofs within the industry. The process included the mapping of current provision, the creation of training requirements, and the provision and approval of management training modules.

Ray Horwood, Chief Executive of NFRC said:

"NFRC has led the way in green roof installation training, having previously developed and run solar panel training courses for the industry. The Green Roofing Management Project is a further example of our work in this area.

"This project came about because of increasing market demand for green roofing and clients' demands that the installation of sustainable green roofing is carried out by qualified companies to a generic national level of competence and expertise. We believe the training that has been developed, through funding from CITB-ConstructionSkills, goes a long way in meeting this need.

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“The announcement of the M&STS fund is something we wholly welcome as it will enable more federations and employers to raise standards of training and skills within their organisations, just as we have been able to do with this project.”

For more information about the M&SDP and M&STS application process and a full list of eligibility criteria visit <http://www.cskills.org/aboutus/productservices/msdp.aspx> or email scott.cooper-groom@cskills.org

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Notes to Editor:

- CITB-ConstructionSkills is the Industrial Training Board and Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the construction industry. CITB-ConstructionSkills works to deliver a safe, professional and fully qualified construction workforce through the industry's Sector Skills Agreement. We are responsible for raising employer engagement in training, implementing industry-led skills solutions, securing appropriate funding, producing labour market data, and developing standards and qualifications that meet employer needs. For further information, visit www.cskills.org
- NFRC is the UK's largest roofing trade association representing over 60% of the roofing industry by value. NFRC actively ensures that members offer high standards of workmanship and sound business practice through a strict code of practice and vetting procedure, including site inspections and adhering to the Government endorsed TrustMark standards. NFRC also offers training services, technical advice, and represents member interests to the wider construction industry and Government. For more information please visit www.nfrc.co.uk.