

Yorkshire Productivity Award Winners

21st April 2009

Held against the background of the global recession, over 150 manufacturers attended the 6th Yorkshire Productivity Awards at the Royal Armouries. The awards recognised the significant steps being taken by manufacturing companies and staff to improve their efficiency and competitiveness in a challenging business environment.

Yorkshire Productivity was formed by the Virtual College, the Ilkley-based blended training provider, to champion improving productivity through specialised training and implementation support. Business receive cost effective, specialised training and share best practice through events, presentations and shop floor visits, held at manufacturer premises.

Companies are reporting tangible improvements such as:

- “A 20% increase in manufacturing efficiency”
- “A 40% reduction in manufacturing floor space”
- “A £2 million reduction in stock”
- “£76,000 worth of direct tangible benefits”



The Yorkshire Productivity Awards are now in their sixth year and attract entries from manufacturing companies throughout the north of England. Sid Joynson, guest speaker and manufacturing productivity expert from the BBC1 television series “Sid’s Heroes”, commented: “It is no longer good enough to produce excellent products cost effectively – those companies who want to survive and prosper must delight their customers.”

Alastair Gladstone, Divisional Director of Yorkshire Productivity and AEMFC Sector Group member commented: “It is encouraging to see the growing number of manufacturing companies embracing training so wholeheartedly and achieving major benefits.

With main sponsorship from Yorkshire Forward and individual award categories from the WYLLN, National Skills Academy for Manufacturing, EAL and Virtual College, winners demonstrated the revival in local manufacturing prowess.



Productivity Awards were presented to ASD Lighting, PalinTest, Texecom, George Barker, Hughes Safety Showers, Ronseal, Microblade, Surgical Innovations, Solagas, Slingsby Advanced Composites, Lloyds Banking Group Print Services and PPG.