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ROWE AND CO ACQUIRE CONTRACT RECRUITERS

At the end of 2007 Rowe & Co acquired contract engineering recruiters GRK Recruitment Limited. GRK which is located in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire has rapidly become one of the area's leading companies, in the supply of both contract and permanent design and engineering staff.

Formed in 2001 by Managing Director Richard Huckle and Company Director Kathryn Tappenden, the company has established a premier position in the supply of Design Engineers, CAD Engineers, and Project Engineers, both Mechanical and Electrical.

Full details of the services that GRK offer can be found on the company website www.grkreruitment.co.uk

Chris Rowe, Managing Director of Rowe and Co commented, "We see the recruitment of permanent engineers to be difficult for at least the next 3 to 4 years.

We believe that the services of GRK will be invaluable to our clients in the Fluid Handling Industries during this time and beyond".



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT www.grkreruitment.co.uk

GRADUATE SHORTFALL

Recruiters face a shortage of candidates in the future as the number of school-leavers is expected to plummet over the next decade, leaving 70,000 university places unfilled.

A report by Universities UK said universities will have to compete harder and encourage more mature students and students from outside the EU into higher education as an historic dip in UK birth rates translates into fewer student numbers.

According to Universities UK, which represents nearly all university vice-chancellors, the number of 18-20-year-olds will fall between now and 2019, leaving up to 70,000 vacant student placements. However, by 2027 the trend will be reversed, says the report, with a projected 2.1% increase in student numbers compared to 2006.

And it is not just the UK which will suffer. Student numbers across the EU will also decline dramatically, by up to 40% in some countries.



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WORKPLACE COACHING

Coaching is increasingly popular as a means of promoting learning and development, according to this year's learning and development survey, from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD).

Initial findings show, that almost three-quarters (71%) of UK employers currently use coaching in their organisations, compared to 63% in 2007 and a similar proportion (72%) of respondents find coaching to be an effective tool.

The survey finds more than two fifths of organisations now offer coaching to all employees, 39% offer it to directors and senior management and a third offer it to senior managers and line managers/supervisors.

Commenting on the findings, John McGurk, CIPD learning, training and development adviser says:

"Coaching is not just a popular technique but an

immensely powerful one for supporting personal development. There is no doubt that coaching is having a significant impact both on individual and organisational performance. As coaching helps people to develop, it's a perfect fit for the fast moving knowledge economy in which we operate."



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT www.recruiter.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Rowe & Co has in recent months successfully undertaken key search assignments both in Europe and the United States.

In addition to the company's work in the UK, Rowe & Co can offer clients an invaluable service in identifying senior personnel for international subsidiary companies.

Please telephone Chris Rowe on 01525 875101 to discuss an international vacancy in more detail.



APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships have a dramatic impact on recruitment and retention, as well as overall business performance, according to research by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

The research, released to mark the start of Apprenticeship Week 2008, found that 80% of respondents believe their apprenticeship programme improves staff retention and reduces staff turnover. It found that 88% believe apprenticeships lead to a more motivated and satisfied workforce.

The research reveals that apprenticeship programmes help them fill vacancies more quickly and easily, while 70% believe apprenticeships provide an organisation with a better calibre of candidates. More than three-quarters of respondents expect apprenticeships to play a bigger part in their recruitment policy in the future.

The survey highlights that apprenticeships are making real progress in addressing skills shortages, with two-thirds of respondents claiming they would struggle to find trained staff with the skills they need without their Apprenticeship programmes. In addition, 83% of employers rely on Apprenticeships to provide the skilled workers they need for the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT www.recruiter.co.uk

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