

# Stars of the Future

The CPA - in association with Construction Industry Training Board - hosted the 4th annual 'Stars of the Future' plant mechanic apprenticeship awards at Vertikal Days with young service engineers attending from colleges all over the country.

Around 250 people were at the award ceremony, hosted by racing driver Nic Hamilton, whose attendance was supported by Kranlyft, A-Plant, Vertikal Days, IPAF, Hawk and Snap-On. He gave an inspiring and entertaining speech about his life-long battle with cerebral palsy and how, up until the age of 16, he relied on the use of a wheelchair.

He told the young audience that with motorsports in his blood, he was determined to pursue a career in motor racing. He related how he overcame numerous hurdles, using sheer determination. To achieve his life-long dream his message was "you can do anything if you put your mind to it - don't let anything stand in your way."

Hamilton said: "It was an absolute honour to be here to share my story, but also to see all the fantastically talented people that have been

nominated for these awards. I believe everybody has a story and is inspiring in their own right and I think that the CPA and these awards for young apprentices is a great platform to show their talent. As far as I am concerned they are all winners here today and should be very proud of themselves."

In addition to the winners who took the stage, 42 students were Highly Commended. Opening the ceremony CPA chairman Brian Jones said: "Today is the fourth year that the awards have been held and each year the benchmark gets higher and higher. Apprentices play an important role in the recovery of our industry by giving employers the essential skills they need. I am very proud and privileged to be associated with the Stars of the Future programme and to see the pride the apprentices bring, not only to their employers, families



Winners of the fourth annual Stars of the Future awards

and college but most importantly to themselves. More than 250 Students were nominated and every

one of them is a Star of the Future. Congratulations to them all!"



The two regional award winners, Elliott Waite (left) won the Year Three Regional Award while Angus Strowbridge won the Year Two' Award, both are employed by access rental company Lifterz and attend Askham Bryan College.



Nic Hamilton with Brian Jones of the CPA



Katie Long accepts her award from Brian Jones

## The 2016 Stars of the Future Winners

### Regional Level 2 Winners

Angus Strowbridge  
Sion Cooper  
  
John Davies  
Jack Pleavin  
Luke Johnstone

Katie Long  
James Deeley

Campbell Howie

Samuel Cooper-Hart  
Tom Knapp  
Lloyd Hewish

### College and Employer

Askham Bryan College - Lifterz  
Bridgend College -  
U Hire Equipment & Sales  
Coleg Cambria - Richard Tresidder  
Finning Academy - Finning UK  
Glasgow Kelvin College -  
SLD Pump & Power  
Myerscough College - UK Forks PLC  
National Construction College -  
Allsort Grab Services  
National Construction College (Scotland)  
Muirhead Plant Ltd  
Reaseheath College - A Plant  
Stafford College - Hire Plant UK  
Wiltshire College - SKH Engineering

### National Winners

Sion Cooper  
  
Jason Standen

### College and Employer

Level 2 Bridgend College -  
U Hire Equipment & Sales  
Level 3 Bridgend College -  
South Cornelly Services

### Regional Level 3 Winners

Elliott Waite  
Jason Standen  
  
Sam Batchelor  
Tyler Nicholson  
  
Daniel Fradd  
Thomas Jackson  
  
Sean Gunn  
Jean-Paul Alcayde  
James Hughes  
Bradley White

### College and Employer

Askham Bryan College - Lifterz  
Bridgend College -  
South Cornelly Services  
Finning Academy - Finning UK  
Glasgow Kelvin College -  
Your Equipment Solutions  
Myerscough College - Multi Hog  
National Construction College -  
Gray Materials Handling  
National Construction College (Scotland)  
Reaseheath College - Clee Hill  
Stafford College - AP Web UK  
Wiltshire College - Ardent Hire Solutions

Katie Long from UK Forks and Myerscough College, the winner of Best Apprentice of the Year award at the 2016 Women In Construction Awards picked up a Regional Level 2 award. When asked how she feels being a female in what is still a male dominated industry she said: "At first it was really daunting but everyone was really friendly and made me feel welcome. I think it's great and I really hope more girls come into engineering and other jobs that have been traditionally 'just for boys'. The stigma of being a female doing a boys' job has gone and we have proved we can do the job no matter what gender you are."