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**Ivor Searle says skills development starts with apprenticeships**

Company takes on three or four new apprentices every September

Gavin Braithwaite-Smith February 5, 2024 Comments Closed 0 likes



As National Apprenticeship Week gets underway, Ivor Searle has reaffirmed its commitment to apprenticeships, as it begins its search for the company's 2024 intake.

Based at its factory in Soham, Cambridgeshire, where it has traded for over 75 years, Ivor Searle takes on three or four new apprentices every September, who are enrolled on the company's engineering technician machinist level 3 apprenticeship.

The successful applicants will join eleven other apprentices in the company who are on their second or third year of training towards a Diploma in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Foundation), in association with a number of local vocational colleges.

Apprentices learn the processes and engineering involved across Ivor Searle's operation, from stripping engines and machining of components to final assembly and future product development.

Recognising the need to recruit more young people into technical and engineering roles within the automotive sector, its investment in apprenticeships is seen as a key element in future-proofing the skills needed by the business, as David Eszenyi, commercial director at Ivor Searle, explains:

"Ivor Searle has always been an advocate of apprenticeships, which enables trainees to earn while they learn. It's the ideal platform to develop hands-on engineering and technical skills, which our business relies upon. I started my own career as an apprentice machinist and a number of our senior staff joined Ivor Searle as apprentices. They really are the engine of our future."

As a significant employer in the Cambridgeshire area, Ivor Searle participates in local recruitment fairs to advocate the benefits of apprenticeships and raise awareness of employment opportunities.

Funding for apprenticeships is available through the Government's apprenticeship levy scheme.



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