

VERVE'S GOT TALENT (THAT'S FOR SURE!)

Verve is delighted to introduce our latest young superstar to you – 22 year old Paul Simpson. A pupil of our unique Apprentice Academy, Paul has been with us for 4 years and is about to graduate from his four-year apprenticeship in September to become a fully-fledged Light Vehicle Technician. Paul isn't just a star at our Academy, though – he also attends Motherwell College as part of his complementary studies and was awarded their prestigious Student of the Year Award only two years ago.

Such achievement so young would surely have been enough for most budding apprentices but it would appear that Paul's ambition knows no bounds; he entered the Skillauto Automobile Technology Awards – in association with WorldSkills UK - and has impressively made it through to the final of the Light Technician of the Year Awards – 2010. Paul is one of only six contestants from a starting field of 600 UK-wide registrants and 25 competitors – and he is the **ONLY SCOT** to actually make it through to the final.

THE MOTOR-TRADE'S EQUIVALENT OF "THE X-FACTOR"

The Skillauto Automobile Technology Awards are jointly sponsored by IMI Awards and Castrol. Paul initially competed in the regional heats where all marks were rigorously counted and verified by UK Skills, with only the top 6 performers judged to have made the grade and be invited to compete in the final. The spectacular BMW Academy located in the splendid grounds of Wokefield Park in Reading is the ideal setting for the finals, which are being held between the 21st and 23rd of June. The highest-scoring competitor in the final, who will be announced on Wednesday 23rd of June, will be awarded with the prestigious status of Skillauto Light Technician of the Year 2010, together with the WorldSkills UK Medal and a prize from the UK sponsors.

These Awards are the primary route that UK Skills use to identify industry competitors who show real talent and potential, just like the X-Factor does in the world of entertainment. Finalists such as Paul may very well be offered the opportunity to enter the WorldSkills International Automobile Technology Awards Competition scheduled to be held in London in 2011.

We are sure that you will join with all of Paul's colleagues at Verve in wishing him every success in the final – Verve has definitely got talent!

For more information please contact:-

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