The STEMFEST
Make It Enterprise Challenge
Queen Elizabeth Hall, Oldham
5th July 2018

Schools in Attendance
The Hathershaw College Oldham
North Chadderton School Oldham
Oasis Academy Oldham Oldham
St Matthew’s RC High School Moston
Waterhead Academy Oldham
Westhoughton High School Bolton
William Hulme’s Grammar School Manchester

Sponsoring partner
Supporting Sponsors
About the day

70 students from schools across Greater Manchester attended the challenge which took place at The Queen Elizabeth Hall in Oldham. Each school was tasked with setting up their own mini-manufacturing company and designing, manufacturing and building one of two projects: a super-flexible new local and mid-distance van for supporting businesses in their delivery/service/maintenance needs, or, a revolutionary new Long-Distance Lorry Cab.

Each team made up of eight year 9 pupils, was first tasked with choosing an individual job role that ranged from Managing Director to Design Engineer. Teams were briefed at the start of the day and challenged with designing, costing, building, marketing and selling their new commercial vehicle and impressing a panel of judges. The pupils had to use their creativity and business acumen to develop a product that would appeal to the potential ‘investors’ in a Dragons Den style presentation.

Judging the event was extremely tough and the teams were closely monitored throughout the day. Points were awarded for the completion of key tasks along with teamwork, use of initiative, problem solving and other enterprising qualities.

Key Content

Make It in Manufacturing is a charitable campaign aimed at changing the negative perceptions young people have about manufacturing.

In partnership with manufacturing businesses from across the UK, Make It invites local schools to compete against one another in a series of enterprise challenges with the goal of educating young people about the careers available to them within the manufacturing sector.

These practical one day events challenge young people to form their own mini-manufacturing companies, gaining advice and guidance from a range of industry experts and advocates, and learning more about the creative and aspirational employment opportunities manufacturing can offer.

This event, the STEMFEST Make It Enterprise Challenge was delivered as a partnership between The Manufacturing Institute and Oldham Enterprise Trust with support from Unity Partnership, Diodes and Innovative Technology. The Challenge was part of a series of events during the Oldham Festival of Learning 2018. The aim of the festival is to raise the profile of the different careers in engineering and manufacturing available to everyone in and around Oldham.
It has allowed students to work in a team towards a shared goal. Gives them an insight into manufacturing jobs.

Teacher

Potential new recruits—good to see if manufacturing is in their mind-sets.

Volunteer

About the Sponsors

Oldham Enterprise Trust

The Oldham Enterprise Trust helps Oldham residents into enterprise and employability and contributes to long-term economic growth. As part of the ‘Get Oldham Working’ initiative, the Trust, kick-started by a £1m donation from The Stoller Charitable Trust, aims to help the next generation of entrepreneurs get start-up businesses off the ground and also support young people into employment. The Trust provides a one stop portal to start-up and growth companies to access the wide range of business funding that is available as well as free business advice and support.

Diodes

Diodes Incorporated is a leading global manufacturer and supplier of high-quality application specific standard products within the broad discrete, logic, analog and mixed-signal semiconductor markets. The Make It Challenge was a perfect fit with our young people strategy allowing us to engage with young people encouraging them to pursue a career in the world of manufacturing. This was an opportunity to give back and promote manufacturing in Oldham.

Innovative Technology

Innovative Technology Ltd (ITL) has been manufacturing ‘State of the Art’ cash handling solutions for over 26 years and is a market leading supplier to the International Gaming, Amusement, Vending, Retail & Kiosk Industries.

Founded in 1992 by David Bellis MBE, Innovative Technology Ltd (ITL) was the first company to manufacture low cost multi-currency validators, when it introduced the NV1 Smiley® to the market - making banknote validators affordable to the AWP market. Two decades on, the company’s philosophy to provide ‘State of the Art’, technologically advanced products still remains at the heart of the Company’s Ethos. Innovative Technology is proud to offer solutions that automate cash transactions and maximise cash efficiency.

Innovative Technology are based on Derker Street in Oldham and employee 200 staff, many in STEM roles hence why they support Oldham STEMFEST and the Make It in Manufacturing Campaign.

Unity Partnership

At Unity Partnership we provide professional, outsourced services to both public and private sector clients, specialising in local authorities and the education sector.

Oldham wants to improve the prospects for young people, so if we can somehow encourage children from an early age to start thinking about their choices, in a fun way, so much the better. There’s been a huge shortage of STEM skills nationally for some time now so it’s a great area to get into.

For Unity Partnership, it’s about giving as much back to the community as we can. As a cornerstone employer, creating an awareness of STEM subjects is a great way of informing the younger generation of wider career options and encouraging them to learn the skills they need to create a better future for themselves, which is what the Make It Challenge exactly did and why we got involved.
And the winners were…

First Place  St Matthew’s RC High School
Second Place  Westhoughton High School
Outstanding Individuals  Jasmine Raza - The Hathershaw College
Outstanding Individuals  Safa Kanwal – Waterhead Academy

Summary and Key Points

• 100% of the pupils taking part rating the challenge overall as between “Excellent” and “Good” (37% marked “Excellent”, 50% marked “Very Good” and 13% marked “Good”).

• 88% of the pupils felt that the day had given them a better understanding of the types of jobs available within the manufacturing industry and in total the number of young people who said that “yes”, they would now consider a career in the sector stood at 42% by the end of the event.

• All of the teachers that attended rated the challenge very highly with 80% scoring the day as “Excellent” and 20% marking “Very Good”.

• 100% of the teachers felt that the day had definitely improved their pupils’ perceptions of careers within the sector and 100% also indicated that they would recommend careers in manufacturing to their pupils upon their return to school.

• The sponsors that took part in the event also found the day beneficial with 100% rating the challenge as either “Excellent” or “Very Good”.

• 100% of the advocates also felt that the day had succeeded in improving the image of manufacturing to those pupils involved in the day.

The Volunteers that participated in the day were:

Kim Malcom, Marketing Coordinator, Unity Partnership
Richard Edwards, Principal Engineer, Unity Partnership
John Winterbottom, Divisional Manager - Technical Delivery, Unity Partnership
Akddus Khan, Community Liaison Officer, Unity Partnership
David Ogden, Manufacturing Operations Manager, Diodes
Karen Butler, Continuous Improvement Leader, Diodes
Adeel Hussein, Year in industry Production Engineer, Diodes
Marcus Burnham, Mechanical Design Engineer, Innovative Technology
O’Neil Mason, Mechanical Design Engineer, Innovative Technology