Case Study

Royal School of Military Engineering

Customer Requirement

To deliver a 30 year technical training contract as part of the Holdfast consortium at the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME). Training is required for the Corps of Royal Engineers across a spectrum of ages, ranks, abilities and course types.

The Pearson TQ Programme

In 2008 Pearson TQ was appointed to deliver the scheduling and delivery of multi-level training in a wide variety of artisan and operator skills, together with academic courses.

The delivery of training undergoes continual development to ensure that it matches emerging customer needs and remains cost effective.

Pearson TQ’s role is to deliver all highly specialised plant and driver specialist training at the RSME. This includes operator and maintainer training on all heavy plant equipment, some specialist Royal Engineer equipment and in service specialist vehicles:

- **Plant Operator:** Train and test selected Royal Engineer Soldiers to operate and maintain specific earthmoving vehicles, ancillaries and construction Plant, to meet the operational requirement of defence.
- **Plant Maintainer:** Train a general purpose mechanical engineer responsible for the repair and maintenance of wheeled and tracked plant vehicles, engineer construction plant, to meet the operational requirement of defence.
- **Driver Specialist:** Train and instruct on the current in-service plant transporter Modified Low-loader Equipment Trailer (MLET), Crane Light, Truck Mounted Loader (TML), Crane Medium, Terex AC35 and instruct JNCOs and above the requirements of the duties of an Appointed Persons Lifting Operator in order to meet the operational requirements of defence.
- **Plant Management:** Train selected Royal Engineer NCOs in basic drainage and road design, in order to fill the role of Plant Section Commander. To train selected Royal Engineer SNCOs in the design of drainage, road design and quarrying techniques, in order to fill the role of Plant Sgt within RE Regiments. To train eligible Royal Engineer SNCOs as subject matter experts in the design and supervision of horizontal and ground engineering, in order to fill the role of Military Plant Foreman (MPF).

We also provide a ‘Construction Skills’ accredited apprenticeship in specialised plant and machinery operations culminating in Level 2 Award and Certificate in Plant Operations, registered and certified by Construction Award Alliance (Construction Skills and City & Guilds). Our learners also work towards Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) and National Plant Operators Registration Scheme (NPORS) certification for equipment including Cranes, Lorry Loaders, Excavators, Graders, Bulldozers and other Earth Moving Equipment.

Measuring Success

The largest residential further education college in Europe, we have achieved a student pass rate of 100% since the contract commenced in 2008, with no attributable failures.

The Corps of Royal Engineers has approximately 10,000 staff situated globally and of these around 4,000 successfully complete some form of training at RSME each year.

Our transformation of training delivery and use of innovative blended learning technologies means that as a direct result of changes in training methods...

- We’ve reduced training time by 10%...
- Whilst improving pass rates by over 10% to 95%

The training we provide plays a vital role in the development of vocational and technical skills as well as reinforcing the military training ethos of service, discipline, duty and teamwork. The RSME contract is measured against 394 KPIs on a monthly basis by the customer.

“I have worked with some highly competent and confident Plant operators that are the product of Pearson TQ’s diligent, enthusiastic, high grade and original instructors. The operators that we now train on Lead Air Support Squadron (LASS) are required to operate in very close proximity to each other in daylight and nighttime scenarios. They carry this out in a safe manner whilst applying precision and skill which has been nurtured in them from your instructors. I would like to congratulate Pearson TQ on the quality you produce and I would like to pass on my thanks to you all for making our job easier and safer here in the Air Support Specialist Training Team.”

SSgt. R A McCullagh
Air Support Specialist Training Team