

BUS ENGINEERS ARE YOU THE BEST IN YOUR BUSINESS?

PROVE IT, BY JOINING THE IRTE SKILLS CHALLENGE

In June 2011 bus engineers from all over the UK will compete in a series of engineering challenges to see which operator has the best engineers in the bus industry.



Be part of it.

Visit www.soe.org.uk/irteskills and register to get involved.



www.facebook.com/SOEngineers

Through its IRTE (Institute of Road Transport Engineers) professional sector, SOE (Society of Operations Engineers) supports road transport engineers throughout their careers.

Proud sponsors



IRTE skills challenge

The IRTE Skills Challenge is a new competition aimed at finding and rewarding excellence among bus and coach technicians in the UK. *Transport Engineer* brings you all the details of this groundbreaking scheme

Demonstrating its commitment to supporting engineering competence and continuous professional development in the bus and coach sector, the IRTE has launched an industry-leading competition, aimed at finding and rewarding individuals and teams of three technicians capable of proving their ultimate skills in the workshop.

The IRTE Skills Challenge, officially launched at Euro Bus Expo 2010, is open to technicians from any bus or coach operator in the UK to demonstrate their engineering credentials.

A shortlist of the most able applicants will be

selected through a series of heats over the first few months of 2011 and the challenge will then culminate in the finals, taking place from 1–3 June 2011 at City College in Coventry.

During the finals, each day will see up to four teams competing against one another.

Organisations already signed up to the challenge include Arriva, Stagecoach, First Group and National Express.

IRTE believes that the Skills Challenge will help raise the profile of technicians that repair, maintain and service coaches and buses throughout the UK – and increase their value across the wider vehicle engineering industry.



The prizes

The competition is expected to see bus operators from across the UK pitting their technicians against one other, in a bid to see them crowned highest scoring electrical, mechanical and bodywork engineers. Top honours will go to the overall winning operator's team. The awards are:

Top scoring body technician

Sponsor: Shell Fuelsave for Diesel

Top scoring mechanical technician

Sponsor: Allison Transmission

Top scoring electrical technician

Sponsor: Cummins Engines

Electrical and mechanical combined winner

Sponsor: Bridgestone

Best teamwork

Sponsor: Knorr-Bremse for Commercial Vehicles

Overall winning team 2011

Sponsor: IRTE

Competitors will be asked to undertake a number of practical tests and marked accordingly. Scores will be averaged across each three-person team and the team with the highest score on any of the three days will win the Skills Challenge. The winners will be announced at a presentation at the Houses of Parliament in London at 4:30pm on Monday, 27 June, 2011.

Taking part

If you, or anyone you know, would like to take part in the IRTE Skills Challenge, you must register your interest no later than 31 January 2011 via the SOE website at www.soe.org.uk/irteskills.

Your operator will then be in touch to determine the representatives that make it into each final team. Final team entries must be sent to the organiser of the event, Will Reeves, SOE/IRTE business development manager, by 16 May 2011.

Sponsors and partners

IRTE would like to thank the Skills Challenge main sponsors: Allison Transmission, Bridgestone, Cummins Engines, Knorr Bremse and Shell.

IRTE would also like to extend its thanks to the Skills Challenge key supporters: irtec, which provides the underpinning knowledge for the Skills Challenge competition; City College, Coventry, where the event is being held; and manufacturers MAN Truck & Bus and Scania, each of which has agreed to provide a chassis on loan for the final challenges in June.

