

Success We Should Celebrate

The Institute is delighted to announce the winning line-up for the Student of the Year awards for 2021.

Each year the Institute considers all the people who have studied for the IMS Productivity Analyst qualification (formerly the IMS Certificate). This is a four-week long course of study and represents a significant commitment from both the student and their employer. The review, based on the individual marks and lecturer assessment of those who completed their course during 2021, resulted in there being a tie for Student of the Year for 2021. Therefore, a joint award was given to Steven Dunn, Production Supervisor in Materials Handling at Nissan Motor Manufacturing (UK) and to Jack Arnold, Solutions Design Engineer with Clipper Logistics.

Very close behind the joint winners, also impossible to separate, were three people declared as runners-up to the Student of the Year: Matthew Watson, Manufacturing Efficiency Engineer at Pirelli Tyres; Matthew Hilton, an Industrial Engineer at Leyland Trucks; and Jason Eaton, an Industrial Engineer with Clipper Logistics, based in Ollerton.

All five students had completed their training with Scott-Grant in Manchester and so came back in February with their managers to celebrate their success, and receive their certificates and gifts from both the Institute and Scott-Grant.

The Stature of the Qualification

On behalf of the IMS, Deputy Chairman David Blanchflower presented both Steven and Jack with a certificate, a cheque and an engraved crystal trophy. In congratulating the winners, David said that each "should be very proud of their tremendous achievement in attaining such a high standard in their studies."

Ian Bromley, Chair of Education, for whom work commitments prevented his attendance in person, sent a message of congratulations to Steven and Jack, and reminded them that they now can include the designatory letters AMS after their name, as testimony to the stature of the professional qualification.

Winner Steven Dunn joined Nissan in Sunderland 13 years ago following work in the financial sector. After experience on the production side including Team Leader and Supervisor roles, he was drawn to the detail of industrial engineering work and joined the Materials Handling department. "It was a brilliant learning experience; I've taken a lot from the course. And I'm delighted to have won this accolade and keep the Nissan tradition going of being named on the Award Board!" Steven was joined by Senior Supervisor David Laidler who agreed he was basking in reflected glory, adding, "There are many qualified IEs in Nissan so there's widespread recognition in

Nissan of Steve's excellent achievement."

Joint winner Jack Arnold from Clipper Logistics, based in Daventry, was equally enthusiastic about the value of the course. "I'm a man of detail", he said, "and I like to be able to understand things at an elemental level. It's the tiny detail that helps you build a bigger picture – I can now see things at a deeper level after studying the content of the IMS Productivity Analyst course. I use an awful lot of what I've learnt; it shapes how I now think about things in my new role as a Solutions Design Engineer."

Clipper's HR Director for the UK and Ireland, Nick Beadle, was pleased to join Jack for the presentation. He was very complimentary about the IMS Productivity Analyst course content for their business: "We're already seeing the benefits after a number of our people from assorted roles have studied for this qualification. We've had a quick ROI for our customers, who represent a high percentage of high street retailers. The operational efficiency gained by having people other than those in warehousing operations is clear and we're optimistic about the future."

The DNA of an Industrial Engineer

Matthew Watson joined Pirelli Tyres in Carlisle about three years ago on the Industrial Engineering Apprenticeship scheme. "I seem to have really taken to the detail of the IE role – I'm a practical man and the projects I'm now involved with really suit my interests and skill set", he explained. His manager, Gordon Crawford was delighted to see his own history repeating itself in Matthew. "I did my training with Scott-Grant (Aldwark Training) at York with Mike Seaman, having begun as an apprentice about 35 years ago. All these years I've been enjoying working in the industrial engineering and efficiency areas."

Preston-based Matt Hilton was equally enthusiastic. "I learned lots of good things. It was great to mix with people from other industry sectors on the open course and hear some of their experiences; I've utilised some of that in my work in Leyland Trucks." Matt's boss, Business Unit Area Manager Ben Holloway, was extremely complimentary about the IMS Productivity Analyst course. "Not only does it give them transferable skills but also a breadth of knowledge, a new horizon of what's happening in other industries of best practice. It develops their attitude of 'it's right to challenge and look for the best way, given all the variables'. That's something that's in the DNA of an Industrial Engineer."

Jason Eaton applied for the IE role offered in Clipper Logistics at Ollerton and successfully transferred from his role in warehouse admin. "The IMS course was something different; I thoroughly enjoyed it. I'm a man of detail so the content really appeals to me." He had joined Clipper three years prior after finishing his A levels. With him to recognise his achievement was Business Unit Director Carl Muir.

Commenting on the range of industry sectors represented in the winners' line-up, Richard Taylor, Managing Director of Scott-Grant said, "We had a good year for training in 2021, despite the COVID restrictions. We ran many IMS courses last year, adding extra weeks to our published course schedule. And it was significant that a large percentage of bookings came from companies who had previously sent other delegates on IMS courses, so they believe in our IMS Productivity Analyst syllabus and endorse the value of our content to their business."

David Blanchflower added, "Scott-Grant always set a high standard and we're most grateful for all that they do with and for the Institute." He endorsed Richard's sincere appreciation of the Scott-Grant course tutors: Steve Heathcote, Ian Winstanley and Stephen Royle, all of whom were there with the winning students to enjoy the 'fruits of their labours'.

The Russell Currie Memorial Fund Award

Scott-Grant arranged for David Blanchflower, as Chairman of the RCMF, to meet online, Dimakatso Mosinki who is the Chief Administration Officer in the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security (HQ) for the government of Botswana.

Dimakatso had completed her IMS Productivity Analyst course during 2021. She was congratulated for being the best achiever during the year of many overseas students whose first language is not English. Dimakatso was shown a specially engraved silver salver to recognise her achievement which has now been sent to her along with a special certificate. Encouraging productivity overseas is one of the aims of the RCMF.

Dimakatso had quite a journey to complete her studies – literally and metaphorically. She had actually started the course in Manchester in 2019 but, for various reasons, the completion was delayed. "It was well worth it," she beamed. "For me the IMS course came just at the right time. It taught me the details I didn't know and has given me a new understanding, a new approach. I thrive on detail and the principles I have learnt I now use and can apply them in every situation. The learning is now embedded in me." She added, "I have many other colleagues who have been through the course so we all approach things the same way now. They were all delighted for me when they heard I'd won this award."

Dimakatso was awarded a Bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management in South Africa and a post-graduate certificate in Enterprise Risk Management. She joined the public service in 2008 before moving to the Ministry of Defence five years later.

After all the presentations, the group enjoyed a celebratory lunch in a nearby hotel. Success should indeed be celebrated.

For more information about the IMS Productivity Analyst or other training courses for productivity tools and techniques, take a look at <https://scott-grant.co.uk/training2022> or Email your query to productivity@scott-grant.co.uk.



The winning line-up (left to right) Front row: Jason Eaton, Matthew Watson, Jack Arnold, Steven Dunn, Matthew Hilton, Richard Taylor.

Back row: Carl Muir, Steve Heathcote, Gordon Crawford, Nick Beadle, David Laidler, Ben Holloway, Ian Winstanley, Stephen Royle.

"We're already seeing the benefits after a number of our people from assorted roles have studied for this qualification."



Dimakatso Mosinki enjoys the virtual presentation of her RCMF award by David Blanchflower(right) and Richard Taylor.

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