

WorldSkills Calgary 2009 Press Pack June 29th

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Introducing - The WorldSkills Competition

- The WorldSkills Competition is the biggest international skills competition in the world and is held every two years by WorldSkills International in one of its Member countries/regions.
- All Competitors are 22 or under in the year of the Competition except in Mechatronics, Aircraft Maintenance and Manufacturing Team Challenge where the age limit is 25.
- Competitors from 51 Member countries/regions compete.
- Around 900 Competitors take part.
- The Competition lasts for 22 hours over four days.
- There are normally around 40 official skill categories (ranging from cabinet making and hairdressing to web design and landscape gardening) plus up to 8 demonstration skill categories,
- Competitors compete for gold, bronze and silver medals.
- Medallions for Excellence are also awarded to Competitors who achieve the international standard.
- WorldSkills Competitions consist of:

Official Skills – competitions which have 12 or more countries registering

Demonstration Skills – introductory step for a skill seeking to be an official skill

Host member Skills – demonstration skills put forward by the host member.

Presentation Skills – the Member organising the Competition (so in 2011) it will be the UK has the right to present other skills at WorldSkills in order to promote those skills. They are not subject to Competition rules and will not be officially assessed.

- The next WorldSkills Competition will see approximately 150,000 visitors attending.
- Each WorldSkills Competition has an Opening and a Closing Ceremony.
- The next WorldSkills Competition will take place in Calgary, Canada in September 2009.
- Team UK is managed by UK Skills working in partnership with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Department for Employment and Learning Northern Ireland, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Assembly Government and key partners from education, government and industry. The Chief Executive of UK Skills, Simon Bartley is the UK's official delegate to WorldSkills International (WSI) and the UK Competitions Director Eugene Incerti, is the UK's Technical Delegate to WorldSkills International (WSI).
- The 1st ever WorldSkills Competition was held between Spain and Portugal in Madrid in 1950.
- The UK has participated in WorldSkills International since the third Competition in 1953.
- WorldSkills London 2011 will be the 41st WorldSkills Competition and will take place from the 6 to 9 October 2011 at ExCeL London. The UK has previously hosted the Competition in 1965 (Glasgow) and 1989 (Birmingham).
- The last 3 WorldSkills Competitions have taken place in the following countries:

2007 – Shizuoka, Japan

2005 – Helsinki, Finland

2003 – St Gallen, Switzerland

WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – A Background

Calgary will host the 40th WorldSkills Competition, marking its second time in Canada (it first took place in 1999 in Montreal) and third time only in North America (1981, Atlanta). WorldSkills Calgary 2009 is scheduled from September 1 to 7, 2009.

Quick Facts:

- The Opening Ceremony takes place on the 1st September 2009.
- The 4-days of competition take place from the 2nd – 5th September 2009.
- The Closing Ceremony, including the award of medals, takes place on 6th September.
- Competitors from up to 51 Member countries/regions will compete (speaking 30 languages).
- There will be 41 official skills, 3 demonstration skills and a host member skill.
- The Competition venue is Stampede Park.
- 80,000 square metres of competition space is needed.
- 5,000 international Experts, Delegates and visitors will gather from around the world.
- 3,000 volunteers will be recruited to assist in the lead-up and launch.
- 150,000 student and public spectators will attend the Competition.
- Supportive events to the Competition include Opening and Closing Ceremonies, each drawing 10,000 people, a WorldSkills Leaders Forum, and a Global Skills Village.
- The Competitors will be housed in a Competitors' Village, located on SAIT Polytechnic Campus.

It's Big – The Figures!

- 6 days
- 45 skill categories
- 51 Member countries/regions
- 900 Competitors
- 3,000 volunteers
- 5,000 international Experts, Delegates and visitors
- 30,000 hotel room nights
- 150,000 student and public spectators
- 80,000 square metres of competition space

WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – The UK's Involvement

- UK Skills (www.ukskills.org.uk) is responsible for selecting and training the UK teams for the WorldSkills Competition.
- UK Skills, a not for profit organisation, manages the delivery of innovative, high profile competitions and awards which showcase excellence and demonstrate how exceptional performance improves individual and organisational success.
- The selection and training of UK competitors for the WorldSkills Competition is a lengthy process, which first involves UK Skills selecting a squad (Squad UK) of potential competitors drawn from a shortlist. They will train and then compete at a final selection event, where the winners are selected to be part of Team UK – the team that will head to Canada and compete for the UK at WorldSkills Calgary 2009. Most of the skills competitions are for one person.
- Potential competitors for the UK squad were identified through the WorldSkills UK competitions www.worldskillsuk.org (a network of UK-based regional and national competitions), through other national competitions run by other organisations or by other means (e.g. award winners, previous WorldSkills shortlists). The first step is to form a shortlist from all these sources.
- The selection events for Squad UK for Calgary consisted of a three day competition designed to reflect a WorldSkills Competition environment immediately followed by two days' training for successful competitors. Projects were marked against WorldSkills standards.
- Results were given to the competitors in each competition by the judges and UK Skills staff behind closed doors. Depending on their age and performance, some unsuccessful shortlisted competitors were kept in mind for the shortlist for the next WorldSkills Competition.
- All Squad UK members underwent substantial further training prior to the Team UK Selection Event.
- Team UK has been selected at a four day team selection event held from 15th to the 20th June in the West Midlands.
- Team UK will be announced on the 30th June 2009 at an event in London (House of Lords Terrace). A full list of the team will be uploaded on to the WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – Team UK website, which will also be launched on 30th June 2009 (www.worldskillsteamuk.org)
- The Team UK Send Off reception will take place on 27th August (Imagination Gallery, London).
- Competitors can be dropped from the team up until the day the competition starts if their performance is deemed to be below WorldSkills International standards.
- Independent education foundation Edge(www.edge.co.uk) is the official supporter of both Squad UK and Team UK, and a sponsor of WorldSkills 2011, as part of its commitment to raising the status of practical and vocational learning
- Edge is an independent education foundation. It is dedicated to raising the status of practical and vocational learning, so that all young people have the opportunity to achieve their potential, and the UK's future workforce is equipped with the skills to be successful in the modern economy. Edge believes that 'learning by doing' is as important as academic learning, and that there are many paths to success.
- Team UK is managed by UK Skills working in partnership with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Department for Employment and Learning Northern Ireland, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Assembly Government and key partners from education, government and industry.

- Brathay provides and supports the training and development of Squad and Team UK. Brathay Hall Trust (www.brathay.org.uk) is a national charity that empowers young people to make a positive contribution to society.
- City & Guilds the UK's leading provider of work-related qualifications support Squad UK and Team UK and are premier sponsors of WorldSkills London 2011. City & Guilds is the UK's leading provider of work-related qualifications. City & Guilds works closely with industry and employers and offers over 500 qualifications in 28 different industry areas, through colleges, training providers and employers.

Skills at WorldSkills Calgary 2009

The following skills will make up the WorldSkills Calgary 2009 Skills Competitions. The competitions which the UK entered at WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007, Japan are asterixed (*) (There were 21). UK Skills will compete in 25 skill disciplines. The disciplines in which we think we will compete at WorldSkills Calgary 2009 are marked with a plus sign (+) below. The competitions with a 25 year age limit are marked with a =.

At WorldSkills, the skill categories are numbered as well as listed. Please find below the numbers given to each skill in brackets. This may be useful if the skill is referred to by number alone.

- Aircraft Maintenance+= (demonstration skill) (D1)
- Autobody Repair*+ (13)
- Automobile Technology*+ (33)
- Beauty Therapy*+ (30)
- Bricklaying*+ (20)
- Cabinetmaking*+ (24)
- Carpentry+ (26)
- Confectioner/Pastry Cook*+ (32)
- Cooking*+ (34)
- Car Painting*+ (36)
- CNC Turning (6)
- CNC Milling+* (7)
- Construction Metal Works (D2)
- Caring (41)
- Electronics+ (16)
- Electrical Installations+ (18)
- Floristry*+ (28)
- Fashion Technology (31)
- Graphic Design Technology* (40)
- Industrial Control (19)
- IT/Software Applications (9)
- IT PC/Network Support*+ (39)
- Information Network Cabling (2)
- Jewellery+ (27)
- Joinery*+ (25)
- Ladies'/Men's Hairdressing*+ (29)
- Landscape Gardening*+ (team of 2) (37)
- Manufacturing Team Challenge (team of 3) = (3)
- Mechatronics (team of 2) = (4)
- Mechanical Engineering Design CAD*+ (5)
- Metal Roofing (14)
- Mobile Robotics (23)
- Mould Making (8)
- Offset Printing (11)
- Painting and Decorating*+ (22)
- Plumbing & Heating+ (15)
- Polymechanics/Automation (1)
- Plastering & Drywall Systems (D3)
- Restaurant Service*+ (35)
- Refrigeration* (38)
- Sheet Metal Technology (HM1)
- Stonemasonry*+ (21)
- Web Design+ (17)
- Welding* (10)
- Wall and Floor Tiling (12)

Building winning teams

- Success at WorldSkills Competitions requires not just technical excellence but excellent problem solving skills and an ability to keep a cool head under pressure.
- A training programme is developed to help Competitors hone their skills, mental endurance and physical stamina to produce an excellent performance over the 22 hours of competition.
- Competitors are trained to focus on their own performance. They're not competing against other Competitors so much as themselves – their abilities, their expectations.
- Each individual Competitor's training is overseen by a training manager/WorldSkills expert. This person is selected by UK Skills because of their knowledge and expertise in a particular vocational skill, and their ability to train and prepare Competitors. A training manager/WorldSkills expert will be a volunteer professional or tutor in their area of expertise, and will generally be a tutor or lecturer from Further or Higher Education, or a skilled individual with an industry background.
- The training manager/WorldSkills expert is responsible for coaching the Competitor in the build-up to the Competition and ensuring that they are proficient in the techniques and skills that will be required.
- All training managers/WorldSkills experts also take on the role of official UK "Experts" within the WorldSkills Competition framework. For instance, once they arrive at the WorldSkills Competition, they are responsible for judging their particular WorldSkills skill area and play a pivotal role in deciding the criteria for future Competitions.
- Team UK also have training sessions at Brathay, a people development organisation based in Cumbria. This is to help them to develop the mental attitude needed to cope with the pressure and the unexpected that they will experience at the WorldSkills Competition. It also helps develop a team spirit.
- Jez Anderson from Brathay is a Learning & Development Consultant to Squad and Team UK.
- Training managers/WorldSkills experts are encouraged to work towards a Masters degree in Performance Excellence. This has been validated by the University of Cumbria and is jointly delivered by the University of Cumbria and Brathay.
- Three team leaders have been appointed for Team UK for WorldSkills Calgary 2009. They are Stephanie Tibbert, Ollie Benson and Pete Hubble, and are managed by Brathay. They are responsible for the leadership, management and development support of the UK's potential and selected WorldSkills competitors.
- All members of the Team have the opportunity to achieve the Licentiateship of City & Guilds (LCGI). The Licentiateship qualification, the first level of City & Guilds' Senior Awards, is a level 4 award (level 7 in Scotland), and the equivalent of a master craftsman qualification in Europe. It recognises personal achievement in a vocational context. Members of Team UK and Squad UK who successfully complete an intensive training and development programme leading to the WorldSkills Competition and provide evidence of their attainment receive the Award. The Award provides a permanent and well-recognised record of achievement and testifies to the quality of the UK's WorldSkills training and development programme. Potential competitors not quite meeting the standard of the LCGI programme are able to put themselves forward for a C&G Professional Development Award.
- The UK's training managers/WorldSkills Experts possess a wide range and level of technical and professional qualifications. Through their involvement with UK Skills they are able to pursue a ladder of awards and qualifications, beginning with the Graduateship of City & Guilds (GCGI), which

is a level 6 award (level 9 in Scotland). From there they are encouraged to pursue a Postgraduate Masters Degree in Coaching and Management Learning, validated by the University of Cumbria and offered jointly with Brathay, the personal development organisation. This programme also offers interim Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma qualifications. Once this programme has been piloted with the training managers/WorldSkills experts the University will offer it to further and higher education professionals more widely.

- At UK Skills we believe that skills competitions offer significant benefits to all those who enter and support them. Competitions carry those who compete beyond the normal expectation of education and training programmes. They gain the opportunity to share a love of mastery in their skill, they experience the excitement of competing with all its highs and lows and they really get inside their skill and gain or rediscover a deeper understanding of quality than they would normally have. There's also the prospect of recognition for their exceptional skills. For all the young people who take part it is an invaluable, unique learning experience. Many of the Competitors go on to act as ambassadors for their respective skills and promote excellence in vocational education and training in their own countries/regions.
- For employers the involvement of their workforce in skills competitions like WorldSkills can instill mutual pride in the job and the company and widen the options for growth and product choice by; differentiating the business from its rivals, demonstrating corporate social responsibility, developing and retaining staff, checking on performance and put benchmarks in place, injecting ambition and aspiration, promoting excellence in skills and offering PR opportunities

WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007 – UK Results

The last WorldSkills Competition took place in Shizuoka, Japan in 2007. The UK fielded 22 Competitors in 21 skills. Team UK brought home four medals and nine Medallions for Excellence.

Medal winners

- Gold - Gary Tuddenham – Cabinet Making (3rd highest score in whole Competition) – 1st out of 22 (562 points)
- Silver - Harry Smith – Graphic Design – 3rd out of 22 (524 points)
- Bronze - Jonathan Lloyd – Car Painting – 3rd out of 18 (525 points)
- Bronze - Simon Noble – Autobody Repair – 3rd out of 17 (525 points)

Medallions of Excellence (in order of ranking)

- Jade Kidd, Beauty Therapy - 4th out of 13 (519 points)
- Natalie Stanyer, Floristry - 4th out of 16 (520 points)
- Keith Chapman & Tim Lancaster, Landscape Gardening – 5th out of 15 (522 points)
- Will Torrent, Confectionery - 6th out of 15 (507 points)
- Andrew Critchlow, IT PC & Network Support - 8th out of 21 (515 points)
- Donna Leach, Hairdressing- 9th out of 22 (512 points)
- Ben Ingersent, Joinery - 10th out of 19 (512 points)
- Jonathan Bourne, Bricklaying - 10th out of 24 (512 points)
- Stuart Greer, Welding - 12th out of 26 (514 points)

Non-medal winners (in order of ranking)

- George Plant, Stonemasonry - 8th out of 11
- Chris Blake, Painting & Decorating - 10th out of 14
- Graham Squire, Cooking - 12th out of 23
- Michael Westlake, Mechanical Engineering CADD - 13th out of 21
- Matthew Lander, Refrigeration - 14th out of 21
- Philip Jackson, CNC Milling - 16th out of 21
- Daniel Glover, Automobile Technology - 17th out of 24
- Julie Doig, Restaurant Service - 17th out of 21

The UK was placed eleventh at WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007 based on average team score. The top 15 countries/regions were:

Place	Country	No. in team	Av. team score	Gold	Silver	Bronze	M of E*
1	Korea	37	527.38	10	9	5	11
2	Brazil	20	519.60	2	3	4	7
3	Switzerland	35	518.71	4	5	4	16
4	Singapore	12	518.58	3	0	1	6
5	Australia	23	518.04	1	3	1	16
6	Japan	41	515.59	12	4	3	8
7	Austria	25	515.08	2	1	1	18
8	Thailand	16	512.69	0	4	0	7
9	Italy	18	512.39	2	1	3	8
10	Chinese Taipei	35	509.34	0	5	3	19
11	UK	22	507.29	1	1	2	9
12	France	36	506.25	5	4	2	11
13	Germany	25	505.48	0	5	2	8
14	Canada	26	503.31	2	2	2	8
16	Luxembourg	4	501.25	0	0	0	3

* Medallions for Excellence

The UK's results from the past six WorldSkills Competitions are listed below:

Competition (no. of skills entered by UK)	Ranking (by average team score)	Gold medals	Silver medals	Bronze medals	Medallions for Excellence
2007 (21) Shizuoka, Japan	11th 1 st Korea	1 Cabinetmaking	1 Graphic Design	2 Car Painting Autobody Repair	9
2005 (16) Helsinki, Finland	12th 1 st Switzerland	1 Autobody Repair	2 Stonemasonry Beauty Therapy	-	7
2003 (27) St Gallen, Switzerland	15th 1 st Korea	2 Beauty Therapy, Joinery	-	2 Jewellery, Stonemasonry	9
2001 (27) Seoul, South Korea	18th 1 st Korea	-	-	-	16
1999 (30) Montreal, Canada	21st 1 st Chinese Taipei	-	1 IT	2 Electronic Applications Restaurant Service	9
1997 (23) St Gallen, Switzerland	14th 1 st Austria	1 Bricklaying	1 IT	2 Joinery Automobile Technology	11

WorldSkills International Member Countries/Regions

The current Members of WorldSkills International are given below:

Abbreviation	Country/Region	Joined	Abbrev	Country/Region	Joined
AE	United Arab Emirates	1997	JM	Jamaica	2004
AT	Austria	1958	JP	Japan	1961
AU	Australia	1981	KR	Korea	1966
BE	Belgium	1998	LI	Principality of Liechtenstein	1968
BN	Brunei Darussalam	2004	LU	Luxembourg	1957
BR	Brazil	1981	MA	Morocco	1998
CA	Canada	1990	MO	Macau SAR	1983
CO	Columbia	2008	MX	Mexico	2006
CH	Switzerland	1953	MY	Malaysia	1992
DE	Germany	1953	NL	Netherlands	1962
DK	Denmark	1998	NO	Norway	1990
EC	Ecuador	2006	NZ	New Zealand	1985
EE	Estonia	2009	OM	Oman	2009
ES	Spain	2007	PH	Philippines	1994
FI	Finland	1950*	PT	Portugal	1950
FR	France	1988	SA	Saudi Arabia	2001
HK	Hong Kong SAR	1953	SE	Sweden	1994
HR	Croatia	1997	SG	Singapore	1993
HU	Hungary	2006	TH	Thailand	1993
ID	Indonesia	2006	TN	Tunisia	1996
IE	Ireland	2004	TW	Chinese Taipei	1970
IN	India	1956	UK	United Kingdom	1953
IR	Iran	2007	US	United States of America	1973
IS	Iceland	2000	VE	Venezuela	2002
IT	South Tyrol, Italy	2007	VN	Vietnam	2006
			ZA	South Africa	1990

- Spain was a founder member but ceased to be a member in 1992. It rejoined in 2005.

WorldSkills London 2011 (www.worldskillslondon2011.com)

- WorldSkills London 2011 will be the 41st WorldSkills Competition and will take place in October 2011 at ExCeL East London
- The UK was voted host nation for the 2011 Competition at the WorldSkills General Assembly meeting held in Melbourne in May 2006.
- WorldSkills London 2011 is supported by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills ; Department of Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland; Scottish Government; and Welsh Assembly Government.
- Sponsors for WorldSkills London 2011 currently include: City & Guilds (Premier Sponsor), Edge (Sponsor) Festo (Premier Sponsor), Honda (Official Sponsor), L'Oreal (Sponsor) ufi learndirect (Sponsor).
- Independent education foundation Edge(www.edge.co.uk) is the official supporter of both Squad UK and Team UK and a sponsor of WorldSkills London 2011, as part of its commitment to raising the status of practical and vocational learning
- Brathay will provide and support the training and development of Squad UK and Team UK for WorldSkills London 2011.
- City & Guilds the UK's leading provider of work-related qualifications, are premier sponsors of WorldSkills London 2011 and support Squad UK and Team UK
- A wholly-owned subsidiary of UK Skills, WorldSkills London 2011 Ltd, has been set up with the task of running the event.
- UK Skills national competitions framework go under the name 'WorldSkills UK'. Approximately 40 of these competitions cover the same skills as are competed for at the WorldSkills Competition.
- You can get involved in WorldSkills London 2011 by sponsoring the event, providing support in kind, becoming a Champion, promoting the event to your networks, and getting involved in WorldSkills UK competitions.
- Email enquiries@worldskillslondon2011.com if you would like to be part of WorldSkills London 2011.

Some quick facts about WorldSkills London 2011:

- 6 days (4 days of competition plus 1 for Opening Ceremony and 1 for Closing Ceremony)
- Reaching up to 250,000 people
- Anticipated size of Team UK – 30
- Anticipated number of Competitors worldwide – 1000
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies – take place at ExCel in an auditorium that seats over 5000
- Anticipated number of countries/regions taking part – 60
- Anticipated number of volunteers - 2000
- Anticipated number of Team Leaders, Experts, Observers and Delegates – 3125
- 65,00 square metres of competition space
- 33,525 hotel room nights