

Plant Mechanics

look after all the plant: the light and heavy-duty machinery used on construction sites, such as diggers, cranes and trucks. They make sure that the plant runs properly and have to be on hand when something breaks down. Plant mechanics are crucial to construction projects. They need to make sure everything's running properly, and be able to fix it when it isn't! Plant mechanics are crucial to construction projects - machinery that isn't working can hold up jobs and lose a company thousands of pounds.

Skills needed

Investigative and problem solving
Mechanically minded
Good concentration and safety conscious
Enjoy outdoor work in all weathers and muddy conditions.

Pay

The Building and Allied Trades Joint Industrial Council (BATJIC) agrees wage rates each year but overtime and performance related pay provide extra money.

Case study

Adam, 18 is enrolled on an apprenticeship scheme and studying for his NVQ level 2 in Plant mechanics at one of the national construction colleges. This meant living away from home for two 10 week blocks in his first year (NVQ2) and will mean further study at college in his second year as he achieves his NVQ3. Between these blocks he works for a plant hire company. This is all part of his apprenticeship scheme.

The Apprentice Plant Maintenance courses have been designed in close consultation with the plant industry and are offered as part of the Apprenticeship programme. Apprenticeships allow the apprentice to learn, work and get qualified at the same time. All Apprenticeships at the National Construction College consist of four parts:

Technical Certificate
National Vocational Qualification in the chosen trade
Key Skills
Employment responsibilities and rights

Entry qualifications and progression routes

There are three levels of entry into construction and for this job you can enrol on an apprenticeship at foundation or advanced level. Entering through the technical route will give advantages. To do so you'll need four good GCSE passes, A levels or an equivalent vocational qualification such as BTEC in engineering.

Further Information

contact:

The CITB on either of their web sites you can send in enquiries or ask for leaflets.
www.bconstructive.co.uk
www.citb.co.uk



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