

Dr Mary-Liz Trant
Executive Director Skills Development
SOLAS
Block 1, Castleforbes House
Castleforbes Road
Dublin 1

Re: Consultation on Creation of Manufacturing Data Integration Engineering Apprenticeship

Dear Ms. Trant,

With over 25,000 members from every discipline of engineering, Engineers Ireland is the voice of the engineering profession in Ireland. Engineers Ireland was established in 1835 making us one of the oldest and largest professional bodies in the country. Members come from every discipline of engineering, and range from engineering students to fellows of the profession.

Engineers Ireland's Thomond Region (comprising Clare, Limerick and North Tipperary), as part of Limerick for Engineering, has been engaging industry to identify specific training / up-skilling needs which will make us more competitive. Limerick for Engineering is an Industry-led initiative which has the support of education and training providers in the region. Its primary goal is to increase the quality & quantity of engineering talent (apprentice, technicians and engineers) available in the region.

We have identified Manufacturing Data Integration Engineering as an important skills gap for the region and for Ireland. These skills are necessary to analyse, implement and get value from manufacturing data -deciding what technology to use for data capture, how to analyse it and how to build business value from the data.

Furthermore, skills in Manufacturing Data Integration Engineering represent an important gap in the implementation of Industry 4.0 technologies and business processes, particularly with regard to deriving value from manufacturing data and expensive ERP systems.

We are therefore delighted to support the creation of the Manufacturing Data Integration Engineering Apprenticeship. If Engineers Ireland can be of any further assistance to Limerick Institute of Technology and SOLAS in the development of this and other apprenticeships, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Richard

Dr Richard Manton
Deputy Registrar & Policy Officer