



Celebrating our Alumni: Jake & Ethan at Howden Chart Industries

At GPUTC, we take great pride in seeing our alumni thrive in industry, and we are delighted to share updates on Jake Semper and Ethan Sayer, both now undertaking engineering apprenticeships at Howden Chart Industries (Howden Turbo UK).

Jake's exceptional prior learning at GPUTC and Peterborough College enabled him to fast-track directly into the second year of his four-year engineering apprenticeship. He now works as part of the assembly fitting team while continuing his studies at Peterborough College on a day-release basis.

Jake has proven to be a valued and well-liked member of the team, taking on several key initiatives in areas such as Health & Safety, iHASCO, Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing, IT, and Power Tool Safety. His dedication and skillset have already made a positive impact at Howden.

A recent highlight of his apprenticeship was setting up hydro testing for a casing on one of Howden Turbo UK's Steam Turbines, a testament to his growing expertise and hands-on learning.

Ethan is currently in the first year of his four-year engineering apprenticeship, and thanks to his prior learning at

GPUTC, Howden was able to expand his apprenticeship offer to include an Electrical Control & Instrumentation specialism.

Ethan works within a small, dedicated team while also attending Peterborough College on a day-release basis. His mentor describes him as "one to watch for the future," highlighting his strong potential within the company. Like Jake, Ethan has been actively involved in key initiatives surrounding Health & Safety, Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing, IT, and iHASCO training.

One of his recent projects involved working alongside his mentor on an electrical control cabinet for one of Howden Turbo UK's Steam Turbines, further expanding his technical and practical experience.

A Bright Future Ahead

Both Jake and Ethan are shining examples of how GPUTC's industry-focused education prepares students for successful careers. Their strong foundations in STEM, hands-on learning, and exposure to real-world engineering have allowed them to hit the ground running in their apprenticeships.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements so far and look forward to seeing what the future holds for them in the world of engineering. Well done, Jake and Ethan!





Alumni Update - Codem Composites

Celebrate the Success of one of our GPUTC Graduates!

Established in 2009, CODEM is a leading provider of advanced composite solutions from concept creation to product delivery. Our services include design, manufacturing, project management, and engineering support, tailored for sectors such as Formula One, Automotive, Space, Electric Vehicles, Defence, and Bespoke applications.

At CODEM, we're passionate about helping the next generation of engineers thrive. We believe work experience, apprenticeships, and vocational training are essential for nurturing young talent and kickstarting rewarding careers in the composites industry. By opening these doors, we aim to equip aspiring engineers with the confidence and skills they need to succeed. We've proudly partnered with GPUTC to introduce a Composite Laminating Module. This exciting programme provides aspiring engineers with hands-on training and practical skills, equipping them to shape the future of the industry.

CODEM is thrilled to welcome Owen Brightey from GPUTC as our new Level 3 Machining Technician. Owen is about to start an exciting journey with us, where he will develop his skills and expertise.

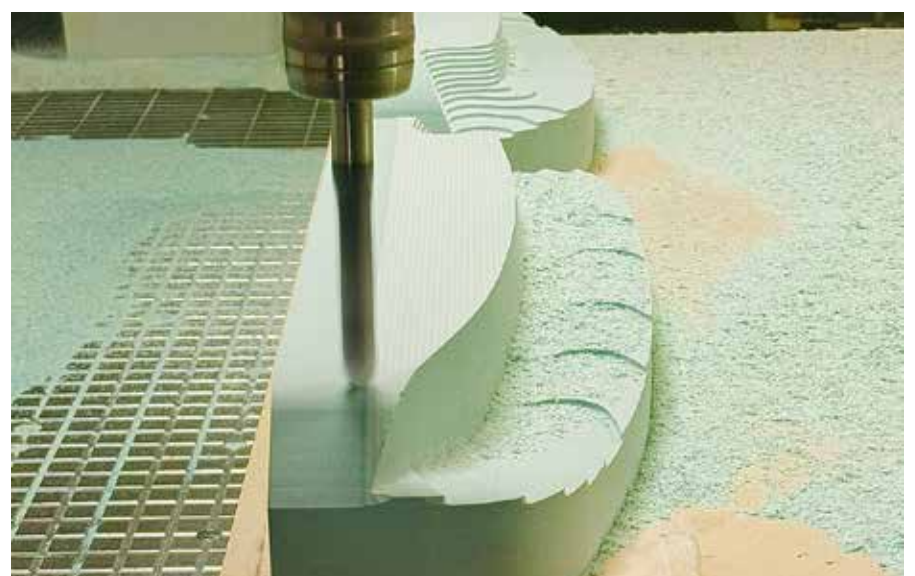
As an apprentice CNC Programmer/Operator, he will be responsible for interpreting technical drawings, programming machines with precision, and ensuring the highest standards of production quality.

Hear about Owen's journey in his own words. Owen Brightey, Level 3 Machining Technician, shared:

"I've been lucky to spend two months at CODEM before officially starting my apprenticeship. During this time, I've had the opportunity to apply both practical and theoretical skills, learning how to kit cut and laminate carbon composite components. The strong work ethic instilled in me by GPUTC has been invaluable in preparing me for my time at CODEM."

Rochelle Helliwell, Business Development Manager, added: "Owen has been a valuable addition to the team, showcasing a natural talent for engineering. It's clear that the modules taught at GPUTC have effectively prepared him for success in the professional world."

Together with GPUTC, we're paving the way for new opportunities and inspiring tomorrow's engineering leaders.





Alumni Update - Celebrating the Success of Our GPUTC Graduates!

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news about our alumni!

Firstly, a huge congratulations to Grace, who we featured in our last newsletter. We are incredibly proud to announce that she has been awarded the Peterborough Evening Telegraph's Advanced Apprentice of the Year Award for 2024!

Grace took to LinkedIn to share her excitement, posting: *"I am extremely proud and thankful to announce that I am an award winner! On September 27th at the Peterborough Telegraph Apprenticeship Awards Night, I was awarded the Advanced Apprentice of the Year Award for 2024. My manager nominated me for this award earlier in the year for my dedication to the apprenticeship course here at Caterpillar, and for my effort with extra-curriculars and Employee Resource Groups. I am honoured to have this title and had an extremely fun night celebrating apprenticeships and the other finalists. Thank you Nick for my nomination and your support throughout the last year. Thank you Katrina Murray for your support on the night, and well done to Kevin and Josh for making it to the finalists list with me."*

Katrina Murray, Learning Development Manager at Caterpillar, added: *"Congratulations to Grace, Kevin, and Joshua. We're so proud of you! Keep doing the great things you're doing. It's a pleasure to watch you grow professionally and support where I can"*



Grace's accomplishment is a true testament to her hard work and dedication, and we couldn't be prouder to see her excelling in her career.

We also have an exciting update on another GPUTC alumnus, Ethan, who completed his GCSEs this past summer. Ethan has now begun an Advanced Apprenticeship in Engineering Manufacture role at our partner, Howden Chart Industries. When we reached out to Howden to see how Ethan was progressing, they had glowing feedback:

"Ethan is performing outstandingly. His punctuality is excellent, and his keenness to learn, adapt, and his ability to soak up information is a credit to him and the prior education institutions he attended. Ethan's future is bright at Howden, and his potential for advancement is limitless."

Ethan shared that his time at GPUTC gave him a strong foundation for his studies and has set him up for success in his apprenticeship.

We are so proud of both Grace and Ethan for their incredible achievements and are delighted to see them thrive in their careers. Their hard work, resilience, and readiness for the workforce reflect the values we strive to instill in all of our students here at GPUTC.

Well done to both of them, and we look forward to hearing more success stories in the future!





SPOTLIGHT ON OUR ALUMNI:

GRACE GOURLAY

At Greater Peterborough UTC (GPUTC), we take immense pride in our alumni, celebrating their successes and staying connected through platforms like LinkedIn. Today, we shine a spotlight on Grace Gourlay, an outstanding former student who thrived at GPUTC and now excels in the engineering industry. Grace's journey is a testament to the transformative power of a supportive educational environment and the opportunities provided by our esteemed partners.

Grace's Journey Begins at GPUTC

Grace Gourlay's journey began at GPUTC, where she developed a deep passion for engineering. She created lasting memories with staff members like Esteve, Kris, and Pete, whose mentorship and guidance played a significant role in her development. Rather than following the conventional path of attending university, Grace chose a different route. She decided to pursue an engineering apprenticeship with our esteemed partner, Perkins Engines, believing it would provide her with hands-on experience and a direct pathway into the industry.

Life as an Apprentice at Perkins Engines

"My name is Grace, and I am currently a second-year Apprentice on the Level 3 Mechatronics Apprenticeship course at Perkins Engines, Peterborough. At the end of my first year, I chose to specialise in Research and Development, focusing on future engine design and prototyping.

My apprenticeship journey has been incredibly enriching and educational. I completed twelve one-month rotations, gaining hands-on experience in various aspects of engineering, including test, machining, building, rigging, and design. Through these rotations, I learned about Global Engine Development, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the processes involved in developing engines.

I also supported Facilities with daily checks and annual shutdowns, including boiler servicing, pneumatic and hydraulic rig building, and dynamometer servicing. Additionally, I had the opportunity to respond to real-time breakdowns, which enhanced my problem-solving skills and ability to work under pressure.

One of the most valuable aspects of my apprenticeship has been the exposure to Test Operations. Here, I learned how to use test cell equipment in partnership with multiple software platforms to achieve successful results in numeric and graphical forms. I also gained insights into how Electronics, Calibration, and Instrumentation build harnesses that translate software languages from the measure boxes within the test cell equipment to on-screen sites. Moreover, I had the chance to develop my knowledge on alternative fuel options and electrical-powered vehicles in Proving Test.

Throughout my rotations, I completed specialised training courses and learner packs, which helped me become a competent and responsible worker. Understanding the entire development process at Perkins, including gateway deadlines and component design approvals, has been invaluable. It has given me a holistic view of how different departments work together to achieve a common goal.





SPOTLIGHT ON OUR ALUMNI CONTINUED....

Supportive Learning Environment

Part of my Apprenticeship includes Off the Job Study, supported by the College of West Anglia Wisbech. Both Perkins and CoWA ensure I have the time and support needed for my studies. I've applied my college learning to my work experience, achieving Distinction marks in all subjects and completing my work two weeks early. This supportive environment has enabled me to thrive academically and professionally.

Key Achievements and Roles

- Team Lead for Greenpower F24+ team: Leading our team to qualify for the International Finals Race in Goodwood and participating in races at Mallory Park and Blyton Racetrack with our new car design.
- Apprentice Representative for the Young Professionals Social, Culture, and Wellbeing Committee: Organizing successful events such as bowling, ice skating, and a ski trip, with a turnout of 90% or more every time.
- Active member of the Women's Initiative Network ERG: Networking with influential female engineers, attending the International Women in Engineering Day Conference, and gaining a mentor for career and personal development.
- Over the past year, I've represented Caterpillar/Perkins at school careers fairs, highlighting alternative career options and the benefits of apprenticeships.

- I also had the honor of returning to GPUTC as an alumna to share my story and inspire the next generation of students.
- During National Apprenticeship Week, I was given the opportunity to present in an International Online Webinar, where I showcased my career journey from my initial interest in engineering to my current role at Perkins. I received recognition and positive feedback from management in both England and the USA, including from the host, Jenni Gritti-Probst.

Return to GPUTC

In the last week of the term, Grace came back to GPUTC representing Caterpillar Perkins as an alumna for our Business Partner Engagement Day. Her presence and insights were invaluable, providing current students with a firsthand look at the possibilities that lie ahead in the engineering field. Her dedication to giving back and inspiring future generations is truly commendable.

Conclusion

Grace Gourlay's journey is a shining example of the success that can be achieved through dedication, hard work, and the right support. Her story is not only inspiring but also highlights the incredible potential of apprenticeships. We are extremely proud of Grace and look forward to seeing her continue to excel in her career.

Keep reading future issues for more Alumni Stories.



Jess Ball-Bedford driving the scratch build electric vehicle.



The F24+ cars line up for the final race, led out by a McLaren supercar.



Leo Cole, Ryan Brackley, William Jackson, Amber Wright, Jenson Nunn, Grace Gourlay, Jimmy Blay Kevin Bonser (project lead), Mark Wren, Arminas Ramutis.