# **October Newsletter 2021**





Laker Vent has had continued success throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, due to ongoing teamwork and key communication between our sites and head office and the hard work and commitment of our workforce.

# **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- We would like to welcome back a long standing valued member of the team Phil Rimmer from sick leave. Phil will be supporting the team on Elanco for the foreseeable future.
- We wish Dave McEvoy a speedy recovery following his recent ill-health.
- We are currently performing well on term contracts along with current work in progress. We have secured crucial work across the Northeast, North West, North Wales, & South Yorkshire areas due to start October/November, which would provide a sustained order book through 2022.
- Since the restructure of the business 5 years ago, we have carried out recruitment and promotion within the team. We are in the process of updating our organisation chart of the business and we publish this once complete. This will provide information on who is responsible for each role within the company and their

#### COVID-19

We have tackled the pandemic by implementing several different safety precautions and procedures, these being:

- Regular lateral flow testing for the workforce on specific sites.
- Continued toolbox talks with our sites and Head Office to inform on the most up to date government guidelines.
- Keeping face coverings as mandatory whilst moving around LVE Head Office.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY KEY POINTS**

A big well done and thank you to the below sites for their achievements on the below safety records;

- Elanco safety record is 750k+ hours without a lost time incident.
- Marlow/Quorn safety record is 300k hours without a lost time incident.

#### **EMPLOYEES HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Brad Lewis** recently been promoted to Foreman, Brad started his career with LVE as an apprentice and has worked hard to achieve his new position as Foreman.
- **Jamie Haggerty** has been recognised in August for exceptional contributions to Urenco, by displaying key Capenhurst Safety Behaviours.

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## **TRAINING**

We continue to push forward with training/refresher training to enhance our workforce with successful outcomes across the board. A number of these training sessions are now delivered in house by trained operatives.

Recent training carried out include MEWP, Mechanical basics, asbestos awareness, confined space, bolt tensioning, IOSH, CCNSG renewals and SMSTS. Training ensures we not only remain compliant but provides additional skills to enhance our workforce.

We have an upcoming upskill program starting in October which Simon Lord and Joe Fife will be attending. Our previous upskill program has now finally been completed following the COVID-19 disruption by, Adam Ventre, Liam Barlow and Shea Ventre who are continuing with their NVQ certificate.

If anyone has any training requests, this needs to be done via your immediate line manager who will pass this onto the operations team for review. Mandatory renewals will be arranged automatically.

#### **APPRENTICES**

LVE pride themselves in supporting and recruiting Apprentices for the past 30 years or more and wish to thank all members of the team who offer support and training throughout this process. We have had several success stories over the years with the more recent of these apprentices Gary Pipe, Daniel Norton, Nick Yates and Simon Brear, having now progressed their careers to supervisor level. In the workshop the skills of some of our welders, Andrew Bartlett and Dave Bick have helped support the welding training for the third year learners during COVID-19. The ongoing support from the workshop supervision and mentors ensure this program is successful.

## The current apprentices are as follows:

Two final year Pipefitting apprentices Sonny Sword and Daniel Potts who are awaiting end point assessment.

Three third year Pipefitting apprentices, Liam McShane, Jamie Callon and Jak Shepard, who are now out on site continuing their training following a delay due to COVID-19, with two of these also now providing welding services on sites

We are delighted to announce we have four new apprentices that have joined our team, three Pipefitters and one Welder.

Our three Pipefitting apprentices started in our workshop on 06/09/2021- Callum Whiting, Cameron Ward and James Vaughan, who have joined us from the ECITB training program at the Engineering college, Birkenhead and will be working towards their Level 3 certificate.

Our Welder Cameron Bartlett is already showing good skill and has been registered on a Welding program at the Engineering College where he attends on day release.

# **L**LAKERS

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Picture - Our three Pipefitting apprentices. Our Welding apprentice was unfortunately on holiday when the picture was taken.

We wish them every success on their journey with us.

Recruitment of Apprentices are normally via the Engineering College, following completion of year 1
— potential candidates are put forward for interview by the college each May/June. The Workshop manager has the final decision.

Anyone who is interested in finding out more can contact the college on 0151 666 1028

## **KEY DATES**

- All furlough payments end on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September in accordance with the government requirements.
- REMINDER Weekly pay holiday entitlement runs from 1st Monday in January to the end of December
- Last working day before Christmas is Wednesday 22nd December and return after New year on Tuesday 4th January.
- REMINDER All holiday entitlement MUST be taken before the end of the year (22nd December) these must be request via the usual process through your site supervisor/manger.
- Please note anybody returning from travel abroad must follow the government guidelines.

## Helpful links & tips;

The past 19 months have been a worrying and uncertain time for everybody. For anybody who is struggling or may need extra support please find below some useful contact number and links.



- Please call our Infoline on 0300 123 3393
- Email info@mind.org.uk



- Call **116 123** for free.
- Email jo@samaritans.org





- Call our free National Helpline on 0800 9177 650
- Email help@aamail.org





- Call our free Helplines below;
  - \*National 0330 094 0322
  - \*Northeast 07771 427 429
  - \*Northwest 07974 668 999
- Email info@gamblersanonymous.org.uk





- HOPELINE UK 0800 068 41 41
- Email <u>pat@papyrus-uk.org</u>
- Be aware that the clocks go back at 2:00AM, Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- With Autumn and Winter approaching, be mindful of the change in weather and conditions on the road, see helpful guide below for 10 easy tips to bear in mind.



Thank you to all our employees for their continued commitment and hard work. Let's keep this good momentum going into 2022.