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Plymouth apprentice wins regional Apprentice of the Year award

A talented young apprentice from Plymouth has won a regional Apprentice of the Year award.

Stuart Redford, aged 28, at HM Naval Base Devonport, came up trumps at the EEF/Aldermore Future Manufacturing Awards where he won the Outstanding Performance by a Final Year Apprentice Award, sponsored by JAM Recruitment.

Stuart, a technician apprentice at Defence Equipment & Support, beat off competition from six other shortlisted final year apprentices in the region after impressing judges with his dedication, determination and drive. He will now go on to compete with other regional winners from across the UK for the national title at an awards gala dinner in London in April next year.

Stuart says: "I'm delighted to have won this award, especially after being up against some other incredibly talented and dedicated apprentices. It has been an eye-opener, and equally terrifying and inspiring to see the success and strength of the other shortlisted apprentices – as far as I'm concerned, we're all winners.

"Now I'm just looking forward to the national finals and hope that I can carry away the UK title too. If I did it would be a great boost, not just to me but to all the amazing apprentices from the South West who are putting everything into their careers. I just hope that my success so far makes other local young people of all backgrounds think seriously about becoming an apprentice too."

John Morris, CEO of JAM Recruitment, says: "This award was justly deserved. Stuart was up against some really strong contenders so it's a great achievement and testament to his hard work and dedication that he won.

"Apprentices have a vital role to play in the future of engineering and manufacturing and in the wider British economy. It's great to see Stuart's efforts being recognised and I wish him the best of luck in the national finals."

Entries for the 2015 EEF/Aldermore Future Manufacturing Awards will open later this year and local apprentices are being encouraged to follow in Stuart's footsteps. For more information about the

awards visit: <http://www.eef.org.uk/campaigning/awards-and-competitions/future-manufacturing-awards>.

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Notes to editors:

Case studies of previous winners and finalists are available. Please contact Sophie Carroll or Jo Ganly (contact details above).

About EEF

EEF, the manufacturers' organisation, is the representative voice of UK manufacturing, with offices in London, Brussels, every English region and Wales.

Collectively we represent 20,000 companies of all sizes, from start-ups to multinationals, across engineering, manufacturing, technology and the wider industrial sector. We directly represent over 5,000 businesses who are members of EEF. Everything we do – from providing essential business support and training to championing manufacturing industry in the UK and the EU – is designed to help British manufacturers compete, innovate and grow.

From HR and employment law, health and safety to environmental and productivity improvement, our advice, expertise and influence enables businesses to remain safe, compliant and future-focused.

More information at www.eef.org.uk

About Aldermore:

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Aldermore raises deposits from consumers and lends to homeowners and small and medium sized businesses. Aldermore participates in the Funding for Lending Scheme.

As a British bank, Aldermore is regulated by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), which means customers' savings are protected up to the statutory limit of £85,000 per person under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Aldermore is also a member of the Council of Mortgage Lenders.

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