

# Unipres – Virtual Workplace Tour Resource

## Overview of the tour

Unipres is a global automotive manufacturer with a plant in Sunderland. The Sunderland plant, along with their base in Birmingham, are the focal points of Unipres operations in Europe. As a manufacturer of press-formed automotive components, they apply technical skills, including expertise in safety and environmental performance. Unipres are committed to creating employment opportunities, investing in the creation of the Unipres Training Academy (opened in 2017).

Using the 360-workplace tour, you will be able to explore the manufacturing plant including different aspects of the manufacturing process as well as the Training Academy. Throughout the tour you will meet a range of employees allowing you to find out more about the different roles that are available at Unipres, the different career pathways that employees have taken as well as some of the skills and qualifications that can be useful for a job in the manufacturing sector.

## Who will you meet?

**Rob Dodds – Controller Unipres Training:** Welcome to Unipres

**Steven Simm – Tutor/ Assessor:** Academy 1

**Georgia Hales – Business Administrator/ MIS data input:** Academy 2

**Eden McGlen – Mechatronics Maintenance Technician/ Trainee Tutor:** Press Hall 2

## Your task

To test your knowledge of Unipres, use the 360-workplace tour and encounters with employees to answer the following questions.

You will find all of the answers by listening to each of the employees throughout the workplace.

### **Rob Dodds – Controller Unipres Training: Welcome to Unipres**

**Q. Can you list the three Strategic Regions that Unipres have manufacturing centres in?**

1

2

3

**Q. Which automotive companies do Unipres supply?**

**Q. Why was the Unipres Training Academy opened?**

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### **Steven Simm – Tutor/ Assessor: Academy 1**

**Q. What does the Training Academy at Unipres do?**

**Q. What qualifications does Stephen have to support his role as Trainer and Assessor?**

## **Georgia Hales – Business Administrator/ MIS data input: Academy 2**

Q. What did Georgia's pathway after GCSEs look like?

Q. What tasks does Georgia do as part of her day-to-day role?

Q. What volunteer role does Georgia do to promote apprenticeships to other young people?

Q. What skills does Georgia need to do her role?

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## **Eden Mcglen – Mechatronics Maintenance Technician/ Trainee Tutor: Press Hall 2**

Q. How did Eden find out more about engineering and the type of roles available in the sector?

Q. What award did Eden receive in 2019?

Q. Why are maths and English important in Eden's role?

## Virtual Workplace Task

Using the workplace tour videos of the Robotic Welding Arm, the Robotic Welding Hall, the Stamp Machine, and the Unloading Area, can you identify what protective equipment employees wear to keep them safe while working in these different areas?

Q: Do you notice anything else in these areas that helps keep employees safe while they are working?

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## Answer sheet

### **Rob Dodds – Controller Unipres Training: Welcome to Unipres**

**Q. Can you list the three Strategic Regions that Unipres have manufacturing centres in?**

A. Unipres' Strategic Regions where they have manufacturing centres in are:

1. Asia
2. North America
3. Europe

**Q. Which automotive companies do Unipres supply?**

A. Unipres supply automotive companies; Nissan, Renault, and Honda.

**Q. Why was the Unipres Training Academy opened?**

A. The Training Academy was opened in 2017 to help Unipres to develop the future talent pipeline and ensure the company's workforce has the skills needed.

### **Steven Simm – Tutor/ Assessor: Academy 1**

**Q. What does the Training Academy at Unipres do?**

A. The Training Academy helps to train existing staff, train new operators, and deliver apprenticeships.

**Q. What qualifications does Stephen have to support his role as Trainer and Assessor?**

A. Stephen possesses an Assessor qualification and a Teaching Qualification.

### **Georgia Hales – Business Administrator/ MIS data input: Academy 2**

**Q. What did Georgia's pathway after GCSEs look like?**

A. Georgia started sixth form but in her first year decided to change to study a Level 3 Apprenticeship in Business Administration at the Unipres Training Academy.

**Q. What tasks does Georgia do as part of her day-to-day role?**

A. As part of Georgia's day-to-day role, she helps to run the company training programme, supports with Apprenticeship recruitment and manages funding and ILRs (Independent Learning Records) for Apprentices carrying out their placements.

**Q. What volunteer role does Georgia do to promote apprenticeships to other young people?**

A. Georgia volunteers as part of the Young Apprenticeship Ambassador Network to promote apprenticeships to other young people.

**Q. What skills does Georgia need to do her role?**

A. Georgia is required to be able to communicate professionally to work with external partners. In addition to having good IT skills specifically in Microsoft programmes and being especially literate in Excel and databases.

## **Eden McGlen – Mechatronics Maintenance Technician/ Trainee Tutor: Press Hall 2**

**Q. How did Eden find out more about engineering and the type of roles available in the sector?**

A. Eden found out more about engineering through doing a pre-apprenticeship Level 2 qualification in Engineering technologies which included work experience at Nissan and Unipres.

**Q. What award did Eden receive in 2019?**

A. In 2019, Eden received the Women in Engineering Societies Top 50 – Current and Former Apprentices Award.

**Q. Why are maths and English important in Eden's role?**

A. Maths is important in Eden's role as the majority of her role involves using percentages, statistics and dealing with money. English skills are important for Eden when she is communicating with external companies.

## **Virtual Workplace Task**

Using the workplace tour videos of the Robotic Welding Arm, the Robotic Welding Hall, the Stamp Machine, and the Unloading Area, can you identify what protective equipment employees wear to keep them safe while working in these different areas?

A: Employees wear protective equipment including; protective overalls, gloves, high visibility vests, face coverings, steel cap shoes, and hard hats to keep them safe when working with manufacturing equipment.

**Q: Do you notice anything else in these areas that helps keep employees safe while they are working?**

A: In areas such as the Robotic Welding Hall and where the Robotic Welding Arms and Stamp Machines are located, there are fences between the equipment and machinery and the employees operating them. There are also aisle floor markings which help employees to stay within safe areas of the designated workspaces not getting too close to machinery.