

BRITAIN'S TOP TRADESMAN

THE SEARCH IS BACK ON FOR SCREWFIX'S BRITAIN'S TOP TRADESMAN 2013 HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE CROWNED TOP OF THE TRADE?

Tradesmen and women across the country, the time has come once again to down tools and enter this year's search for Screwfix's Britain's Top Tradesman (BTT).

Screwfix's annual competition to find the best in the field launches in September (2nd), where the winner receives a brand new Toyota PROACE van, worth up to £27,000*, and will also be awarded the title of the nation's No1 tradesperson, an accolade that can really boost a business.

Last year, Michael Cairns, a plumber from Edinburgh, walked away with the crown after fighting off stiff competition from over 3,000 entrants. He says it has taken his company, Celsius Plumbing, to another level. Michael adds: "It has been an incredible year. From the moment I first appeared in the newspapers, my business workload increased tenfold. We picked up so many new customers who have remained loyal to us ever since.

"Most people don't know who to call when looking for a reputable tradesman, this endorsement has given them the confidence to pick up the phone and call me. I would recommend every tradesman and woman enters this year's Britain's top Tradesman – it really can change your life!"

The Britain's Top Tradesman award is given to those who can prove they excel in their business, and rewards the best of the best. Maybe you've just started your own company and are proving a hit with customers, or perhaps you have taken a course to upgrade your skill-set. You may have completed a fantastic or complex job for someone, or you run your business with customers in mind, by offering transparent pricing, free quotes or on a no-fix

no-fee basis. No matter the reason, you have until 6th October to put your case forward and enter the competition.

John Mewett, marketing director at Screwfix, comments: "Last year we had more than 3,000 entries and the calibre was outstanding. Our finalists impressed us so much that in the end, in addition to selecting Michael as a winner, we also awarded three additional tradesmen and women highly-commended prizes. We are hoping for some great entries again this autumn and will once again be rewarding one overall winner with a van and the titles of Britain's Top Tradesman 2013.

"It's the fourth year Screwfix has run Britain's Top Tradesman, with plumbers picking up the top prize for the past three years so it appears this is the trade to beat! I'd like to encourage all tradesmen and women to enter now, it could be the best thing you ever do for your business."

A Toyota Proace prize van will be on display at Screwfix LIVE, 13th-15th September, at Farnborough Five. Entries to BTT are open until 6th October 2013, with regional finalists going head to head. The national final will be in November, with the overall winner being named Screwfix's Britain's Top Tradesman 2013.

To enter you can go into any Screwfix store, or go to www.screwfix.com/btt, where you can also watch a film of Michael giving top tips on how to get through to the final. Visit the Screwfix Facebook page and click on the Britain's Top Tradesman tab for more information about the competition.

-ENDS-

Note to editors

About Screwfix:

Screwfix is recognised as being "where the trade buys" offering a straightforward and transparently-priced retail experience that enables busy tradesmen to shop 14,000 products over the phone, online, via their mobile or from their local store.

- From power tools and workwear to cables and pipe fittings, more than 11,000 products are available to collect from the national network of over 280 stores. An extra range of over 3,000 products can be ordered over the phone, online or from a local store for next day delivery, with orders taken up until 7pm to home or site.
- screwfix.com attracts 1 million visitors per week and the Screwfix *Click & Collect* service means customers can conveniently purchase supplies online and then collect from store just five minutes later.
- Customers can contact the UK-based Screwfix call centre free 7 days a week (plus bank holidays) on 0500 41 41 41, or on the mobile-friendly 01935 414141.
- Screwfix stores are open 7 days a week – see screwfix.com for local opening hours
- 94 per cent of customers would recommend a friend to Screwfix.

About Toyota/Proace van

- The Toyota Proace went on sale in July and represents Toyota's return to the UK van market.
- It is available in panel van or crew cab body styles with three different power outputs, two body lengths and heights and one single high vehicle specification.
- It is priced from £19,379 (commercial vehicle on the road price).

Press information:

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