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SCREWFIX POWERS UP UK JOB CREATION

National retailer Screwfix has reported an increase in employment levels, having created over 700 new jobs in the last 12 months, as a result of the brand's rapid national store expansion.

New employees have taken up positions within Screwfix's national network of 285 stores or at its Somerset-based contact centre and head office. Once in the business, the growth of talented employees is supported through internal development programmes. With an internal hire rate of 50%, Screwfix is focused on promoting from within and bringing out the best in their people.

Screwfix is known for its support of youth employment, but a closer look at the figures reveals that the oldest employee in the business is 82 and working at the company's Somerset-based contact centre, whilst the youngest is a 16 year old store-based employee.

'No-nonsense know-how'

Screwfix is the UK's leading supplier to the busy trade professional – an especially time-conscious and demanding customer base that is heavily reliant on access to an extensive and technical product range, as well as a fast and easy shopping experience. Meeting the needs of this customer base means blending a 'no-nonsense' approach with technical know-how.

Jan Maggs, Head of Human Resources at Screwfix, comments: "Employment and skills statistics remain very much under the spotlight and it's vital that businesses do as much as they can to tackle the situation.

"While the outlook for UK employment is broadly positive, we believe that the recent statistics re youth employment have made for disappointing reading. Improving youth employment is something that we are proud to support on an on-going basis; whether that

be taking on new recruits in the 16-24 age group, or sponsoring national apprentice schemes that help to recognise and nurture talent amongst young plumbers and electricians.

“A third of all Screwfix employees working for the company - around 1,600 – are from this under 24 age bracket, and with another 50 new store openings planned for this year, we are looking forward to further increasing employee numbers over the coming months and nurturing the talent in our sector.”

- ENDS -

Note to editors

Available case studies:

A number of Screwfix employee case studies are available including:

Jake Fossett

Jake is the youngest employee within Screwfix at the age of 16 years and 3 months. He works in our Acton store as a Service Assistant, where he started with us in December 2012.

Ewan McLeod

Ewan is the oldest employee in Screwfix at the age of 82. He works in our busy Contact Centre in Yeovil as a Customer Service Representative, answering inbound customer enquiries. He joined us in 2004.

Steven Greest

Steven Greest, 21, who manages the Screwfix Barking trade counter and is a graduate of the Screwfix Fast Track scheme, starting as a Service Assistant in 2008 and being promoted to a Customer Service Advisor in 2010. In 2011 he achieved his first management position as Assistant Manager and later in the year was promoted to Branch Manager. He has now held Branch Manager positions in two Screwfix trade counters.

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