



September 2015

**THE SEARCH BEGINS FOR BRITAIN'S TOP TRADESPERSON 2015
-YOU COULD BE CROWNED TOP OF YOUR TRADE-**

Tradesmen and women from across the UK, put down your spanner, turn off your drill, as this year's Britain's Top Tradesperson (BTT) competition from Screwfix has launched.

Screwfix, which has more than 400 stores across the UK, is launching its annual competition to find and recognise the best builders, extraordinary electricians, helpful handymen, perfect plumbers and many more tradesmen and women that keep the UK's homes and businesses in top condition.

Not only will this year's worthy winner carry the title of Britain's Top Tradesperson that will transform their business - but they will also win the keys to a brand new Toyota PROACE or Hilux with all the gadgets they need worth £30,000 (OTR).

Last year, Raymond McKnight, a plumber from Newtownabbey in Northern Ireland, walked away with the crown after fighting off worthy competition from thousands of entrants. He wowed a judging panel with his passion and dedication to his trade. His enthusiasm, drive and commitment to plumbing also stood out amongst the finalists. He says it has had an amazing impact on his business, bringing him new customers and filling his diary for months ahead.

Raymond adds: "It has been an unbelievable year. Holding the title of Britain's Top Tradesperson has been a great endorsement for me. When customers see that someone in the local area has been named as top in the UK, they know they can rely on you to do a top job. The last year has been great, I would really encourage other tradesmen and women to enter and give it a go, there's nothing to lose and a lot to gain."

The Britain's Top Tradesperson Award is given to those who can prove they excel in their trade. Maybe you've just started your own company, or perhaps you have taken a course to upgrade your skill-set, are you engaged on social media and really engage your customers? You may have completed a complex job for someone, or you run your business with

customers in mind, by offering free quotes or on a no-fix no-fee basis. No matter the reason, you have until 4th October 2015, to put your case forward and enter the competition.

John Mewett, marketing director at Screwfix, comments: “We run this competition to champion those quality tradesmen and to celebrate their success. The selection process of Britain’s Top Tradesperson enables people working in different trades to meet up, share ideas and tell us about what’s happening on the ground. It’s the sixth year we have run this competition, and the calibre of entries improves year on year. We’re looking forward to meeting and rewarding those tradesmen and women who go that extra mile. This year’s winner will receive a Toyota van and the title of Britain’s Top Tradesperson 2015, so it’s definitely worth taking the time to apply.”

Entries to BTT are open until 4th October 2015, with regional finalists going head to head later that month. The national final will be in November, with the overall winner being named Britain’s Top Tradesperson 2015.

To enter you can go into any Screwfix store or go to screwfix.com/btt where you can also find further details of 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 405 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 1.9 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 24 hours per day, 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.

- 50% of the UK are within 10 minutes of a Screwfix store, with 9/10 within 20 minutes.
- Screwfix employs over 7,500 people has been awarded a Gallup Great Workplace Award for its outstanding workplace culture and staff engagement.

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