

John Kerr - Quality Technician in Toughglass Ltd crowned 'Northern Ireland's Young Practical Learner' in the Regional Finals of the 2006 Edge Employer Awards

At the prestigious National Award winning ceremony held at London's, Camden Roundhouse on Tuesday 28th November 2006, John was presented with his award and prize of £2000 to spend on future training and development. A regional judging panel selected John from all the local entries because of his commitment to learning.



(Picture shows John receiving his award)

Edge is an independent foundation dedicated to raising the desirability and status of vocational and practical learning among 14 – 25 year olds of all levels of ability. Edge recognises organisations that provide outstanding Learning opportunities for young people.

John joined Toughglass in October 2002 as a Glass Engineering Apprentice. The Glass Engineering Apprenticeship is a three year programme which involves on the job training in all aspects of the production process along with achieving recognised National Qualifications in the Glass Industry.



From the start, John was very committed to his job. He met all the deadlines for the various aspects of the programme and quickly moved ahead of his colleagues. In 2004 he became a Team Leader, and in 2005 a Quality Technician.

(Picture shows John testing the break pattern in toughened safety glass)

He has achieved his NVQ L2 & L3 in Glass Processing, C&G Nature of Glass Award and NVQ L3 Engineering Units. In January 2006 he successfully completed his Modern Apprenticeship in Glass Engineering.

As a Quality Technician in Toughglass for Site 1&3 he is responsible for carrying out Internal ISO9001/2000 Audits, testing glass to BS standards and individual sector Kite Marks, solving quality issues in production, carrying out spot checks to ensure consistency of product and carrying out customer visits.



(Picture shows (L-R) Gordon Coulter MBE - President of Toughglass Ltd, RoseMarie McBride - Training Manager, Jane Caldwell and John Kerr arriving at the Edge Employer Awards in London)