

Memorandum of understanding between the British Woodworking Federation and the National Association of Shopfitters.

The woodworking sector is currently facing a skills shortage - more than one in ten companies cite that this shortage is constraining growth. According to CITB figures the woodworking industry needs to attract an additional 4,260 people every year for the next four years. At the same time concerns exist that the number of schools and FE Colleges supporting the woodworking and joinery courses are declining.

This document sets down an outline of how the British Woodworking Federation (BWF) and the National Association of Shopfitters (NAS) will commit to collaboration on opportunities focussed on training between the Wood Industry Training Forum and the Shopfitting Independent Training Forum to ensure that this skill shortage does not reach crisis point and to work together to encourage a culture of ongoing learning across the sectors.

Objective

The objective of this Memorandum of understanding (MOU) is to define efforts to form a long-term co-operative relationship on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit and support better training across the manufacture and installation of timber products.

Outline

Both parties will strive to have regular communication covering complimentary activity and ensure that our relationship supports the respective mission statement of either party. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Sharing information on training initiatives being undertaken
2. Providing updates at respective training groups when appropriate (at least once per year)
3. Reciprocal membership rates for training activities
4. Exploring the possibility of developing a shared CPD framework
5. Targeting activity to attract new entrants to the market
6. Benchmarking and best-practice ideas
7. Information on developments in accreditation, certification and code of conduct/ethics
8. Exploring the possibility of focussing efforts on regional centres of excellence to support the training needs to the sector

Co-operation under this MOU would involve parties signing a reciprocal membership agreement to facilitate information exchange.

Parameters

This document is intended to last an initial period of two years. It is not legally binding and will be dependent on the availability of funds, personnel and other applicable resources. The MOU can be terminated at any time in writing by either party and amendments may be requested at any time.



On behalf of the
British Woodworking Federation

Date: 3/7/2015



On behalf of the
National Association of Shopfitters

Date: 10. 6. 2015.