

Friday, April 29, 2005

FRIDAY RECF



Plum jobs in the pipeline!

PLUMBING training provider New Career Skills has opened two new Hampshire branches in a bid to address a predicted shortage of skilled people in the trade.

It is estimated that as many as 229 new plumbers need to be recruited into the trade every year, if there is not to be a significant shortage by 2008.

Targeting mature career changers New Career Skills, has launched a new, flexible learning plumbing course to address this issue.

The course enables men and women of any age to change career with ease and the learners are accredited by the Open College Network (Western Region).

A flexible learning programme, the course allows students to complete the theory part of their train-

ing at home using interactive materials and tutor support.

Later, students can complete four separate one-week practical sessions at one of NCS's nationwide centres of Plumbing Excellence. The course provides a stepping stone to achieving an NVQ and becoming a qualified plumber.

Tim Adderson, managing director, NCS, said: "The UK shortage of plumbers is a huge problem affecting us all. Younger students aren't as enthusiastic about learning a trade and are more interested in entering office-based careers or studying for vocational degrees.

"We have answered the needs of both the industry and mature career changers, many who have work and family commitments and can't afford to take weeks off work to train."

Click on www.newcareerskills.co.uk.