

NOT JUST A PIPE DREAM.

Opus Building Services knows what value apprenticeships can bring.



OPUS BUILDING SERVICES



MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTING BUSINESS



GROWN TO ALMOST 90 EMPLOYEES AND A TURNOVER OF £10M



APPRENTICESHIP FOCUSED, WITH A PRIORITY PLACED ON STAFF DEVELOPMENT.



CMI PRODUCT CHARTERED MANAGER DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP

Opus Building Services is a testament to what apprenticeships can achieve. Their excellent growth is a sign of what investing in your employees' skills base can bring.

Building on success

Headed up by a former apprentice, now Chartered Manager, Gavin Richardson has guided Opus Building Services to sustained growth. Originally an apprentice himself, Gavin now holds an MBA from Newcastle University.

He founded his mechanical and electrical engineering contracting business ten years ago – and has grown it into a medium sized company of 87 employees since. He has grown his business to a £10m turnover in just over a decade.

What apprenticeships bring

Opus Building Services has employed 22 apprentices since its inception, with a mix of adult trainees and school leavers making up part of the firm's expert apprenticeships programme.

With apprenticeships being used across the business, Opus Building Services believes in investing in the future, providing skills and development opportunities to young and old alike.

"I recognise that my managers are from the same background as me," says Richardson, "so I want them to understand the benefits of management and leadership qualifications and how they allow my business to keep growing."

Richardson believes that management training and qualifications boost perceptiveness, self-awareness and employees' ability to manage and motivate others.

Benefits for Opus Building Services

Opus Building Services has already committed to developing talent and providing apprenticeship opportunities, and will continue to benefit greatly with the Chartered Management Institute's Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship programme.

As well as resulting in a boost to skills and ability, Richardson believes that investing in staff development is essential to retaining staff in the longer term.

"My competitors won't be doing it or they'll be watching and trying to catch up," he said. "I prefer to be one step ahead."

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Gavin Richardson, MBA, CMgr, FCMI, MIET
Founder of Opus Building Services