

# EYC Global celebrates a new dawn of rail employment opportunities in the North West and across the UK

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EYC Global has held an event at East Lancs Railway in Bury to showcase employment opportunities in the rail sector and the part that it is playing in training DWP customers to become qualified Engineers and enter into a career in the Rail sector.

The event was attended by James Daly MP and East Lancs Railway Chair, Mike Kelly as well as EYC Global CEO, Paul Verghese.

It's no surprise that a huge amount of people have been displaced by the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in subsequent unemployment and uncertainty. Since October 2020, EYC Global have been delivering a series of Sector-based Work Academy programmes for DWP customers, resulting in meaningful and sustainable employment as Rail Engineering Operatives across the UK's rail infrastructure.

A report recently published by the National Skills Academy for Rail found that an ageing workforce and critical skills shortage in the Rail sector is a genuine threat to the future of many rail projects already

underway or due to start across the country. The report states that 'The skills shortfall and new rail projects will heighten demand for skills',

Between 7,000 and 12,000 additional people will reportedly be required every year over the next five to ten years – up to 120,000 people in total. Peak demand is expected around 2025, so people need to be recruited and upskilled now.

EYC Global's CEO, Paul Verghese, has 30 years experience in the rail sector and has worked at the very highest operational level on various high profile rail projects.

Paul said: "It's no secret in our industry that there is a massive challenge ahead of us in terms of supply of skilled engineers working on our rail infrastructure; along with the need to bridge the skills gap in terms of underrepresented demographics such as women, young people and BAME people working in rail.

"Rail is such an exciting and dynamic sector to get involved in and I'm delighted that we can offer such a high volume of job outcomes and meaningful, sustainable careers for unemployed people who have been affected as a result of the pandemic as well as promoting jobs in the industry to a wider reach of people.

"Our learners are absolutely at the heart of everything we do and not only are we offering them an entry into the rail sector, but we will support them throughout their careers with additional competencies, helping them to grow and develop into becoming the very best at what they do.

"If anyone is considering a career in rail, I would ask them to come and talk to us, we are so passionate about this industry, with a genuine desire to produce exemplary Rail professionals coming up through our rail academy and into the opportunities we provide thereafter."





*Photo credit: EYC Global*