

UK·SKILLS

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UK SKILLS

Promoting Skill Training for Excellence

UK Skills, an independent non-profitmaking company supported by the Department of Employment, exists to promote and encourage standards of excellence in vocational training through participation in national and international skill competitions.

Training to improve the skills and flexibility of young people is recognised as essential for economic success in the world markets. Young people need to be encouraged to achieve standards of excellence that equal or surpass those attained by other industrial nations.

UK Skills' role is to facilitate both of these objectives through its support for occupational skill competitions at the national level in order to identify the best trainees and by arranging special preparatory training for those selected to enter international competitions.

UK Skills represents the UK on the International Organisation for the Promotion of Vocational Training, the body responsible for the International Youth Skill Olympics which are held in member countries every two years. The 30th International Youth Skill Olympics were held in Birmingham in August 1989 and the UK team won nine medals to finish in joint fifth place overall.

UK Skills' immediate priority is to co-ordinate the selection, preparation and entry of a British team for the 31st International Youth Skill Olympics to be held in Amsterdam in June 1991. Teams from more than 20 countries will be competing for gold, silver and bronze medals in 34 occupational skills, ranging from bricklaying to industrial wiring, from carpentry to CNC machining, from automobile mechanics to hairdressing, jewellery and dressmaking.

The young people of the UK are the nation's greatest asset; they deserve the opportunity to show what they can do and to prove that their skills match the best in the world. Training for excellence is an investment in the future which will return handsome dividends to all concerned. Further information on UK Skills and the ways in which you can support its aims may be obtained from the Administration and Communications Manager, UK Skills, 76 Portland Place, London W1N 4AA.

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Chairman: Sir John Cassels, CB
Chief Executive: Patricia Snell

UK Skills

UK Skills was set up as an independent company in August 1990, under the umbrella of City and Guilds of London Institute.

Chairman: Sir John Cassels CB

Technical Director: Mr Jim Hammer CB

Chief Executive : Miss Patricia Snell

Administration &
Communications Manager: Jonathan Freeman

The International Organisation

1. The organisation is known as the International Organisation for the Promotion of Vocational Training (IVTO) and the International Youth Skill Olympics (IYSO).
2. Current membership consists of twenty-four countries ranging from Europe to the Far East and South America.
3. It is governed by a General Assembly consisting of 48 members - two from each country represented. The organisation's seat is in Spain and the permanent General Secretariat in Switzerland.
4. The objectives of IVTO are to promote:
 - (a) vocational training and education
 - (b) the free exchange of information on all matters concerning vocational education
 - (c) the exchange of young professionals and training staff among member countries
 - (d) the social status of professional staff and vocational training generally.
5. One of the tasks carried out in order to achieve these objectives is to hold international vocational training competitions for young professional people from member countries.
6. Trades recognised officially by the IVTO for Competition purposes amount to thirty-four in 1990-91 and are listed below:

Trade

Fitting
Press Tool Making
Instrument Making
Engineering Drawing
Turning
Milling
Constructional Steel Work
Gas Welding
Electric Welding
Wood Pattern Making
Autobody Repair
Sheet Metal Work
Plumbing
Industrial Electronics
Consumer Electronics
House Wiring
Industrial Wiring

Trade

Bricklaying
Stonemasonry
Painting and Decorating
Plastering
Cabinet Making
Joinery
Carpentry
Jewellery
Ladies' Hairdressing
Men's Hairdressing
Ladies' Dressmaking
CNC Machining
Automotive Mechanics
Cookery
Waiting
Graphic Design
Agricultural Mechanics

7. Basic rules governing International Youth Skills Olympics

- (a) One competitor per country per trade
- (b) At least six competitors for each trade must be enrolled overall
- (c) Competitors do not exceed the age limit of 22 during the competition year
- (d) Competitors can participate only once (except if they have previously participated in a demonstration trade)
- (e) The competitor must be fully aware of the relevant official trade description and be informed of the pertinent safety instructions of the organising country
- (f) Preliminary enrolment decided 8 - 12 months before competition - final enrolment of competitor confirmed three months before competition
- (g) Duration of competition is 22 - 24 hours, spread over four days
- (h) Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded for first, second and third places

8. 1991 Competition

Dates of Event: 20 June - 6 July 1991

Actual Competition:	Opening Ceremony	-	28 June
	Start of Competition	-	29 June
	End of Competition	-	2 July
	Closing Ceremony	-	5 July

9. 1993 Competition

Taipei, Taiwan (Republic of China) 19 July - 3 August

10. 1995 Competition

France.