

Why Work as a... Packaging Professional

A solution for your training needs and career progression

ROLE OVERVIEW

Packaging professionals lead on technical packaging delivery programmes and projects for a multitude of products including food and drink, consumer electronics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and automotive components. The fundamental role of packaging is to protect, preserve and promote the contents. Packaging professionals may be employed in many industry sectors with employers ranging from small design companies through to global conglomerates employing many thousands of people.

KEY POINTS

- **Level:** 6 (integrated degree)
- **Duration:** 48 months + End Point Assessment
- **Qualification:** BSC Degree in Packaging Technology
- **Professional recognition:** Achievement of the apprenticeship standard will lead to recognition as an Accredited Packaging Professional by the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining

KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

- Functions of packaging: inform the consumer, contain, protect, promote & preserve the product
- The impact and measures of packaging on the environment and strategies to reduce its impact e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, energy and water consumption and carbon emissions
- Materials science: properties, testing, applications and interaction with the product; hygiene, odour, migration, corrosion and their impact on product shelf life
- The interactions between machine, process, materials and product e.g. coefficient of friction, static

SKILL REQUIREMENTS

- Define parameters, design of experiments, success criteria and protocols for projects appropriate to the brief
- Document and evaluate trials at different project stages (e.g. laboratory, pilot plant, supplier, filling and packing, transit and distribution) recommending further activities
- Translate business strategy into internal and external capability building programmes (e.g. supplier quality improvement programmes)
- Coach and/or mentor

BEHAVIOUR REQUIREMENTS

- Inspires others. Acts as an ambassador for the packaging profession
- Demonstrates an entrepreneurial and resilient mind-set. Ownership of work & results oriented: accepts responsibility, is proactive, time management, prioritises, provides solutions
- Working in a team: builds good relationships with others, works collaboratively, contributes ideas, challenges appropriately and leads by example
- Acts in alignment with the business vision and values

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