Matthew Collins recently achieved the top award at the North East Apprentice of the Year held at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle.

He was selected as the Manufacturing/Engineering winner out of over 1200 apprentices across the North East of England!

Matthew’s mentor Darrell Rivers (Making Department, P&G) entered him for his dedication and focus. He said:

“The work Matthew is producing both on-site and at college is outstanding, not only is his attitude and aptitude to learning of the highest quality, he is an example to all of our apprentices”

Matthew’s role is based in the Hair Care Fragrance departments, providing maintenance and project improvement support on the packaging machinery. He works alongside a technician and fitter team and his work regularly gives him scope to learn and expand his skills. This includes machine installs, writing programs and managing complex automation systems amongst many other things. Each day he’s learning and working on new skills, this can be flying to Germany to inspect a packaging machine to fundamental Health and Safety knowledge.

On his award win, Matthew says:

“I chose an apprenticeship with P&G because I wanted to build a career in industry where I could learn whilst progressing in the workplace. P&G is a recruit from within company and really values it’s people, growing people’s skills and investing in their future. This was really clear when I was choosing who to apply with. I’ve always had an interest in science and how things work so Electrical Engineering really appealed to me. An Engineering Director recently retired and he started out as an apprentice electrician and I see no reason why I can't match that!”

Next up, all eleven finalists from regions across the UK will go forward to a National Final judging panel in December and from there, three will progress to the National Final in Jan 2016!
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