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Immediate Release

Press Release



Marshalls Announced as Main Sponsors of UK Wide Landscape Gardening Competition



Intermediate Finalist at IOG SALTEX 2009.

Keen to demonstrate a dedication to skills development, hard landscaping specialists Marshalls have agreed to sponsor the WorldSkills UK Landscape Gardening Competition 2010, as the competition's main sponsor. The competition is project managed by the *British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI)* on behalf of UKSkills.

David Jessop, Operations Manager for the Marshalls Register commented:

"Marshalls is delighted once again to be supporting the World Skills Landscape Gardening Competition, which is a great opportunity to showcase a range of skills in both hard and soft landscaping".

BALI Chief Executive Sandra Loton Jones had this to say:

"I am delighted Marshalls have agreed to be main sponsor for the 2010 competition. Marshalls' commitment to the competition shows a real dedication to the students involved, and those students will in no doubt go on to become the landscaping professionals of the future. The WorldSkills UK Landscape Gardening Competition is a fantastic way to showcase the talents of landscaping in the UK and promote the industry as a whole."

Simon Bartley, CEO, UK Skills said:

"I am delighted that Marshalls have agreed to be the main sponsor for the WorldSkills UK landscape gardening competition and we look forward to a fantastic competition in 2010. I hope that the success of Team UK in Landscape gardening at WorldSkills Calgary 2009 inspires many more to take part in this year's WorldSkills UK national competitions and indeed come and see the WorldSkills Competition in action themselves when it is held in London in October 2011."

The competition is part of a set of over 70 UK wide skills competitions run by UKSkills. Every year the landscape gardening competition attracts, on average, 50 competitors from Colleges and industry. Competing within regional heats, those scoring highest are invited to compete in a National Final.

The 2010 regional heats will be hosted as a live feature of Malvern Spring Gardening Show and Gardening Scotland. Malvern Autumn Show will host the National Final. Attracting over 180,000 visitors between them, these venues provide an excellent publicity platform to showcase products and skills to the horticulture and landscape industry.

All National finalists across the UK may then be considered for inclusion in Team UK who compete in the biennial International Worldskills competition against 50 other countries/regions. This year at WorldSkills Calgary 2009, the Landscape Gardening team won a medallion for excellence.

The next International Worldskills competition will be held in London 2011. 2010 is the last year people can enter to be in with a chance of competing with Team UK in front of a home crowd.

For more information about the World Skills Landscape Gardening Competition UK, please visit the BALI website at www.bali.org.uk or call 02476 690 333

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About WorldSkills UK

- WorldSkills UK is the name for the UK's premier set of skills competitions. These competitions are open to all ages.
- Competitions run every year in around 70 skills within these five main sectors:
Built Environment
Cultural and Creative Arts
Engineering
Information Technology and Business Administration
Professional, Social, Public and Hospitality Services.
- In 2008, over 3,500 people registered to enter a WorldSkills UK competition.
- Outstanding WorldSkills UK national finalists may be considered for inclusion in Squad and Team UK and a large proportion of the International competitors that represent the UK at WorldSkills come through the WorldSkills UK competition framework.
- For most competitions, this is the last opportunity to enter to be in with a chance of competing at WorldSkills London 2011. For a comprehensive list of relevant competitions please visit www.worldskillsuk.org