



ladder training case study

Training and the world of work

Name:	ADAM BURTON, 22
Occupation:	APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN
Employer:	DERBYSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TRUST
Located:	DERBY
Course booked by:	GAIL TIVEY
Job title:	ESTATES ADMINISTRATOR
Delivered by:	DAVID SHRIMPTON
Training company:	ABRU, BELPER



ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE

Adam Burton, 22, is an apprentice electrician whose job involves installation, inspection and routine maintenance work in hospitals, residential homes and surgeries throughout the Derbyshire area.

"I simply couldn't do my job without a pair of stepladders," says Adam, who uses them every day on virtually every task he performs.

"I'd covered the basics as part of my NVQ at college. Nor had I ever had an accident involving ladders. In fact, I felt pretty confident using them. Despite that, I was intrigued to know what else there was to learn about ladders and stepladders. So, along with nine other delegates, I attended the Ladder Association training course delivered by Abru at their HQ in Belper."

"Perhaps not surprisingly, this course was much more comprehensive and covered everything from ladder construction and classification to safe use, inspection and maintenance. Like anything, once you get into it there's much more to it than you think."

"The section on working the safe way with stepladders, whilst really just common sense, was particularly useful. It has made me think about being careful – avoiding the wrong way and doing things the right way. For example, obvious things like making sure the steps are on a firm and level base, are in good condition and have clean treads. Not to work side on and to check for loose tools. Things like that."

"It was also interesting to hear about the implications of the Work at Height Regulations and how they apply to people like me on a day-to-day basis."

"Something else that's stuck in my mind is the need to take care of ladders and stepladders. How to inspect them, how often and what to do about ladders with visible defects."

"As a result of the course I'm certainly more confident and capable with ladders and stepladders now. I feel it was definitely a useful addition to my apprenticeship."