

## New PPE Training Facility Goes Critical

Blackburn-based, Precision Polymer Engineering has opened its new training facilities for business following the completion of a £5 million factory-wide, expansion programme. Over 30 engineers from around the UK recently attended the first one day course on 'Elastomer Technology and Seal Design for Critical Sealing Applications' to be held in the new training centre.

The dedicated training facility includes lecture rooms equipped with interactive white boards, Blu-ray multimedia players and high definition OHP projectors. In addition to lectures on elastomer technology and O-ring seals, the course uses 'hands-on' case studies to demonstrate the sealing challenges typically encountered in a range of industries.

PPE has been running elastomer seals training courses at its Blackburn plant since 2006. Courses are typically 1 – 2 days and include introductory and advanced engineering topics. Specific company and industry focused courses are also given covering pump and valve sealing, offshore oil and gas, semiconductor manufacture, and food and pharmaceutical production. As well as providing courses in Blackburn, PPE also provides seals training in Aberdeen, Europe, California, Japan and Singapore, reflecting the breadth of PPE's global customer base.

Courses are presented by PPE engineers and materials scientists. The quality of the courses is such that engineers are able to use their attendance as part of their continuing professional development. Feedback on the courses has shown that 99% of attendees would recommend PPE courses to others.

An example of delegate feedback following a PPE training course: "I enjoyed it and got a great deal of important information about material selection and sizing of O-rings in critical applications. I feel that I can now confidently design any O-ring seal." Another delegate commented "One of the best training courses I have ever attended".

"PPE seals are proven to make a significant contribution to our customers' manufacturing productivity and products performances. By providing the sealing training courses, we are enabling them to get even more from their seals through a more knowledge-led approach to specifying seals. The courses have been very successful with many engineers taking a number of advanced courses," said Donna Maskell, marketing manager, Precision Polymer Engineering Ltd.

### About PPE

Multiple Queen's Award winner for Innovation and International Trade, PPE employs 185 people and has a sales turnover of around £20m. Exports account for more than 80% of sales.

PPE has a direct subsidiary company in Aberdeen serving the oil and gas sector and sales operations in Europe, Asia, California, Texas and the East Coast of the United States. It supplies specialist elastomer seals to the semiconductor, chemical, food, pharmaceutical, power generation, aerospace and offshore industries.

PPE was assisted in its factory expansion by support from the North West Development Agency. For more information on Precision Polymer Engineering visit [www.prepol.com](http://www.prepol.com). For details of PPE training courses and independant testing consultancy services call +44 (0)1254 295400 or e-mail [sales@prepol.com](mailto:sales@prepol.com).