

NEW TECHNICIANS FOR M&O LONDON

Increasingly a number of migrant workers are fulfilling important roles in the workplace. In some business sectors in the UK there is a chronic shortage of skilled workers to take on jobs as employment figures are high. As more foreign nationals choose to come to the UK to work, employment agencies are recruiting these workers in their own countries to ensure they are ready and able to fulfil the gaps in the employment market here.

Omega Resource Group Ltd is one such agency. Omega are a pioneer of demand led recruitment solutions and over the last two years have provided 2,000 overseas workers for specific UK posts including technical engineering, food processing and a range of manufacturing roles - from professional and managerial through to skilled and unskilled labour. The company was established in 1998 and now has an overseas operation based in Warsaw, Poland. Companies looking to recruit workers are welcomed to the office in Warsaw to help ensure the right people are chosen for the jobs. It is the well established award winning formula that the agency uses that made LTI vehicles choose Omega when they began thinking of recruiting overseas workers for their operations.

In a trial pilot scheme, 14 technicians have been selected from a programme managed by Omega's Nathan Pearce and Warsaw office manager, Piotr Swirkowski. These technicians are now employed at M&O at Brewery Road, and so far the scheme has been a great success. When M&O moved to Brewery Road the new premises offered them far more space for servicing



and repair work to taxis. M&O exhausted all the usual methods of recruitment in the UK and were still unable to employ suitable technicians of the required high calibre to fill the jobs available. The expansion in the service department was an important part of the move to Brewery Road as the growth, which requires the additional technicians, will mean shorter waiting times for those wishing to book appointments at M&O. The Polish technicians were briefed thoroughly

on the workings of the new TX4 cab and drivers were put through their paces in taxis brought over to Warsaw by Omega. All the technicians are qualified to the same standard as the UK and the rigorous selection process ensured the final successful candidates are as good as any fully qualified mechanic found in the UK. The first step of integrating the new recruits into the business in M&O was an exhaustive and detailed training programme to familiarise themselves with the taxi from the Fairway, right up to date with the latest TX4. According to James Strickland, Omega group director, said: "The chronic skills shortage is continuing throughout the UK across a wide range of industries and it is being further fuelled by record employment level across the majority of sectors. London Taxis International, along with our other clients, is one such company taking overseas recruitment seriously as a solution to this dilemma. Overseas recruitment is not the cheap option and as a result recruits are paid on par with UK salaries and the selection process is rigorous. We are ensuring that LTI get candidates who are prepared from day one and therefore immediately contribute to the business process."

There may be some within the taxi trade who wait to be convinced that this new recruitment drive by LTI is a benefit to the drivers. But it is a fact that workers from Poland have proven themselves to be hard working and reliable in many of the sectors that are already employing these overseas workers. It is a positive move to ensure that London's taxi trade is served quickly and efficiently when the drivers and proprietors take their taxi to M&O for work to be carried out. Time off the road is time spent not earning and this is not in anyone's best interest. As the popularity of the TX4 continues to grow beyond all expectations, the service offered by M&O will also need to grow.

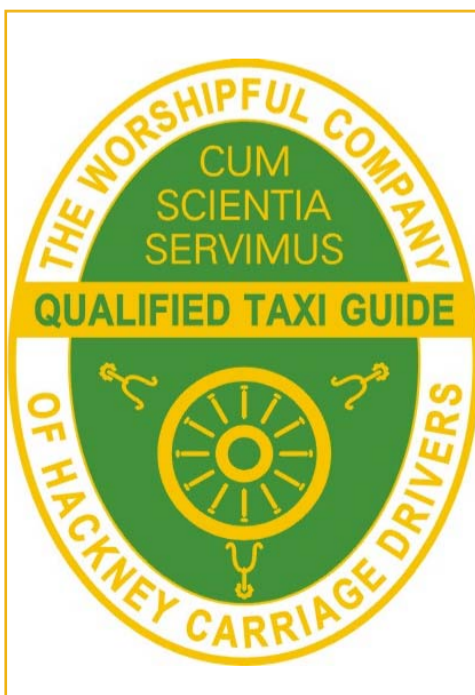
CAB GUIDE COURSE

The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers' latest Guide Course has had over 50 people wishing to take part. The course, which is being run by Graham Woodhouse, usually has about twelve people taking part each time. But the course, which includes trips to London museums and places of interest, is getting more and more popular. Graham, who is a working taxi driver, is now considering holding the exam over two different dates to accommodate everyone wishing to take the course.

The course is run in conjunction with the University of London. Drivers who have passed the course say that not only is the course interesting, but they have benefited from being London Guides as they have been gaining some excellent jobs from tourists. One driver, who was taking his fare to a restaurant, told the fare all about the history of the restaurant. Unbeknown to the driver, the fare was actually the owner of the restaurant and he was

so impressed with the driver that he offered the driver and his wife a complimentary night out in the restaurant.

If you would like to know more about the next course, you can contact Graham Woodhouse on 07968-791117 or e-mail him at info@cabguide.com for further details.



NEWS FROM MANGANESE BRONZE

Manganese Bronze Holdings plc, parent company of LTI Vehicles, will be announcing its second interim results covering the 12 months to 31st July 2006 on Wednesday 26th September 2007.

Manganese Bronze Holdings Plc ("MBH") has also announced that MBH will appoint Mr. Gui Sheng Yue and Mr. Ang Siu Lun Lawrence, who are executive directors of the Geely Group, to join the board of MBH as non-executive directors with effect from 25th September 2007. This, together with the previous issue of 5.7 million new ordinary shares of MBH to the Group and the admission to trading of these ordinary shares on the London Stock Exchange on 22nd June 2007, marked the official completion of the deal and the official start of the Group's cooperation with MBH. This includes a 51%-owned joint-venture with MBH to produce the London taxi, a limousine and two large saloon car models in Shanghai starting from 2008 and the Group's investment in a 22.83% stake in MBH.