

## **Your Degree in Automotive Technology & Management... What Next?**

Your degree qualifies you for a variety of roles in the motor and transport industries. Ongoing advances in motor vehicle technology have made this a dynamic sector, while advanced safety standards require evolving solutions from manufacturers, distributors and retailers. In addition, Irish companies have become global players in the auto components sector.

A combination of theoretical and practical expertise from your degree, as well as relevant business knowledge means you have a range of opportunities. Types of organisations that hire Automotive Technology and Management graduates include components manufacturers, service and parts companies, manufacturing industry, car sales and marketing companies, insurance companies, collision repair services and advanced vehicle systems research companies.

### **What skills have I gained?**

Your qualification is highly regarded and valued by many employers for the relevant, transferable skills and competencies you can bring to a range of roles.

#### **Core skills gained from your degree include:**

- Technical skills, including engine technology
- Electrical systems
- Logistics
- Teamwork
- Communications skills
- Business and administration skills.

Ideally you will spend a lot of your final year carefully researching your options, either **graduate employment or further study**.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Graduates are well placed to apply for full-time jobs upon graduation. Recruitment agencies have a wide range of entry-level jobs for Automotive Technology and Management graduates across various sectors. You can choose to develop your career in the following areas:

- Auto components manufacturers
- Vehicle technology companies
- Motor dealerships, sales and after-sales
- Vehicle manufacturers
- Transport and logistics companies
- Fleet industry
- Assessor/insurance companies
- Business start-up.

## Auto components

There are a number of successful niche subcomponent manufacturers supplying both the automotive and aviation industries. Companies in precision engineering, tool-making, plastics and metal fabrication are active in these sectors. As there is crossover between automotive and other industries, such as life sciences and aviation, it is difficult to identify the exact number of companies but [Enterprise Ireland](#) lists 85 Irish component suppliers while the [IDA Ireland](#) has 15 overseas producers.

International companies operating here include:

- **Kostal**, makes automotive electrical systems for companies such as Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Toyota. It has plants in Limerick and Cork and invested €40 million in its Irish operations in 2010. Its electrical hardware is used on a range of Jaguar Land Rover products including the Range Rover and new Jaguar XE.
- **Borgwarner Beru**, produces emissions systems in Tralee and employs an estimated 160 people. It supplies engine components for, among others, the V8s used in the Land Rover Discovery and Jaguar XF.
- **Bruss**, makes high performance sealing systems for companies such as VW, Ford, BMW and General Motors, in Sligo.
- **Wellman International**, produces hi-tech fibres in Cavan and recently invested €5 million in new technologies. The company employs 265 people and within the automotive sector its products are used for interior carpeting, headliners and door panels.

## Software

Connectivity is a fast growing emerging area in the automotive supply sector. Dublin-based Cubic Telecom, a global machine-to-machine connectivity platform provider, and works with Audi and the Chinese car brand Tesla.

## Other Employers in Ireland

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Async Technologies Ltd                   | • Analog Devices                    |
| • Auto Conversions Ltd                     | • Zeus Industrial Products          |
| • C & F Automotive Ltd (trading as Iralco) | • Robotics & Drives Services        |
| • Clancy Radiators Ltd                     | • Irish Commercials (Naas & Galway) |
| • Drive Right Holdings Ltd                 | • Enercon                           |
| • Garlester Ltd                            | • Real Life Sciences                |
| • Jim Murphy Engineering (t/a Aerlite)     | • Sanderson                         |
| • J Kelly Truck & Trailer Bodies Ltd       | • LC Tyres Ireland                  |
| • Kelsey Manufacturing Ltd                 | • Stryker Ireland                   |
| • KVC Manufacturing Ltd                    | • Irish Rail & Bus Eireann          |
| • M J Quinn Ltd                            | • Aircoach                          |
| • Mulmuf Ltd                               | • Veolia                            |
| • Romaquip Ltd                             | • Car dealerships nationwide        |
| • Timoney Technology                       | • Truck & HGV service companies     |
| • Thompson Engineering Ltd                 | • Waste Management companies        |

[Enterprise Ireland listed companies](#)

[www.idaireland.com](http://www.idaireland.com) click on business sectors and company databases for a full profile.

## GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

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Some large companies offer Graduate Programmes which can range from 18 months to 2 or 3 years. This may involve one role or a rotation of roles to learn about the company and see where your interests and skills lie. Training and mentoring is usually included. In most cases companies offer a full-time permanent role to a graduate as part of the programme.

Competition for places is intense, as a small number of places are on offer to graduates from all over the country. Many recruit between October and December, so final year students interested in this option need to start looking as soon as the academic year starts. Recent graduates can often apply too, but check with the company first.

Check the jobs page on CIT's Careers Service website; <http://www.mycit.ie/careers>.

Register with gradireland to get email alerts on employment opportunities as well as job search advice, see: [www.gradireland.com](http://www.gradireland.com)

Free copies of the **Gradireland Careers Directory** for Ireland (north and south) is available at CIT's Careers and Counselling Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Student Centre.

### **POSTGRADUATE STUDY**

Gaining a postgraduate qualification enables you to gain further, more specialized knowledge on your field of study; it can give you a specific technical, vocational or professional qualification and facilitate you in developing a range of key skills including: research, analysis, evaluation and written communication.

For further information, go to the 'Further/Postgraduate Study' link on the Students page of our website; <http://www.mycit.ie/careers>.

See also [www.postgradireland.com](http://www.postgradireland.com)

### **FURTHER RESOURCES**

TARGET JOBS magazines are available from the Careers and Counselling Service or download from website, for career opportunities in the UK, or see: [www.targetjobs.co.uk](http://www.targetjobs.co.uk)