

## **Local Science Club Receives a Cash Boost from Award Winning Local Employee**

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Local employee Neil Downie wins a company award from Air Products and donates winnings to a science club.

Local employer Air Products has rewarded their employees and their chosen charities for their efforts through the first ever Charitable Excellence Awards. The awards were designed to give recognition to employees who donate time and effort to their surrounding community which in many other companies often goes un-noticed.

Silver award winner was Neil Downie; Air Products Engineer based at Basingstoke, whose ongoing activity with Guildford's Saturday Activities Centre impressed the judges immensely.

£500 prize money will be donated to The Saturday Activities Centre, which runs imaginative classes every Saturday morning in the centre of Guildford for children aged 5 to 13 where Neil runs a science club at the centre, aiming to educate and excite the local children who attend.

Donald Hirsch, Chairman of the Saturday Activity Centre Committee commented; "we are delighted to be receiving this donation from Air Products, It is nice that a company takes the time to recognize the work that their employees do in their local community.

"We plan to use this money both to buy some new chemistry equipment for the class and to offer some free places to children who might not otherwise be able to attend. Our centre is trying to reach out to all sections of the community."

Neil Downie comments; "I am very pleased and honoured to have received this award. It is nice that Air Products recognises and rewards employees like myself for the work we do in the local community."

### **About Air Products**

Air Products (NYSE:APD) serves customers in industrial, energy, technology and healthcare markets worldwide with a unique portfolio of atmospheric gases, process and specialty gases, performance materials, and equipment and services. Founded in 1940, Air Products has built leading positions in key growth markets such as semiconductor materials, refinery hydrogen, home healthcare services, natural gas liquefaction, and advanced coatings and adhesives. The company is recognized for its innovative culture, operational excellence and commitment to safety and the environment. Air Products has annual revenues of \$10 billion, operations in over 40 countries, and 22,000 employees around the globe. For more information, visit [www.airproducts.com](http://www.airproducts.com).

At Air Products we are committed to promoting the economic vitality of our communities by supporting programs and organisations which assist community development. Our goal is to strengthen the civic, social, and economic fabric and to improve the quality of the environment in our communities where a significant number of company employees live and work.

### **The Saturday Activity Centre Contact:**

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