



Careers information sheet

Automotive / Motorsports Engineer

What do Automotive / Motorsports Engineers do?

The Automotive industry supplies components, processes or services that are used in the manufacture of land based vehicles. This includes cars, trucks, motorcycles and Formula 1 cars.

There are a wide variety of roles for professional engineers within the Automotive industry. These range from design and research and development (R&D) engineers, who come up with new ideas, to process and manufacturing engineers who manage, improve and maintain manufacturing systems to support the production of vehicles.

Motorsports is an increasingly important industry in the South East where car manufacturers and Formula 1 cars are based.
(Source: Institution of Mechanical Engineers)

There are several different pathways to become a qualified Automotive/Motorsports Engineer.

- ROUTE 1 - Work based - Apprenticeship
- ROUTE 2 - Vocational learning
- ROUTE 3 - Traditional

Go to the Key Routes web pages to see an interactive version of these –
<http://www.keyroutes.org.uk/areas/engine/opt-auto.aspx>

What else should I be doing?

It would help your career to:

- develop your practical/manual skills
- keep up to date with new developments – read specialist car magazines
- develop your decision making and problem solving skills
- develop your driving and car maintenance skills
- take part in the Schools Engineering Challenge - Formula Schools
<http://www.formulaschools.com>
- take part in the Formula Student challenge
<http://www.imeche.org.uk/formulastudent> where university students compete to design, build, develop and market a single seater racing car
- visit race events, vintage car rallies, motor shows and transport museums

Useful links

SEMTA is the Sector Skills Council for engineering.

<http://www.semta.org.uk>

The Sector Skills Council covering the retail motor industry is Automotive Skills - the sales, maintenance and repair of cars.

<http://www.automotive-skills.org.uk>

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers is the UK's qualifying body for mechanical engineers.

<http://www.imeche.org.uk>

Careers information for the automotive industry maintained by the DTI Automotive Unit is available at

<http://www.autoindustry.co.uk/education/careers>

The Motorsport Industry Association represents member companies in the motorsport industry.

<http://www.the-mia.com>

The Automotive Academy has a searchable database of courses at different levels.

<http://www.automotiveacademy.co.uk>

The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) is the leading awarding body for qualifications in the automotive sector.

<http://www.motor.org.uk>