Strict Embargo: 21:00 Friday 20 November

(Insert Name) wins (insert medal) at WorldSkills UK National Finals

(Insert name), a (student / apprentice) with (insert training provider and employer) is celebrating after winning (insert medal) at the prestigious WorldSkills UK National Finals in the (insert skill) competition.

WorldSkills UK's competitions support learners and apprentices in developing the work-ready skills that will enable them to thrive in their careers.

(Insert name) saw off tough competition from across the UK, after excelling in the qualifiers, to secure a place in the National Finals. Over two days, nearly 400 finalists competed in the industry-designed competitions spanning engineering, digital, construction, manufacturing, hospitality, health and creative industries. This year, the National Finals took place at venues across South Wales.

(Insert Winner quote)

Ben Blackledge, Chief Executive of WorldSkills UK, said: "Congratulations to (insert name) on their success in the WorldSkills UK National Finals. Their achievements are a fantastic demonstration of the talent, ambition and potential of young people across the UK.

"Employers tell us that skills competitions are a vital way to develop the employability skills they need in their workforce. Through these experiences, young people build much more than technical expertise. They develop confidence, resilience, teamwork, problem-solving and the ability to perform under pressure, qualities that will help them thrive in their careers and make a real contribution to their future employers and the economy."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

WorldSkills UK Foundation Skills Ceremony was held at Cardiff and Vale College on the afternoon of Friday 20 November.

WorldSkills UK National Finals Ceremony took place at the ICC Wales on the evening of Friday 20 November.

About WorldSkills UK

WorldSkills UK is a four nations partnership between education, industry and UK governments. It is a world-class skills network acting as a catalyst for raising standards through international benchmarking and professional development, championing future skills through analysis of rapidly changing economic demand and empowering young people from all backgrounds through competitions-based training and careers advocacy. For more information visit www.worldskillsuk.org