

Apprentice

Description of the company

LTC + DTC Limited was formed in 2004 from the merger of two similar businesses, both UK-based. It is a training and consultancy business, with a strong fault-analysis section, which serves the laundry and dry-cleaning sectors worldwide.

LTC's customers include retailers (Harrods, Josephine Home, Selfridges), the media (BBC Watchdog, Daily Express), shipping lines (Cunard and P&O), airlines (Virgin Atlantic, Emirates, BA, Cathay Pacific), textile suppliers (Vision, Mediterranean, Tonrose), hotel groups (Marriott, Hilton, Mandarin Oriental), most UK laundries, top quality dry cleaners and all consumers.

LTC's expertise is in laundry technology, dry-cleaning technology and textile technology.

LTC's products are:

- I. Technical reports on fault investigations
- II. Consultancy visits and the reports on these,
- III. Training courses in specific aspects of laundry and dry cleaning technologies and textile performance.

LTC has four full-time staff, two based permanently at our Ilkley office and two who act as roaming consultants, carrying out investigations throughout the UK (70%) and overseas (30%) mainly in China, USA and the UAE.

In addition, LTC employs a Textile Designer and a Textile Technologist on part-time contracts and is the major user of our sister laboratory, TFT Ltd which is UKAS accredited and able to undertake certified work in accordance with British and International Standards.

LTC is the market leader in its niche market and has established a justified reputation for sound expertise and high quality reports.

LTC is now seeking to fill two new apprenticeship positions.

We are looking for ambitious trainees able to take an apprenticeship training over a 4-5 year period, with the potential to move quite quickly onto fee-earning work. It is envisaged that successful applicants will have completed Year 12 or 13 and be looking for a college qualification.

Both openings offer long term permanent positions, with the opportunity ultimately to undertake work throughout the UK and worldwide.

LTC is funding this expansion through retained earnings, having grown organically every year throughout the recent recession. The company is financially strong and works from an easily accessible knowledge base into which new employees can tap.

Description of trainee role

The trainee will be expected to acquire knowledge and skills on a daily basis as follows:

- 1) Laundry technology and dry-cleaning technology: by internal training courses usually lasting 1-2 hours and held once per week.
- 2) Textile technology: by local college training (Huddersfield Textile Centre of Excellence) on day release possibly with some evening classes.
- 3) Laboratory type skills:
 - Colour fastness testing using a Crockmeter
 - Processing of multi-washed test pieces
 - Assessment of textile finishes by droplet tests,
 - Measurement of textile dimensions and elasticity
 - Using digital microscope to produce high resolution images of textile faults
 - Using digital camera to produce high quality photos of faults
 - Measuring the level of microbial contamination textiles
- 4) Computing skills:
 - Drafting reports in word,
 - Manipulating numerical data in Excel,
 - Building complete reports, transferring tables from Excel and inserting/
re-sizing digital pictures,
 - Drafting quotations in response to telephone queries.
- 5) Interpretation skills:
 - Dealing with customers on the telephone,
 - Writing business letters,
 - Going on site to assist a consultant with an investigation.

The work is varied and challenging.

The work does not involve any selling or cold-calling. We gain our business from recommendation.

Progression and wages are entirely on merit. There is no timetable for more advanced work. The successful applicants will get this as soon as they can cope with it.

More information: please ring 01943 816 545 and ask for Steve Anderton or Stuart Boyd.