

## A WORD FROM THE AMTCE

The first half of the year has already disappeared in a whirlwind of activity here at the AMTCE!

The first phase of our building works was completed in May and we now have seven superb training and teaching spaces including our Robotic/Cobotics and industry 4.0 training rooms. Courses onsite commenced in early June, and we also had the pleasure of welcoming industrial stakeholders to our Robotics+ for Industry 4.0 event.

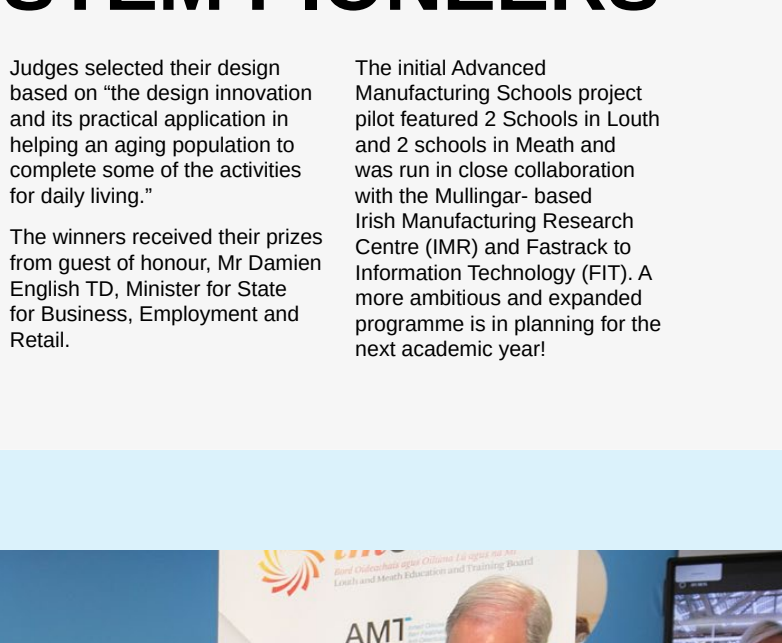
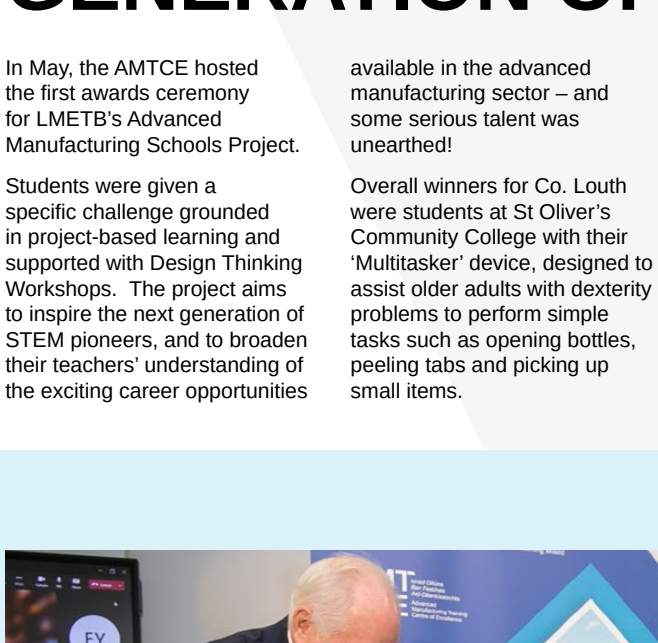
We continue to expand our offerings, with new additions including our first apprenticeship programme in Cybersecurity and our first training courses in Construction Technology, including hands-on 3D concrete printing training. We also received approval from SOLAS to develop a new National Level 6 Apprenticeship programme in Robotics and Automation - a significant milestone that will keep us busy over the next 12 months as we develop the curriculum.

Details of all upcoming courses can be found on our website, and the AMTCE team is always here to help you on the next step of your upskilling/reskilling journey. In the meantime, I hope you have found time to enjoy a well-earned holiday over the summer and we look forward to seeing you in one of our courses soon!

*Michael J McGrath*

Michael J McGrath  
 Director, AMTCE

## Latest AMTCE news



## INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEM PIONEERS

In May, the AMTCE hosted the first awards ceremony for LMETB's Advanced Manufacturing Schools Project.

Students were given a specific challenge grounded in project-based learning and supported with Design Thinking Workshops. The project aims to inspire the next generation of STEM pioneers, and to broaden their understanding of the exciting career opportunities

available in the advanced manufacturing sector – and some serious talent was unearthed!

Overall winners for Co. Louth were students at St Oliver's Community College with their 'Multitasker' device, designed to assist older adults with dexterity problems to perform simple tasks such as opening bottles, peeling tabs and picking up small items.

Judges selected their design based on "the design innovation and its practical application in helping an aging population to complete some of the activities for daily living."

The winners received their prizes from guest of honour, Mr Damien English TD, Minister for State for Business, Employment and Retail.

The initial Advanced Manufacturing Schools project pilot featured 2 Schools in Louth and 2 schools in Meath and was run in close collaboration with the Mullingar-based Irish Manufacturing Research Centre (IMR) and Fastrack to Information Technology (FIT). A more ambitious and expanded programme is in planning for the next academic year!

## BUILDING LINKS WITH THE USA

On 24th May 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the AMTCE's parent organisation, Louth Meath Education & Training Board, the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh, Catalyst Connection and Portview Trade Centre in Belfast.

The signing of the cross border, cross continent MOU represents a significant step in the foundation of crucial, strategic educational and training alliances between the island of Ireland and the United States of America. It will promote the exchange of knowledge, information, training opportunities, and the

effective translation of integrated advanced manufacturing skills across the island of Ireland and the US. In turn, this will pave the way for greater economic opportunities and development, reflective of the modern global industrial ecosystem.

The signing of the MOU was attended by Congressman Mike Doyle and Congressman Mike

Kelly, both U.S Representatives for Pennsylvania; Mr. Martin O'Brien, CEO for LMETB, Mr. Jim Lamb, President of the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Ms Petra Mitchell, President and CEO of the Pittsburgh-based organisation, Catalyst Connection and Mr Brendan Mackin, Chairman of Portview Trade Centre in Belfast.

## ROBOTICS AND THE FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING FOR INDUSTRY 4.0

Delegates from businesses across the Republic and Northern Ireland attended the AMTCE's first inaugural Robotics+ event on Wed 22nd June.

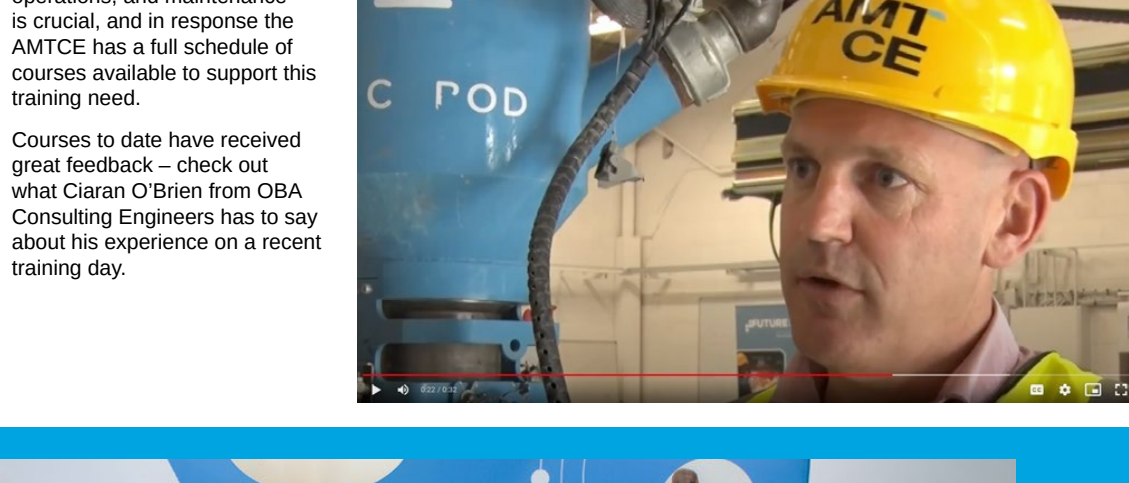
The unique one-day event brought together experts in robotics, manufacturing technology, systems integrators, and end users to discuss key robotic trends in manufacturing in addition to sharing practical knowledge and insights. Key industry experts were on hand to share their perspectives on how the evolution of robotics will impact manufacturing in the future.

We also enjoyed input from delegates currently using robotics in their own competitive edge, and attendees got the chance to see some of the latest robotics innovations in action!

Speakers included Dr Michael McGrath, Technical Director at AMTCE; Andy Kelly CEO of Kelly Precision Engineering; Adrian Hovenden from Irish Manufacturing Research;

JJ O'Hara of Future Cast and Tom Kelly from Enterprise Ireland.

We're already looking forward to next year's event.



## CONSTRUCTION TECH LATEST: 3D CONCRETE PRINTING TRAINING

3D concrete printing has the potential to be a significant, disruptive innovation that will influence the future of the construction industry. We are hugely excited to have delivered the first hands-on training courses in Ireland, giving the sector in Ireland access to cutting edge technology and expertise to navigate a potential transformation in how we build houses and other structures in the future.

Like all new technologies, having a workforce with the

required skill sets for planning, operations, and maintenance is crucial, and in response AMTCE has a full schedule of courses available to support this training need.

Courses to date have received great feedback – check out what Martin O'Brien from CBA Consulting Engineers has to say about his experience on a recent training day.



## NETWORKING WITH LOCAL BUSINESS

We had a fantastic opportunity to collaborate with the Cavan Local Enterprise Office (LEO) and the Northeast Regional Skills Fora manager Ray Murphy, in hosting a delegation of Micro and SME companies to the AMTCE in June. We welcomed businesses across various sectors including manufacturing, engineering, automation and digitisation.

It was a great opportunity to gain insight into their businesses, challenges, and their operational and training needs, as well as showcasing to them the variety of training and upskilling opportunities available to them within the AMTCE.



## VISIT FROM PORTUGUESE DELEGATION

The AMTCE was delighted to welcome a delegation of political and business leaders from the Alto Minho region in north-west Portugal to the centre at the beginning of July.

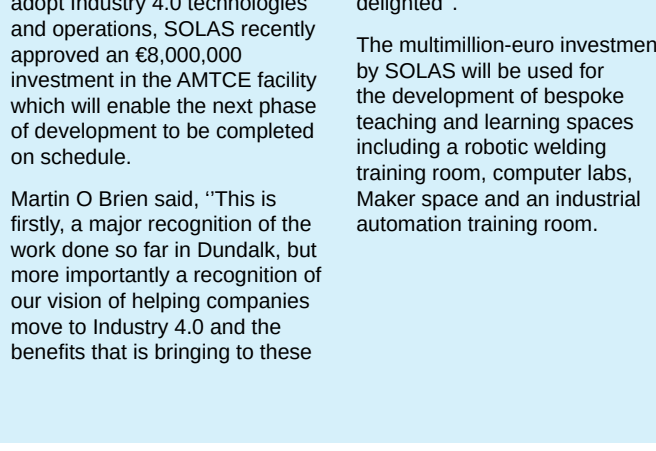
The visit, organised by Enterprise Ireland in conjunction with the Portuguese Embassy in Ireland, was part of a territorial benchmarking programme supported by the European Union.

The visit to the AMTCE showcased LMETB's ambition to maintain manufacturing's place at the heart of Irish society, by assisting employers and employees in upskilling and reskilling in the new and emerging technologies used within industry 4.0 and encouraging the development of new careers in advanced manufacturing.

The delegates had an opportunity to view best practice in terms of developing training strategies in a region that is

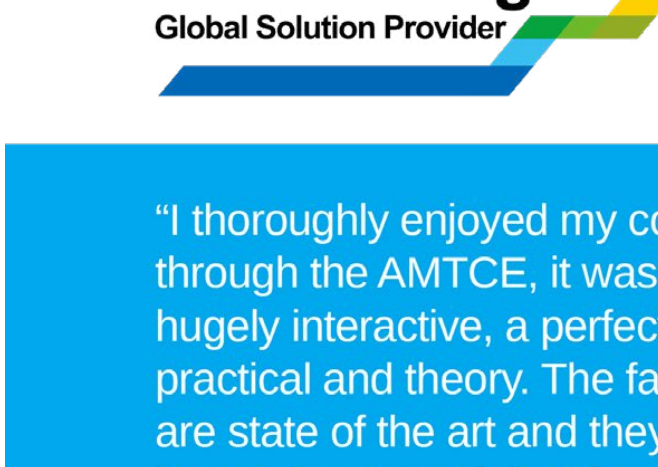


demographically similar to their own, as well as building foundations for potential future trade and industry linkages, and the collaboration and sharing of knowledge, information and expertise with their European neighbours.



## THE FUTURE IS HERE

€8 MILLION INVESTMENT



Established to help companies with their training needs as they adopt Industry 4.0 technologies and operations, SOLAS recently approved an €8,000,000 investment in the AMTCE facility which will enable the next phase of development to be completed on schedule.

Martin O'Brien said, "This is firstly, a major recognition of the work done so far in Dundalk, but more importantly a recognition of our vision of helping companies move to Industry 4.0 and the benefits that is bringing to these

companies and our Louth/Meath region. We're obviously delighted".

The multimillion-euro investment by SOLAS will be used for the development of bespoke teaching and learning spaces including a robotic welding training room, computer labs, Maker space and an industrial automation training room.

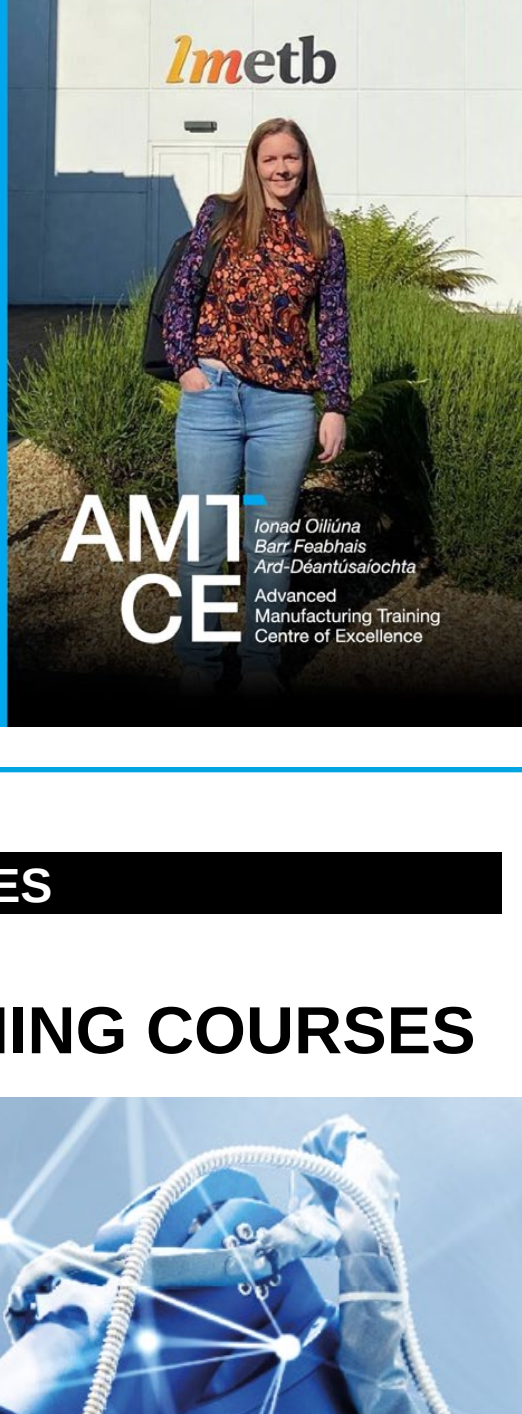
## First Learner On Site!

June 2022

**WuXi Biologics**  
 Global Solution Provider

"I thoroughly enjoyed my course through the AMTCE, it was hugely interactive, a perfect mix of practical and theory. The facilities are state of the art and they have a huge portfolio of courses available. Looking forward to returning and would highly recommend to any others."

Karen Corrigan,  
 Reliability Engineer with WuXi Biologics,  
 Dundalk, Ireland.



## BROWSE ALL UPCOMING COURSES

## A SELECTION OF UPCOMING COURSES

**Skills to Advance Funded Training**

### INNOVATION THROUGH ROBOTICS

Runs over a 4 week period with a combination of online learning, self directed learning and a workshop in IMR.

**Starts September 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 Course Duration: 4 weeks

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 Advanced  
 Manufacturing Training  
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 amtceskillstoadvance@lmetb.ie  
 www.amtce.ie

**Skills to Advance Funded Training**

### ROBOTICS (ADVANCED)

The aim of this course is to provide the learner with the knowledge of how to operate and program an industrial robot. Learners will perform commissioning procedures and create, modify and execute their own robot control program.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 5-Day Course

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### ROBOTIC WELDING

This training aims to provide learners with the tools required to understand the key principles of robotic welding and to be able to perform a variety of welding operations with a KUKA robotic cell.

**October 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 5 Day Programme

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### DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL COMPETENCIES FOR A DIGITAL AGE

This 5-day programme provides learners with the skills to recognise the changing working environment, and identify the skills and competencies to act in such an environment.

**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 5-Day Course

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### CNC MILLING COURSE - CONTROLLER BASIC 3 AXIS (X,Y & Z) MILLING

This is a basic Fanuc milling course, designed for people with some knowledge and experience of the machining process and CNC controls but who want to acquire the necessary skills to program 3-Axis Mills.

**Date: TBC**  
 3-Day Course

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## A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

