

techUK Data Centres

Professionalism Steering Group

Terms of Reference

January 2017

Purpose

The Data Centres Professionalism Steering Group was originally established to smooth the path to professional registration for technical staff working in data centres. Members worked with the IET (Institution of Engineering and Technology) on a project to map the skills and competencies of technical staff working in data centres to existing skills frameworks. This allows individuals to assess the best point in the registration process for them to engage and also improves recognition for existing skill levels within the sector. This project is now up and running and the remit of the professionalism committee has broadened. Our next objectives are to start addressing long and short term technical skills shortages, to develop a bespoke apprenticeship standard and to improve professional representation.

Operation

techUK's Professionalism Steering Group is an open group (i.e. all techUK members are eligible to join). In order to ensure objectivity, external stakeholders and partners (such as IET staff and assessors, government and skills providers) sit on the group from time to time by invitation. Members collectively possess a wide spectrum of expertise relevant to the skills agenda. The Group holds regular calls approximately every six weeks and face to face meetings twice a year. Publications are approved for external release through the Data Centres Council.

Responsibilities

The Committee:

- Oversees the IET/techUK joint project to create a route to professional registration
- Advises techUK's Data Centres Council on issues relating to technical skills
- Seeks to address technical skills shortages in the industry
- Provides skills-related input to publications and policy responses
- Promotes the sector as a career destination of choice
- Facilitates and supports apprenticeships within the sector
- Supports the STEM skills agenda
- Develops communications and briefings on skills related issues relevant to the sector.
- Acts as a trusted sounding board for external stakeholders on skills issues

Membership

techUK's Professional Steering Group comprises 15 to 20 individuals, plus secretariat. The Chairman is Tony Day of Schneider-Electric and the Vice Chair is Mark Acton of CBRE. The membership is not kept to a strict limit. If you would like to join the group, please get in touch with the secretariat.

Secretariat

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