

February 2023

# CASE STUDY

AICO AND WARRINGTON & VALE  
ROYAL COLLEGE PARTNER TO  
PROVIDE EXPERT INSTALLER  
TRAINING FOR STUDENTS



TOGETHER WITH



Warrington  
& Vale Royal  
College

WARRINGTON & VALE ROYAL COLLEGE (WVR) GAVE A WARM WELCOME TO CARL TRAYNOR, REGIONAL SPECIFICATION MANAGER AT AICO IN SEPTEMBER, WHO PROVIDED TWO DAYS OF AICO'S EXPERT INSTALLER TRAINING COURSE.

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Warrington & Vale Royal College (WVR) gave a warm welcome to Carl Traynor, Regional Specification Manager at Aico in September, who provided two days of Aico's FIA CPD accredited **Expert Installer Training**.

The training was provided to over 45 students currently taking the City & Guilds level 2 and 3 electrical and gas installation qualifications and covered fire and carbon monoxide detection. Each student received Aico's Expert Installer Certificate, a pocket installation guide (Aico's **Installers Handybook**) and CPD hours for their portfolio.

## EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS

Aico's Expert Installer Training is now a regular annual feature for WVR College. Becoming an important part of the students' educational and skills development, the training provides competencies they would have usually attained in the industry.

Expert Installer Training in Further Education (FE) introduces students to current best practices and legislation, and all relevant knowledge for undertaking the next stage of their training with Aico's City & Guilds Assured training **Domestic Fire & CO Alarm Systems** - at their Centre of Excellence in Oswestry.

The partnership between education and industry is significantly becoming more relevant, as highlighted by Ofsted. FE must adapt to the changing needs of industry with courses and skills employers require. To ensure FE courses are relevant, WVR College has set up a steering group with a cross-section of companies including Aico, with the aim to discuss skills and qualifications needed to meet today's challenges.

## BENEFITS OF DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

Aico shows a commitment to this by continually adapting its educational offering, with relationships and discussions nurtured over many years in the industry. These partnerships in FE led to Aico raising the benchmark and launching a nationally recognised City & Guilds 2426 Assured Training course. From the responses in Aico's Installer Community (a connected online platform built to support Expert Installers) it has proven to be very popular.

Demand for the Expert Installer course has become so popular that discussions between WRV college and Aico have resulted in The Expert Installer training being made available to adult evening classes in January 2023. The Aico training was well attended for both electrical and gas level 3 students, with an additional evening of training for Level 2 adult students planned for February 2023.



## STUDENT CASE STUDIES

More recently, student focused case studies have shown how adult students have applied their Expert Installer training in the work environment, with one student recently completing the Aico City & Guilds Assured training.

The following case studies demonstrate how students have used Aico's training in practical applications.

## CASE STUDY 1 - JAYDE NEVES



### My Experience with AICO training.

Towards the end of 2021, I was employed with a company with the responsibility of replacing the entire fire alarm system of the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital in Grimsby. I started off with little knowledge about fire alarm systems and ended off with slightly more, needing only to know how to install and place them.

After an afternoon with one of Aico's employees who has been in the industry for 25+ years, I now have an understanding of why we did certain things we did and know of many different things we could have utilised and improved on. The training session provided me with the knowledge of domestic fire system design, installation, and location as well as the leading technology that we can now make use of to ensure the safety of everyone. Not to mention we were given a brilliant little book with all the information you could possibly need. Basically, an On-Site Guide for fire alarms.

I am very grateful and thankful for the free training that Aico provided to me and my peers and all the knowledge I have gained through it. I have no doubt that this information will be able to assist me in my career moving forward and anyone else who is willing enough to take time out of the day to learn some extremely useful and interesting information about the very systems that protect us every day.

Jayde Neves, L3 Electrical Installations Student  
Warrington & Vale Royal College





## CASE STUDY 2 - CAMERON NEVES



As a 20-year-old you wouldn't associate my age with plenty of experience or knowledge which partly explains my reason for attending the Aico training course. I have worked in commercial buildings as an electrician's mate for most of 2021. I installed smoke, heat and sounder alarms as well as commissioning and testing, starting from the device all the way to the fire panel. My knowledge grew through experience during these various jobs, as a result, my understanding of the subject of fire alarms grew, although only to a certain degree.

When attending the Aico training course my knowledge in the subject grew diversely as we were taught about the underlying reasons why devices are installed in certain rooms to certain heights and positions. For example, smoke traps air in corners and crevices of rooms which is why these devices are installed away from walls and corners. Also, to mention, with my little experience in the installation of fire alarm devices, I learnt the wiring, installation and test features and functions of various Aico devices.

In conjunction with smoke alarms, we were taught about carbon monoxide (CO) devices and the severity in which they are needed. With CO being a silent killer, it is probably only noticed if there is a potentially fatal leak once a tragedy occurs. During the course, we realised there are various devices offered by Aico either battery-operated or mains input. This triggered my thought to go ahead and buy one for my home as I now realised it would be sensible to have a device in suitable rooms in my house (and simple due to an easy install of a battery-operated device), making me wonder why there wasn't one installed in the first place.

So, in conclusion, the course was interesting due to the teacher assigned and productive in the certain concepts discussed.

Cameron Neves, L3 Electrical Installations Student  
Warrington & Vale Royal College



## CASE STUDY 3 - PAULA LAWLESS



Whilst undertaking my L3 Diploma in Electrical Installation I volunteer for a local company to gain experience. As part of this work, I have installed various smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide detectors, manufactured by Aico, including models Ei3028, Ei3024 and Ei3018 and utilising SmartLINK technology to connect the alarms throughout the different rooms in the premises.

Through my college, I was given the opportunity to attend the Aico's mobile training and demonstration unit. I found it very informative, learning a little more about the workings of SmartLINK and gaining useful and necessary information regarding the legislation around the requirements and installations of such alarms. I have recently completed the City & Guilds 2426 assured training at Aico's Centre of Excellence at Oswestry.

Paula Lawless, L3 Electrical Installations Student  
Warrington & Vale Royal College



## CASE STUDY 4 - TONY HAYES



Hi, my name is Tony Hayes. I sat on the Aico course to gain a better understanding of smoke and fire and carbon detectors. I fit smoke and fire alarms at work and after sitting the course I had a better understanding of how they worked and where to fit them. I gained more of an insight into what is needed and what the benefits are of having them installed. Also, the pocket guide is very useful to have when on site.

Tony Hayes, L3 Electrical Installations Student  
Warrington & Vale Royal College



To find out how your local RSM can support you with your Expert Installer training requirements please visit - [www.aico.co.uk/find-a-regional-spec-manager/](http://www.aico.co.uk/find-a-regional-spec-manager/) .