

# Berthon Boat Company Ltd

**Contact:** Keith Longman

**Phone:** 01590 673312

**E-mail:** keith.longman@berthon.co.uk

**Website:** www.berthon.co.uk

Based in Lymington, Berthon specialise in boat building, repairs, refits and yacht maintenance.

# BERTHON

Its apprenticeship scheme is at the very heart of the business with 25 apprentices currently employed. The scheme has provided two thirds of the current shop floor workforce and half of the management team. All 6 apprentices who graduated following their four year apprenticeship were taken into full time roles within the business last year and this has been repeated with the graduates in 2012.

This in built supply chain of skills has been vital to the growth of the company; they have taken on a further 8 apprentices this autumn and are looking at a further three in new areas of the business. They have employed 2 Southampton University



graduates in the past year in junior management roles.

With employees trained to the company needs, they have the ability and the confidence to bid for and win major contracts including those with the RNLI and MoD as well as many private yachts that are refitted on site.

The business also works to engage with younger children by providing support for Priestlands School career events and organising tours so the students can witness the workplace at first hand. They have a close working relationship with Solent Education Business Partnership.

Earlier this month the company won National Medium Apprentice Employer of the year Award at a presentation ceremony in Birmingham.



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