

21ST CENTURY APPRENTICES DISCOVER E IS FOR E-LEARNING

Plumbers and gas engineers are being given the opportunity to train 21st Century style using a set of six fully interactive 'e-learning' modules that guide them through the core technical curriculum and syllabus and NVQ level II in Plumbing and Gas.

The CD-based modules are far more memorable and engaging than conventional book-based learning as they incorporate the latest 3D animation, graphics, video clips, giving excellent recall. Using the programme, students are first guided

through a visual tutorial, with voice-over, before having the opportunity to practice their skills in a PC based virtual reality house.

The course has been developed by virtual reality and e-learning specialists Skills2Learn, in partnership with the College of North London, Hammersmith & West London College and plumbing home study specialists, Train 4 Trade Skills.

It runs on CD, online, or can be installed on a VLE (Virtual Learning Environment). Skills are

demonstrated by imaginative use of graphics, video, 2D and 3D animation, while a voice-over describes the process being taught. This allows the trainee to view the scenario as many times as necessary and students can then practice their skills through a series of interactive exercises, undertaken in the safe setting of the virtual reality house.