



worldskills  
UK Alumni

## Richard Sagar: Electrical Installation

**Competed in:** WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – Team UK  
**Awarded:** Gold medal  
**Home town:** Langholm  
**Region:** Scotland  
**Date of birth:** 03/02/1987  
**Age at competition:** 22  
**Employer:** Eden Electrics  
**Learning provider:** Dumfries and Galloway College

### Qualifications

- SVQ Level 3 in Electrical Installations

City &  
Guilts  
Qualified



### What was your route into Team UK?

*"I was entered to compete in a west of Scotland heat by my college as the Apprentice of the Year. After winning that, one competition led to another and after four in total I found myself selected as a member of Team UK."*

### Why did you choose to get involved with WorldSkills?

The possibility of competing on the world stage in Calgary really appealed to Richard. His desire to compete is matched by his passion to develop as a skilled professional.

*"I like to think that my pride in my work and desire to always produce work and a service of the highest quality has helped me through the various competition stages."*

### What training did you undertake as part of your journey to WorldSkills and what impact did this have on your life?

Richard undertook a comprehensive training program that developed all areas of his skills. Starting with the basics and working through to more advanced techniques, training was a huge commitment for Richard.

*"The training became a big part of my life. I think I was only at home for about 3 weeks during the 4 months leading up to the competition."*

### What was WorldSkills like?

*"The competition was just as I had expected because of all the preparation I had done before arriving. I arrived on the competition site on the first day ready to get to work and do my best. Nothing was going to distract me."*

### What did you have to do during the competition?

The Electrical Installation competition involved four modules split over the four days of competition. Each task had its own deadline and comprised of a mixture of domestic and commercial electrical installations. Speed and skill were rigorously tested during each task.

### Who inspired you during your journey to WorldSkills?

*"Competing against other really strong competitors during the Squad and Team UK selections really inspired me to do better and improve my skills."*

### What did being part of Team UK and competing at WorldSkills mean to you?

*"It means a lot! The scale of the event and the skills required at this standard highlight to me just what an honour it is to be involved. It is amazing to think what I have done and what I have achieved."*

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**How did it feel to win the Gold medal?**

*"I imagined the competition and winning the Gold medal every day leading up to the competition. It was incredible though when it became a reality!"*

**What has competing done for you both personally and professionally?**

The change to Richard's life has been unbelievable. Having achieved such a fantastic result during the competition and throughout his training Richard's skillset has advanced to another level.

*"Since winning the Gold medal it seems like I can achieve anything now. It's given me the confidence to be what ever I want to be."*

**What is the dream?**

*"Since the competition and the dramatic improvement in my skills and abilities, I've been working towards a position in senior management, preferably with my current employer. I would also love to work for myself one day and run my own business."*

**Would you encourage others to get involved in WorldSkills?**

*"I would definitely encourage anyone to get involved. I couldn't speak more highly of it as an experience. It would be fantastic if everyone could get this sort of opportunity."*

**What do you think of the event being held in London in 2011?**

Richard is eager to help out with the next WorldSkills competition in any way he can.

*"I really want to give something back and help the next generation of UK competitors. I think WorldSkills London 2011 will also be a fantastic opportunity to show the public you don't have to be academic to be successful; you can also go really far with a skill."*



For more information about the WorldSkills, UK Alumni, contact the UK Skills communications team:  
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