**Siemens/120916 – copy from Bondholders newsletter** (Hannah Coul)

Sixteen apprentices joined the company this week to begin Siemens’ first programme of its kind in the UK. Hiring the apprentices is a further demonstration of Siemens’ commitment to put down roots in Hull and secure a strong pipeline of talent within the city.

Following an extensive induction process, 14 of the young people will embark on Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeships in Wind Turbine Blade Manufacture (Composite Engineering) while two further recruits will begin Level 4 Higher Apprenticeships offering a dual Higher National Certificate (HNC) in Operations and Mechanical Engineering, reflecting their previous qualifications and experience.

All the apprentices live locally and are aged between 16 and 23. They were selected after Siemens’ received more than 400 applications for the roles and interviewed more than 60 candidates. The new recruits are:

* Benjamin Allanson, 20, from Aldbrough, East Yorkshire.
* Ronan Boulton, 17, from Hull.
* Lee Budgen, 21, from Hull.
* Harrison Colledge, 16, from Hull.
* Charlie D’Arcy, 18, from Hull (Higher Apprentice).
* Daniel Deeming, 18, from Beverley, East Yorkshire.
* Charlie Fletcher, 19, from Hessle, East Yorkshire.
* Rhys Hebbs, 19, from Hull.
* Charlotte Hunt, 23, from Gilberdyke, East Yorkshire (Higher Apprentice).
* Poppy Hutchinson, 17, from Brough, East Yorkshire.
* Sam Macklin, 19, from Hull.
* Oliver Marshall, 16, from Brough, East Yorkshire.
* Jamie Martin, 16, from Keyingham, East Yorkshire.
* Richard Oxburgh, 16, from Hull.
* Chelsea Ward, 19, from Hull.
* Sam Williams, 16, from Hull.

 Jason Speedy, Siemens’ Hull Blade Factory Director, said: “We’re delighted with the first young people we have brought on board for what we intend will be an annual intake of apprentices.

“They all have a great attitude and a real desire to learn and develop. As well as learning new skills and gaining valuable qualifications, the apprentices will be moulded into the Siemens Hull culture, working alongside and learning from more senior colleagues among our amazing workforce in Hull.

“Establishing this apprenticeship programme will ensure we have a strong pipeline of talent, with these young people bringing a fresh mindset and new ideas to help to keep us moving forward.

“During their training, the apprentices will be rotated around the business to enable them to make informed career choices from a wide range of manufacturing and engineering roles. I’m sure they have a great future ahead of them with Siemens.”

Carolyn Woolway, Siemens’ Head of Human Resources for the Hull project, said: “All these young people have done incredibly well to secure their apprenticeships under intense competition.