

Day in the Life....Kameron Cullen, Engineering Maintenance Apprentice (Welding), Killingholme Port

Joined CLdN Ports: 03/10/22

Age at start: 21

Title: Engineering Maintenance Apprentice (Welding)

My name is Kameron, I'm in the 1st year of a 3-year welding apprenticeship at CLdN Ports, North Killingholme, training with North Lindsey College.

I work day to day with a range of backgrounds such as a coded welder, car and HGV mechanics, trailer fitters and engineers.

A typical day here would be either working on a skelly or a cassette. The line equipment workshop mainly focuses on the maintenance of 3 variations of a trailer. The trailers used to carry the cargo are cassettes, mafi's and skelly's. I usually work on cassettes because they are 43ft-48ft long and made of steel. This allows for more repairs on the welding side. I have been watching our coded welder vert weld the corner plates and practicing my own to try and improve. I also change the pads, repair the spikes and paint the cassette so it is ready to return to service.

I also work on skelly's which are 20ft-30ft trailers. When working on skelly's I may repair twist locks, weld new patches on and install trackers. The main problems occurring with a skelly are seized cam and brake shoes. This would require a wheel strip down, clean everything and replace any damaged parts. I recently assisted in removing and installing a 20mm axle plate which was a good fabrication and positional welding job. By the end of my apprenticeship, I am hoping to be competent enough to install a new bed plate and cut a skelly in half to straighten the neck.

I am currently working towards my level 3 plate welding qualification which will support my level 3 in mechanical engineering and level 3 in electrical engineering to make me a well-rounded engineer.

