

# SKILLCARD HITS 50,000 MILESTONE

Engineering Services SKILLcard – the registration scheme for the mechanical sector – has passed an important milestone with the issue of its 50,000th card.

The SKILLcard was presented by Phil Hope MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department for Education and Skills, during a recent meeting, held in the House of Commons, of the All-Party Parliamentary Building Services Engineering Group.

The recipient was Jake Nazha, who received his platinum SKILLcard on the basis of industry accreditation

against the specification for the skills of a project engineer set at National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 4.

Mr Nazha, who is 28 years old and has a Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) degree from the University of Westminster, is employed as a project engineer by Slough-based HVCA member Michael J Lonsdale Ltd, and has satisfied the recognised industry health and safety conditions for the award of a SKILLcard.

## **Deadline**

“The opportunity for supervisory and managerial staff to



*Jake Nazha of Slough-based Michael J Lonsdale (right) receives his platinum SKILLcard from skills minister Phil Hope MP*

qualify for a SKILLcard via industry accreditation is likely to close at the end of October – having already been extended for 12 months,” commented Peter Rimmer, HVCA head of employment affairs and project manager for SKILLcard.

And he added that, after the deadline date, it was likely that all managerial staff without

formal qualifications would need to satisfy much more rigorous, NVQ-based criteria.

Engineering Services SKILLcard was launched in September 2001, and is affiliated to the pan-industry Construction Skills Certification Scheme.

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