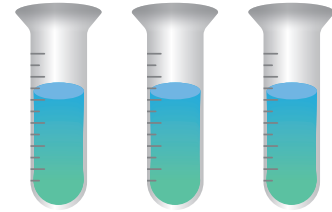


CHEMICAL PROCESSING

What is Chemical Processing?



The Chemical Process sector involves changing one or more chemicals or chemical compounds. Technology is used to change the composition of chemicals to produce materials such as petrochemical and inorganic chemicals, plastics, detergents, paints and pigments, and more.

Tees Valley is home to the largest single cluster of chemical process companies in the UK and the second largest in Europe. The area is home to a range of key clusters in the chemical sector including refining, petrochemicals, speciality and fine chemicals, plastics, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

Key Information

There are currently over 5,700 people working in the Chemical Process industry in the Tees Valley

Only 27% of the current workforce is female – more women are needed.

Almost half of Tees Valley businesses report having a skills shortage with 44% stating they were struggling to find skilled workers in the chemical process and energy field; with a growing need for skilled engineers.

Careers range from production managers to chemical scientists and lab technicians.

Major employers include SABIC, Lucite International, Huntsman, DuPont Teijin Films UK, Ineos Nitriles, Fine Organics and Chemoxy International.

Useful Subjects

- Science
- Mathematics
- Technology and Design
- Engineering

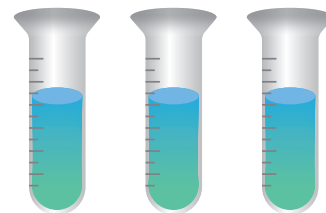
Skills and Qualities

- Accuracy and attention to detail
- An interest in science and engineering
- Communication
- Problem solving
- Organising and Planning
- Team Work

Top 5 specialised skills most requested in Chemical Process job adverts

1. Chemistry
2. High-Performance Liquid Chromatography
3. Materials Science
4. Chemical & Manufacturing Processes
5. Process Safety

CHEMICAL PROCESSING



Average annual salaries in the Tees Valley

Production Manager	£45,500
Production and Process Engineer	£40,900
Health and Safety Officer	£31,800
Chemical Scientist	£27,700
Chemical Process Operative	£26,500
LAB Technician	£18,600

Routes into Chemical Processing

Apprenticeships are a well-respected route into the chemical process industry with many employers offering well established apprenticeship programmes. Many employers will support work based and academic development through on the job and off the job training, including paying for higher education qualifications. For more information on apprenticeships please visit www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

Further Education in a college or sixth form is also a well-established route into chemical process where qualifications in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) will give you an advantage. To search for a course please visit www.ucasprogress.com.

Higher education is also a popular route into chemical process with courses in subjects such as chemical or process engineering. To find out more please visit www.ucas.com.

More Information:

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