

Awards for pupils who saved money

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TWO Plymouth students have won awards for their work on employment placements which could save companies more than £150,000 this year.

Emily Marley and George Reburn, both 19, were unanimously chosen as joint winners at the annual Best Manufacturing Project Award competition, part of the Year in Industry programme. The prize, awarded by the Plymouth Manufacturers' Group at Becton Dickinson was £125 each.

Year in Industry, based at Tamar Science Park, is a not-for-profit organisation that places students with local companies to encourage young people to fulfil their potential in careers in science, engineering and technology.

Emily was a pupil at Tamarside Community College. She started her placement with Babcock Marine in September last year, as part of the Year in Industry scheme.

Her objective was to save the company money and time by assessing the control of work involved in the refit of HMS Bulwark. By examining the process of locating and identifying valves, and developing an accurate system of documentation, Emily saved the company £38,700 in five weeks. She also produced a guide for the computerised equipment-tracking system, which will reduce labour and training costs.

Emily's manager, Mike Weeks, said her work could potentially save the company more than £100,000 over the next 10 years.

George took A-levels at Eggbuckland Community College, before starting his placement at Goodrich Sensors and Integrated Systems, analysing the process of producing reject reports. By introducing an automated and electronic process, George calculated an average annual saving of £117,500.

George's manager, Steve Clare, said: "George's fresh ideas are a credit to his innovative way of thinking."