



FUTA NEWS

FUTA KEYS INTO NEW AUTOMOBILE POLICY, HOLDS AUTOFAIR, TRAINS ARTISANS

The Federal University of Technology, Akure has set machinery in motion to transform the automobile industry in Nigeria in tandem with the Federal government's policy of encouraging the use of locally made vehicles. In view of this, the University has through its Centre for Continuing Education begun a training programme in auto mechatronics and allied areas for artisans.

Addressing participants at the first FUTA Autofair and Workshop , the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the University's Governing Council, Dr. Mohammed Shata said the training or artisans and auto fair would open up vistas of opportunities for innovations and technopreneuship because new skills relating to modern trends in automobile manufacturing, sales, maintenance would be learnt. Dr. Shata said "I am glad that our University is providing a direct confluence for automobile manufacturers, marketers, technicians and the buying public. One of the main aims of this exercise is to update and increase the skills of auto-artisans in modern auto-technology. I therefore implore all participants to judiciously utilize this opportunity. Be sure that the new skills you acquire from FUTA add value to your lives". Speaking further, Dr. Shata said organizing the training and auto fair, which drew leading players in the sector, is FUTA's way of keeping faith with the University's foundation objective of improving the lives of the host communities and thus enhancing the town and gown relationship. He also urged the participants to send their objective comments and observations, suggestions and feedbacks to the University so as to help in subsequent editions of the training.

In an address read on his behalf by the Head of Service Mr. Toyin Akinkuotu, Ondo State Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko said "I am really fascinated by the key

objectives of the programme which are all aimed at exposing our artisans to the rudiments of modern automobile servicing as well as bringing the industry and its markets very close to the door step and reach of the ordinary vehicle owners and handlers for optimal benefits. I have no doubt in my mind that at the end of this programme, participants would be fulfilled and versatile in their respective field of endeavour in the transport sector.

Commending the management of FUTA and organizers of the programme, Dr. Mimiko said "Our administration is particularly grateful to the authority of FUTA for been a highly dependable ally in its quest to bring out and develop the best potentials of our people to continually change their fortunes for the better."

At the close of the training, delighted participants from across the country expressed their appreciation to FUTA for exposing them to new skills.

Mr. Tijani Hamza, Head, Transport Section of the National Open University (NOUN, Abuja) said "With this training from FUTA, I have a better understanding of my job and how vehicles should be maintained for optimal performance. Indeed, FUTA is excellent and I am going to organize in-house training for my people at NOUN".

Also, Ojo Gabriel from Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD) said "As an Electrical person, this workshop and training has opened my eyes to new areas in my field. I now understand the anatomy of an engine. With this training I have better opportunities".

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Professor Emmanuel Adedayo Fasakin while presenting certificates to the participants urged them to extend the knowledge they have acquired to others by spreading the news to them to come to FUTA for the training and certification.

Fasakin said there must be a relationship between the University and its environment because a University is supposed to be a problem solving institution. "All over the world, a university is expected to solve problems in the society. This problem solving relationship is possible through interaction. We need innovation and improvement in the way we do things because new skills emerge every day and we should not be left behind. " Fasakin added.

Dr. Bayo Aborisade, Director, FUTA Advancement Centre and organizer of the training and auto fair urged participants to continue to build themselves up. "You need to advance in new skills in your areas. Continue to build your knowledge base and experience to make yourself relevant. We promise to continue to reach out to various organizations for further training. Spread the news to others to improve the automobile sector of our economy". Aborisade said.