

# Competition Overview

## WorldSkills UK Advanced

### Automotive Refinishing - Entry/Qualifier/Final 2023

#### About the Competition

This competition assesses the skills and abilities of competitors entering the field of Automotive Refinishing

The competition has been designed to reflect the work role of a vehicle refinishing technician, including skills such as time management, planning and problem solving.

This WorldSkills UK competition is managed by The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) in collaboration with Morelli Group, 3M, SATA and Glasurit

- This competition consists of:
- **Entry stage:** In which you must complete an online Entry assessment test.
- **National Qualifier**  
*This stage is usually a practical competition, however if there are national or local restrictions in place the National Qualifier maybe delivered as a virtual/digital on-line competition.  
If this is the case all details would be emailed to you well in advance of any of the competitions.*
- **National Qualifier:**  
You will be invited to attend the Refinishing National Qualifier at 3M's Automotive Refinish Centre (ARC) in Atherstone for a one-day competition. The Institute of the Motor Industry will arrange and pay for your accommodation for the night before the competition. Once selected you must attend the National Qualifier\*
- **National UK Final:**  
A two-day competition, taking place at a suitable venue, this has been at Cardiff and Vale Colleges Automotive training academy and the NEC.  
The National UK Final is in November and The Institute of the Motor Industry will arrange and pay for your accommodation for the night before and during the competition. Once selected you must attend the National Final\*.

Further information, including pre-competition sample materials, are available on the WorldSkills UK website.

<https://www.worldskillsuk.org/?s=automotive+refinishing>

\* Any competitor that is selected for the National Qualifier or National Final and does not attend without prior agreement will be charged £100 towards the cost of the hotel accommodation

## Core Competencies

Competitors taking part in this competition should be able to:

- Collect, analyse and organise information
- Communicate ideas and information
- Plan and organise work activities
- Use mathematical ideas and techniques
- Solve problems
- Use current technology
- Comply with H&S legislation

In addition, competitors will be expected to show their competence, skill and knowledge using various refinishing related equipment, techniques, and materials e.g., abrasives and preparation materials, paint mixing and matching equipment, spray guns and air fed masks, heat lamps, UV lamps, spray booths, masking products, paint products, polishing and finishing equipment and other related products. Some training on equipment will be provided during the familiarisation day at the finals.

Task areas and marks vary from year to year. Below provides an indication of how marks are typically distributed.

Skill Areas	Entry %	Qualifier %	UK Final %
Preparation & Paint Application	17	30	22
Colour Matching	12	25	N/A
Plastic Repairs	11	15	18
Paint Fault Rectification	12	20	N/A
Special Finishes & Application	10	N/A	22
Spray Equipment	15	10	4
Blended Repair	11	N/A	20
Masking Exercise	12	N/A	14

## Entry Criteria

This is an individual competition.

Competitors **must** be working towards a Level 3 qualification or have qualified no more than 12 months previous to competition registration opening.

Competitors must be familiar with all of the core competences listed above

There is no limit to the number of competitors permitted to enter this competition per organisation.

## Marking & Assessment

Each competition task will be assessed and marked independently of any other competition activity.

Once marks have been awarded for each task, they will be added together to obtain your final mark.

A panel of judges has been selected from a range of industry, college, and training provider representatives. The judges' decisions will be moderated, and quality assured by WorldSkills UK before being confirmed.

The six competitors who achieve the highest marks across all national qualifiers will be invited to compete at the UK Final.

- **Please Note:**

There is no automatic entry to the National UK Final for winners of national qualifiers. Even if you have the highest score on your competition day, it does not automatically guarantee you a place in the National UK Final.

The six highest scoring competitors from all competition days will go through to the National UK Finals, this could be a mix of competitors from each competition day or could be all competitors from just one competition day!

The six National UK Finalists will be announced (once all scores etc. have been quality assured & verified by WorldSkills UK) The IMI will inform successful finalists in an online presentation and via personal email and text message.

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medallists will be announced at the WorldSkills UK National Finals virtual medal ceremony, this usually takes place the Friday after the National Finals are completed.

## Competition Format

- **Entry stage:**

The Entry stage assessment test link will be emailed to you once registration has been completed (and all terms and conditions accepted).

The assessment consists of 30 multi choice questions to test your knowledge on a range of refinishing processes and associated repair procedures. These assessments are held on-line and can be completed in college or with your training organisation or in your place of work.

The entry assessments have been written and designed with the latest monitoring software to ensure that the assessment is completed correctly and is fairly.

The Entry assessment will need to be completed using a pc/laptop or tablet.

- **Qualifier stage Practical:**

You will be invited to attend the Refinishing National Qualifier at 3M's Automotive Refinish Centre (ARC) in Atherstone, for a one-day competition consisting of five practical tasks: one of 2 hours duration and four of 45 minutes duration, task on selected refinishing skill areas.

During the competition you will be required to apply industry recognised techniques and procedures to all tasks.

At the end of the competition day there will be a presentation (and photo opportunity) for certificates and the winners for the day will be announced.

- **Qualifier stage Digital:**

This would be over two half days and would consist of the same tasks as the practical competition however, for the digital competition the practical task will be broken down into a series of online questions/virtual tasks for you to answer or complete.

The test link would be emailed to you and you would need to complete the tasks on the instructed days. (All instructions etc. would be sent out to you in advance).

These assessments are held on-line and can be completed in college or with your training organisation or in your place of work.

The online task virtual assessments have been written and designed with the latest monitoring software to ensure that the assessment is completed correctly and is fairly and would need to be completed using a pc/laptop or tablet.

- **UK Finals:**

You will be invited to attend the National UK Final in November at a suitable venue (TBC) for a two-day competition consisting of 6 practical tasks, each one of various duration on selected refinishing skill areas.

The competitors rotate around the six tasks over the two days (Thursday and Friday) of competition.

You will be required to apply industry recognised techniques and procedures to paint a range of new panels and repair damaged to pre painted panels with a variety of different paint finishes and panel substrates.

You will need to show knowledge of the equipment used in these processes and be able to follow the correct industry recognised process for each task.

The tasks are designed to assess the knowledge and skills of technicians working towards, or at, a Level 3 vehicle refinishing vocational qualification as a minimum.

A period of familiarisation and training is scheduled (Wednesday) to allow you to become acquainted with the tools, materials, and equipment you will use during the competition and the tasks to be completed.

## Materials & Equipment

**You will be provided with the following equipment on the day:**

- All tools and equipment necessary to complete the tasks
- All relevant PPE (except as below)

**Please ensure that you bring the following with you:**

- Safety Boots
- Overalls (qualifiers only, uniforms will be provided for the finals)
- You may use your own spray guns and mask. However, these will be checked by the lead judge prior to the competition commencing.

**Competitors will not be permitted to use the following:**

- Mobile phones are to be switched off during competition

## Contact Details

IMI Skills Competitions team 01992 511521, [student@theimi.org.uk](mailto:student@theimi.org.uk)

For technical queries please contact Richard Hutchins, Competition Manager 07889630803  
[richardh@theimi.org.uk](mailto:richardh@theimi.org.uk)

For general enquires please contact the WorldSkills UK Contact Centre 0800 612 0742 opt.2,  
[Enquiries@WorldSkillsUK.org](mailto:Enquiries@WorldSkillsUK.org).

## Competition Rules

A completed registration is an indication that you have agreed to the following:

- a) **WorldSkills UK Competition Rules**
- b) **WorldSkills UK Terms and Conditions**

**Please ensure that you are familiar with these documents ahead of any competition activity.**

If a competitor has an issue or complaint on the day, it is advised that this be discussed with the competition organising partner, lead judge or WorldSkills UK representative.

If this is not possible the WorldSkills UK Complaints and Appeals procedure must be used.