GRADUATION AND PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY 2025-2026

IET LONDON: SAVOY PLACE

EXPORT.ORG.UK

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF EXPORT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

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*Please note the information contained in this programme was correct at the time of student registration

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WELCOME TO GRADUATION 2026

Welcome to this year's Graduation Ceremony. This is always one of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade's most significant annual events, highlighting the importance of education. This event recognises the Chartered Institute's ongoing commitment to the professionalisation of international trade and showcases the next generation of global trade leaders.

In 1935, the Chartered Institute was founded to be a solution to the existential economic crises and societal challenges the UK was facing, amid rising protectionism and rapid technological change. With the wheels of change turning again at great pace in 2026, we remain committed to our mission of empowering global trade, believing it to be the solution to the challenges the world faces now – whether that's educational exclusion, health inequalities, the changing climate or the rise of AI.

Your expertise has never been more important. Your ability to assess and verify data, and your understanding of what customs and trade processes mean within a wider business context, are assets that companies and economies need to grow.

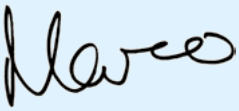
Organisations in both the public and private sectors are increasingly reliant on up-to-date, reliable expertise to be able to navigate and respond to what's becoming an era of significant change. As professionally qualified international trade experts, you have a fundamental role to play. Your qualifications show that you understand the detail of how global trade operates.

You are the latest cohort to successfully graduate and have proven that you are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to propel and achieve this mission. On a personal level, this is also the final graduation I will attend as director general of the Chartered Institute. These ceremonies have been a highlight each year because your achievements are proof of our mission being carried out, with your future successes set to be the fuel through which international trade drives economic growth, spreads prosperity and cultivates a more connected world.



We are delighted and proud to have played our small part in helping you onto the next stage of your professional career in international trade. As you develop and progress in your profession, the Chartered Institute remains committed to supporting you to become the global trade leaders of the new era.

We wish you all the very best of luck for your future.



Marco Forgione MCIEx
Director General

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Welcome Address

Welcome and opening remarks by **Marco Forgione MCIEx**, Director General of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

Keynote by **Baroness Neville-Rolfe**, President of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

Celebrating Achievements

Congratulatory remarks by **Mikeala Morgans SFHEA**, Head of Academic Services, Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

Apprenticeship Certificates

2025/26 Level 3 International Freight Forwarding Specialist (Air)

2025/26 Level 3 International Freight Forwarding Specialist (Road)

UK Customs Academy Certificates

2025/26 Customs Academy (Level 3) Certificate in Customs Compliance

2025/26 Customs Academy (Level 4) Certificate in Advanced Customs Compliance – Capstone Units

2025/26 Customs Academy (Level 4) Certificate in Advanced Customs Compliance

2025/26 Customs Academy (Level 5) Diploma in Advanced Customs Compliance

CIOE&IT Certificates

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Customs Practitioner Award

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Certificate in International Trade

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Customs Practitioner Award

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Customs Practitioner Award (Second Edition)

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Export Controls Award

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Diploma in International Trade

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Diploma in International Trade

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance & Regulations

Andrew Gee Innovation Award

Jolene Gee to present the 2026 Andrew Gee Innovation Award

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Mike Josypenko Award

Marco Forgione MCIEx, Director General of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade to announce the Mike Josypenko Award

Academic Address

Key insights by **Professor Sangeeta Khorana MCIEx**, Chair of the Academic Board of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

Top Marks in CIOE&IT Modules

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Fundamentals of International Business
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Introduction to International Trade Management
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 The Global Marketplace
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 International Logistics and Purchasing
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 International Marketing Strategy
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Management of International Trade
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Module 1 Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Module 3 Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations
2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Module 4 Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations

CIOE&IT Best Overall Qualification

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Diploma in International Trade Prize

Outstanding Achievement (Student) Award

Professor Sangeeta Khorana MCIEx to present Outstanding Achievement (Student) Award

IOE Foundation Certificates

Marcel Landau FCIEx (Grad), Vice Chair of the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade, Chairman of the IOE Foundation to present IOE Foundation Certificates

Ceremony Close

Closing words from **Marco Forgione MCIEx**, Director General, Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

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2025/26 APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATES

2025/26 Level 3 International Freight Forwarding Specialist Apprenticeship (Air Pathway)

Abigail Randall ..... Pink House Mustique Ltd
Roman Marshall ..... Certas Energy

2025/26 Level 3 International Freight Forwarding Specialist Apprenticeship (Ocean Pathway)

Marcus Holley ..... AM World UK Limited

2025/26 Level 3 International Freight Forwarding Specialist Apprenticeship (Road Pathway)

Joshua Yelverton ..... Woodland Group
Kate Hutchins ..... CTS (GB) Limited
Kelsey Mason ..... Russell Finex Ltd
Lawson Birch ..... ESO Logistics Limited
Reece Mander ..... ESO Logistics Limited
Robert Chown ..... Eisai Manufacturing Ltd

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2025/26 UK CUSTOMS ACADEMY CERTIFICATES

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 3) Certificate in Customs Compliance

Aiane Bernadette Lim ..... Thorlabs
Amardeep Vig ..... HAE Group
Debra Blair ..... NECC
Jennifer Scott ..... TWSlogistic
Robert OMerara ..... C.H. Robinson

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 3) Certificate in Customs Compliance 2.0

Adam Preston ..... HANNON Transport
Aleksander Socha .....
Andrew Henry ..... Abbott
Anna Kuczynska ..... Childrensalon
Antony Beer ..... Pickering Interfaces
Arbaaz Lahaware ..... Cummins
Arichana Ramanan .....
Aristida Moutinho ..... BDP
Ashley Roberts ..... W Saunders
Beata Ewa Szeliga ..... B&M stores
Beckie Scragg ..... Espace Global Freight
Ben Wheatcroft ..... Aldi
Bethan Hodkinson ..... NTEX
Brendan Ward ..... SHS Group
Camilo Altamar Londono ..... Kerry
Caroline Chapman ..... Advanced Supply Chain
Chloe Britton .....
Chun Wai Li .....
Courtney Scott ..... EORI
Craig Clarke ..... Co-ordSport
Cyrus Diaz ..... HUB E-COM
Dana Pearson ..... KranLee
David Dadashov .....
David Snape ..... Halfords
David Tyler ..... C.H. Robinson
Derek Bain ..... Hyster-Yale
Donato Fiorini Sabino ..... Verizon
Duncan Smith ..... DPDGROUP

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Emma Swindell ..... NTEX
Esther Archer ..... AVL
Gemma Jones ..... Customs Management
Gemma Martin ..... Encirc
Georgia Wallace ..... EORI
Georgina Greenaway ..... E.M.Rogers
Grace Brown ..... Denholm Logistics
Graeme Nichols ..... HANNON Transport
Harrison Stephens ..... DPDGROUP
Hayley Hill ..... Jungheinrich
Iryna Paratsii .....
Jacob Johnson ..... BDJ VAT Consultancy
Jade de Rooij ..... Safran
Jakub Garbacik ..... Decathlon
James Watts ..... Anglia Components Plc
Jamie Davies .....
Jana Foltyn ..... DPDGROUP
Jay Smith ..... States of Guernsey
Jodie Fallaize ..... GCIS
Jordan Ingram ..... Pineapple Contracts
Juan Pablo Rios Montoya .....
Karolina Drazkowicz ..... Equip UK
Kathleen Worwood ..... Aston Martin
Keeley Harding ..... Aldi
Keith Needham ..... Church & Dwight Co
Kelly Howell ..... NTEX
Kerry Cossins ..... Saint-Gobain
Kornelija Kucinskyte ..... Cummins
Lauren Burgess ..... Jungheinrich
Manuel Castillo Amate ..... Yahoo! en Español
Maowia Mirghani ..... Expo Technologies
Marika Fogt ..... Safram
Mark Miller ..... Amazon Filters
Michelle Bishop ..... NORDAM
Michelle Espin ..... DHL
Michelle Frisby ..... Givaudan
Miruna Partal .....
Mitchell Cartain-Law ..... FBC UK
Monika Kowalow ..... Fresh Clear Customs
Natalie Goode ..... Aldi
Nathan King .....
Navir Rustomfram Shukla ..... Encirc
Nicola Spooner ..... Pricecheck
Nicole Parker ..... Dr Oetker
Nikita McDermott .....
Nina Russell ..... Industrial Inkjet Ltd
Parul Limbu ..... This Works
Patrycja Busko .....

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Philippe Mousset ..... RS Group
Piotr Jarosz ..... Ligentia: Global
Piotr Piszcz .....
Poppy Hulatt ..... OneSubsea - SLB
Rachael Cresswell ..... GuS Periscopes
Rachel Anthoney ..... Equip UK
Rachel Greaves ..... KRANLEE
Rebecca Griffiths ..... AVL Home
Rebecca Nicol ..... Importo
Remigiusz Nasadowski ..... Yahoo
Ricky Wan .....
Romas Paltanavicius ..... Novada Cement
Rosie Smyth .....
Samantha Mason ..... Aldi
Sandra Wielgat ..... Dowty Propeller
Sen Bilal ..... EasyJet
Sian Louise Weston ..... Nissan Motor Manufacturing UK
Suzanne Commons ..... Equip UK
Swaroop Suthar ..... Alinea Customs
Tea Kelly ..... PSA BDP
Will McStravick ..... Brush.eu
Winnie Yang ..... HUB E-Com
Zia Hassani ..... NTEX

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 3) Certificate in Customs Compliance EU

Andrea Romano ..... Amazon
Anton Shishkin ..... Amazon
Fairus Jasmin ..... DHL
Harriet Ferris Lights4fun
Linda Shevlin CLCI
Michael Feeley ..... Arran Chemical Company Limited
Oxana Korkunova ..... Maersk
Rufat Mammadov ..... Johnson & Johnson
Zsanett Hordo ..... Yahoo

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 4) Certificate in Customs Compliance – Capstone Units

Agnieszka Price ..... DPDGROUP
Allannah McDonald ..... Caterpillar (NI) Limited
Arin Spencer ..... REHAU
Ben Stagg ..... IKEA Distribution Services LTD
Bethany Young ..... Pricecheck
Camilo Altamar Londono ..... Kerry Group
Dawn Munro ..... Ralph Lauren Corporation
Elizabeth Pascoe ..... tarifftel
Grigory Pustoshkin ..... TJX Europe

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Indra Delume	
Jack Ingram	Dräger
Jackie Van Der Berg	Aldi
Jacob Walsh	Edge Worldwide Logistics
Jaime Gomez	URBN
Jenna Leesam	B&M stores
Jianing Liu	Cambridge University
Joe Mitchell	Sekisui Diagnostics
Katarzyna Szypula	CLdN
Kelly McLeod	Dowty
Kiera Cazley	Aldi
Laura Brown	
Laura Plumite	Den Hartogh
Lawrence Kumbani	Haas F1 Team
Manpreet Thind	iEquinox Ltd
Nicole Burt	NTEX
Nigel Sanders	RS Group
Oliver Martin	Merck Group
Rachel Evans	Boehringer Ingelheim
Rafael Donadon	Ligentia International Ltd
Rebecca Stalker	UTEC
Sarah Shersby	Church & Dwight
Scott Marshall	Aker Solutions
Sean Mitchell	Courier Express
Sylwia Gasior	Warrant Group Ltd
Tom Fletcher	Mobius
Victoria Cozens	REHAU UK
Wendy Jones	QuidelOrtho

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 4) Certificate in Customs Compliance – Capstone Units 2.0

Ben Wheatcroft	Aldi
Craig Clarke	Co-ordSport
Ricky Wan	

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 4) Certificate in Advanced Customs Compliance

Adam Lockhart	MAERSK
Adam Turner	Cory Brothers
Ahmed Asry	Yahoo
Amy Thompson	CEVA Logistics
Brett Saralli	MBDA
Charlene Mohamed	MAERSK
Cigin Chacko	C.H. Robinson
David Quintero	URBN
Dorian Vilcu	Senceive
Eduardo Alvarez	Denholm Logistics

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Ellie Fitch ..... Cory Brothers
Fahima Zahoor ..... MAERSK
Gary Mackie ..... Wincanton
Glenville Gogerly ..... Phinia
Graham Battersby ..... MBDA
Guilherme Policarpo de Oliveira ..... Mainfreight
Hayley Peebles ..... CEVA Logistics
Joan Dubayle .....
Joanna Matuszak ..... CEVA Logistics
Joanna Nagrodzka ..... CLdN
Karen Howland ..... MBDA
Kathleen Smits Toner .....
Lipi Begum ..... CEVA Logistics
Madison Black ..... Amazon
Mandy Cowell ..... MBDA
Mohammed Ibrahim ..... MAERSK
Nicolly Ferreira ..... MAERSK
Phillip Lavis ..... Kerry Group
Radoslaw Fularski ..... J O Sims Ltd
Richard Foster ..... Zenith International Freight Ltd
Roger Elias ..... MBDA
Shaun Meen ..... Hi-Rel Lids
Tatiana Abramova ..... Johnson Matthey
Thomas Alister-Hooke ..... Lidl

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 5) Certificate National & Regional Perspective

Daniel Balshaw .....

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 5) Certificate National & Regional Perspective

Adam Lockhart .....
Aleksandra Gralak ..... RH Amar
Alex Jehan ..... CEVA Logistics
Anna Radzikowska ..... Bosch UK
Chris Woollard ..... CEVA Logistics
Gareth Brown .....
Gareth Eason ..... Equip UK
Jennifer Dawn Percival ..... Norbar
Lee Canham ..... MAERSK
Linda Cantemir ..... CEVA Logistics
Louise Ah-Sien ..... Hytera
Lukasz Kowalik ..... DRÄXLMAIER Group
Maria Lala ..... DPDGROUP
Michal Pechcinski ..... GAC Services (UK) Limited
Mona Ashouri ..... HellermannTyton
Pauline Fahd .....

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Petrica Mihai Platon ..... Reckitt Benckiser Corporate Services Ltd
Raj Devsi ..... Wincanton Ltd
Ran Clay ..... ASOS
Soheila Tadayyoni ..... Bosch UK

2025/26 UK Customs Academy (Level 5) Diploma in Advanced Customs Compliance

Anna Radzikowska ..... Bosch UK
Jennifer Dawn Percival ..... Norbar
Paraskevi Karasavvaidou ..... MAERSK
Petrica Platon ..... Customs-compliance
Simon Webb ..... Aldi Stores Ltd
Soheila Tadayyoni ..... Bosch UK

2025/26 CIOE&IT CERTIFICATES

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Customs Practitioner Award

Aidan Jones ..... Holchem Laboratories Ltd
Athinais Patrona ..... Dechra Pharmaceuticals
Emily Page ..... Kliklok International
Eve Dawson ..... Collins Aerospace
Nicholas Haigh ..... Logicall UK Ltd
Patrycja Głąb ..... Monster Energy
Peter Horne ..... The Chartered Institute of Export and International Trade
Zoe Anne Plumb ..... Rheinmetal

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Certificate in International Trade

Archie Harries ..... British International School İstanbul
Debbie Conroy ..... Brave New Spirits Ltd
Francesca Hackett ..... Coburn Sliding Systems Ltd
Gee Simmons ..... Vohkus Ltd
Katharina Voll ..... LKAB Minerlas Ltd
Richard Taylor ..... Natilik Ltd
Scott Hewitt ..... John Hogg Technical Solutions Ltd

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Export Controls Award

Kate Woodcock ..... Custom Power
Samantha Gray ..... Trelleborg Sealing Solutions UK Ltd
Shareen Chambers ..... Pennant International Ltd

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2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Customs Practitioner Award

Aaron Dowling ..... Westcotts Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers
Andrei Buhrou ..... Deloitte
Caolan Lyons ..... Musgrave NI
Callum Smith ..... Sinclair International Limited
Charlotte Tweed ..... DSV Road Ltd
Christopher Jeanes ..... Javelin Global Commodities
Heather Adams ..... Deloitte
John Counihan ..... InterTradeIreland
Julie Meddows ..... Intralox Ltd
Kellie Thorne ..... Eurocaps Ltd
Kirsty Wilkins ..... Univar Solutions
Laura Morgan ..... DSV Road LTD
Matthew Kemp ..... DSV Road Ltd
Nicola Holmes ..... Avon Polymer Products Limited
Sean Walsh ..... Co-op food
Spencer Santry ..... Casulo International
Uwais Zaman ..... Deloitte
Verona Farrell ..... William Grant & Sons Ltd

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Customs Practitioner Award-2nd Edition

Alexandra Smith ..... New Balance Athletic Shoes UK Ltd
Anna Nagiet ..... ABP Beef
Dawn Campbell ..... Wrekin Products Ltd
Joseph Vandenburg ..... Caravansons
Ryan Lamb ..... Pickering Interfaces Ltd
Sukhbir Binning ..... Pinsent Masons LLP

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Diploma in International Trade

Aimee Lowry ..... Crown Laboratories
Andrew Dickson ..... Scottish Enterprise
Charles Dutfield ..... Beyond the Bean
Charlotte Wynne ..... Department for Business and Trade Birmingham
Eileen Lum ..... Shell Singapore
Fergus Burt ..... Scottish Development International
Jack Andrews ..... Cambridge University Press and Assessment
Kelly Fitzpatrick ..... Fitzpatrick Exports (UK) Ltd
Lauren Yeoman ..... Safehinge Primera
Samuel Carver ..... REIDsteel
Sara Medina ..... Scottish Development International

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2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Export Controls Award

Gaurav Kumar ..... HighPoint Solutions Ltd
Niall Gartside ..... Atomic Weapons Establishment
Ryan Blakemore ..... Vantage Data Centres UK Management Company
Sheldon Lloyd ..... Amphenol Limited

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Diploma in International Trade

Dedia Siewe .....
Jakub Kopinski ..... Royal Bank of Scotland
Jasmina Ademi ..... Kelvin Hughes Ltd
Penny King ..... Verlarde Consultancy Ltd
Stefan Golunski ..... Lockheed Martin UK

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance & Regulations

Amy Chesworth ..... Marken - UPS
Arek Jedrzejewski ..... TCC Global
Bonnie Knight ..... Specsavers
Brunilda Nolan ..... Shell Upstream Albania
Camilla Croker ..... Charlotte Tilbury
Catherine Greenough ..... Princes Group
Daniel Barrowclough ..... HMRC
Donika Bancheva ..... Thales UK Ltd
Eduard Zlydennyy ..... Alexion Pharma International Operations LTd
Emily Ramsden ..... Phil Brigstock Customs and CBAM
Iwona Krystyan ..... Greencoat Ltd
Karen Key ..... Band-It UK Ltd
Kerry Boyd ..... Survitec Group Limited
Mohammed Absar ..... Thermo Fisher Scientific
Monika Gorska ..... Clarksons Port Services Ltd
Nicholas Davies ..... CGI IT UK Ltd
Spyridoula Lazari ..... Royal Mail Group

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ANDREW GEE INNOVATION AWARD



In May 2026, we lost Andrew Gee, our much-loved head of project management and valued colleague.

Andrew joined the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade as a project manager in 2022, before being appointed as head of project management in October 2025. He was a highly valued member of our team, known for his dedication, professionalism and generosity towards others.

He consistently demonstrated innovation and professionalism in his work, and was deeply committed to supporting and developing the people around him. Andrew is greatly missed, both as a colleague and as a friend.

In Andrew's memory, we have established the Andrew Gee Innovation Award. It will be presented each year at our Graduation Ceremony to a student completing the Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulation, recognising the work-based project that showed the greatest creativity, innovation and practical application.

The award celebrates excellence in customs education. It aims to strengthen the profession by encouraging new talent, fresh thinking and continuous professional development, reflecting the Chartered Institute's, and Andrew's, commitment to excellence, inclusion and lifelong learning.

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MIKE JOSYPENKO AWARD

We were deeply saddened that Mike Josypenko MCIEx, our much-loved senior director of special projects, passed away in October 2018.

Mike had been with the Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade since 2014. He was, however, associated with international trade for a great deal longer, touching many people's lives and helping numerous would-be exporters.

His can-do attitude and easy-to-understand approach to learning brought him friends and admirers from around the globe – not least because his knowledge of world trade was second to none.

Mike's contribution to the Chartered Institute and to global trade will be remembered for a long time, and at a more personal level, he will also be remembered fondly as a wonderful friend and colleague.



In Mike's memory, we are delighted to have established the Mike Josypenko Award, which is held in perpetuity and awarded each year to the student achieving the highest mark in the International Physical Distribution module of the Level 4 Diploma in International Trade. This was one of the modules for which Mike tutored students.

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2025/26 TOP MARKS IN CIOE&IT MODULES

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 3 Certificate in International Trade Prizes

The Top Mark in Module prize for Fundamentals of International Business in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Victoria Hooton**

The Top Mark in Module prize for Introduction to International Trade Management in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Gee Simmons**

The Top Mark in Module prize for The Global Marketplace in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Gee Simmons**

The Top Mark in Module prize for International Transport and Documentation in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Richard Taylor**

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 4 Diploma in International Trade Prizes

The Top Mark in Module prize for Finance of International Trade in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Stephanie Strode**

The Top Mark in Module prize for The Business Environment in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Tanya Iqbal**

The Top Mark in Module prize for International Marketing in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Tanya Iqbal**

The Top Mark in Module prize for International Physical Distribution in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Eileen Lum AMCIEx**

2025/26 CIOE&IT Level 5 in World Customs Compliance and Regulations Prize

The Top Mark in Module 1 prize for World Customs Compliance in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Graeme Sim**

The Top Mark in Module 2 prize for EU Customs Compliance in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Brunilda Nolan MCIEx**

The Top Mark in Module 3 prize for UK Customs Compliance in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Arek Jedrzejewski MCIEx**

The Top Mark in Module 4 prize for Project in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Monika Gorska MCIEx**

The Top Mark in Module prize for International Logistics and Purchasing in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Joseph Maycock**

The Top Mark in Module prize for International Marketing Strategy in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Susan McColl**

The Top Mark in Module prize for Management of International Trade in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Jakub Kopinski**

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2025/26 BEST OVERALL QUALIFICATION

Level 3 Certificate in International Trade

The prize for Best Overall Mark Level 3 Certificate in International Trade in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Katharina Voll**

Level 4 Diploma in International Trade

The prize for Best Overall Mark Level 4 Diploma in International Trade in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Eileen Lum AMCIEx**

Level 5 Diploma in International Trade

The prize for Best Overall Mark Level 5 Diploma in International Trade in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Jakub Kopinski**

Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations

The prize for Best Overall Mark Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations in 2025/2026 is awarded to **Emily Ramsden**

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5DIT (Best Overall Qualification) and L5MIT (Top Mark in Module)

Jakub Kopinski – Royal Bank of Scotland

Jakub Kopinski is a trade finance sales manager at Royal Bank of Scotland with over 13 years of experience in trade finance, corporate banking and client relationship management.

He launched his career at mBank S.A. in Poland, where he progressed to head of trade finance sales and led a team of 12 relationship managers.

In 2024, he relocated to the UK, where he successfully built a new trade finance customer base across Western Scotland.

Jakub chose the Level 5 Diploma in International Trade to gain a recognised qualification that validates his expertise for both the UK and international markets.

Having already developed a strong understanding of international trade from the banking sector, the qualification has given him a deeper insight into the challenges businesses face throughout their international trade journey.

This has enabled Jakub to provide more relevant, practical advice and support to his customers.

Jakub was also awarded the Rising Talent in Trade Award at the Chartered Institute's Import Export Show 2025 and hopes his experience will inspire future students to invest in their professional development.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L3FIB (Top Mark in Module)

Victoria Hooton – Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce

Victoria chose the Fundamentals of International Business qualification to expand her knowledge, develop new skills and support her future career progression at the Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber is a membership organisation that supports local businesses with anything from networking and exhibitions to assisting with compliance when exporting goods.

Victoria's studies were supported by the chamber, who are committed to investing in its people and identified that no one within the organisation held this international trade qualification. Victoria's training therefore presented an opportunity to address an important skills gap.

The knowledge gained from the qualification has enabled Victoria to offer more informed and diverse support to chamber members and businesses involved with international trade.

The outcome of undertaking the qualification has been very positive both professionally and personally. It has strengthened Victoria's confidence carrying out her role as international trade manager and has provided the knowledge to deliver more informed and practical support to chamber members involved in international trade.

Returning to education after approximately 25 years was daunting, but Victoria was determined to challenge herself.

Achieving the top mark in the module and receiving this award was incredibly rewarding on a personal level and Victoria hopes that her experience inspires other mature students, proving that it is never too late to learn, grow and invest in your future.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L3IITM and L3TGM (Top Mark in Module)

Gee Simmons – Vohkus Limited

Gee is responsible for coordinating international shipments, managing export documentation, ensuring compliance with export regulations and supporting customers with their overseas requirements.

The role works closely with internal departments, customers and logistics partners to ensure the efficient and compliant movement of goods across international markets.

Vohkus Limited, which is part of the SCC Group, is a value-added IT reseller serving customers globally.

Gee's role supports Vohkus' international operations by facilitating exports, maintaining compliance with trade requirements and ensuring a high standard of customer service for overseas customers.

Gee chose the Level 3 Certificate in International Business and Trade to advance their knowledge of global trade and enhance the value they bring to their role.

This internationally recognised qualification has strengthened Gee's practical experience and will support their professional growth and future career aspirations.

Gee has found that the qualification increased their confidence and expertise in international trade, enabling Gee to contribute more effectively in their role.

The qualification also supports the company's commitment to maintaining a knowledgeable team that can navigate the complexities of global trade with confidence.

The experience has significantly enhanced Gee's knowledge of international trade and export compliance and they are proud to have achieved top grades in two modules.

Additionally, achieving an overall Distinction made the experience even more rewarding and Gee recommends the qualification to anyone seeking to build a successful career in international trade.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5DWCCR1 (Top Mark in Module)

Graeme Sim – Ministry of Defence

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is responsible for safeguarding the UK's defence and security by overseeing the armed forces, ensuring they are trained, equipped and supported to respond to threats and contribute to international peace.

In the role of customs & duty policy and assurance lead, Graeme acts as the subject matter expert within the MOD and cross-government Tax Centre of Excellence, providing specialist guidance on complex customs and duty issues.

Graeme works with stakeholders across the MOD, government departments and the defence industry to develop and implement effective tax strategies for defence operations.

By maintaining up-to-date policies, procedures and training programmes, they ensure armed forces personnel have the knowledge and skills to manage international customs requirements.

Given the complexity of defence activities, ensuring customs compliance is critical to prevent supply chain disruptions, avoid operational delays and maintain agility across all missions.

Graeme chose the Level 5 qualification because it aligns with their career aspirations and felt that obtaining the qualification would solidify their knowledge and experience for the future.

They hope that this qualification will highlight the specific skills and knowledge that they bring to the MOD.

Graeme has found that it has already encouraged some peers to enrol in future Chartered Institute courses, which will only benefit the MOD.

The qualification has given Graeme the knowledge and confidence to drive further improvement in customs compliance within the MOD, across government and defence industry.

Receiving an award for the world customs assignment was a pleasant surprise; Graeme credits the expertise of the course tutor and the high-quality training materials provided by the Chartered Institute in helping to achieve this.

Both played a crucial role in reinforcing existing knowledge while also expanding Graeme's understanding of world customs.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5DWCCR3 (Top Mark in Module)

Arek Jedrzejewski MCIEx – TCC Global

Arek works as European warehousing and global customs manager with TCC, which is a world leader in providing tailor-made loyalty marketing campaigns for the retail and petrol industries.

They chose to pursue the Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance & Regulations because they recognised the increasing importance of regulatory knowledge and compliance expertise.

International trade environments are constantly evolving, shaped by new legislation and shifting economic landscapes.

To remain at the forefront, both personally and professionally, Arek felt they needed to deepen their expertise and ensure that they could navigate these changes with confidence and precision.

Arek's primary aim was to elevate both their capabilities as well as TCC's and this qualification represented an opportunity to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

On a personal level, Arek was eager to gain a comprehensive understanding of global customs regulations.

They aspired to become a trusted advisor that colleagues consult for guidance on complex customs and compliance matters.

Completing the course has been a transformative experience. Arek gained practical knowledge that immediately applied to their day-to-day role – streamlining customs documentation, identifying and mitigating compliance risks and ensuring that TCC's operations meet the latest international standards.

Pursuing the Chartered Institute's qualification has been one of the most rewarding decisions in Arek's professional journey.

The depth and breadth of learning went far beyond their expectations, offering not just textbook knowledge but practical skills that they use every day.

The support from tutors, the wealth of resources and the network of fellow professionals all contributed to an environment that encourages excellence and ambition.

Arek says to anyone considering this qualification: take the step. If you are looking to advance your career, this course will equip you with the tools and confidence to make a real impact in your company and in the wider world of international trade.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5DWCCR4 (Top Mark in Module)

Monika Gorska MCIEx – Clarksons Port Services Ltd

Monika is the head of customs compliance at Clarksons Port Services Ltd, a customs agency based in Belfast. In this role, Monika is responsible for ensuring compliance with customs legislation and regulations as well as acting as a key point of contact with HMRC.

Clarksons Port Services Ltd is a leading provider of marine consultancy, energy, shipping and customs clearance services. With more than 50 years of experience, the company is committed to supporting port and marine operations and providing high-quality services to its clients.

Monika chose to undertake the Level 5 Customs Compliance & Regulations qualification with the Chartered Institute because it is a highly respected and prestigious professional organisation in the UK.

They wanted to further develop their knowledge and obtain a recognised qualification that would strengthen their professional expertise in customs compliance. The qualification contributes to increasing Clarksons Port Services' competitiveness within the customs industry.

There is a limited number of highly qualified customs professionals with specialist knowledge in this area, particularly in Northern Ireland. Having professionally qualified customs specialists within the business strengthens its ability to provide accurate, reliable and compliant services to clients. For Monika, the qualification represented an important opportunity for professional development and opens up broader career opportunities within the customs and international trade sector.

It has also given Monika greater confidence in dealing with complex customs matters and making informed decisions in their day-to-day role. The knowledge and skills gained are directly applicable to Monika's daily work. They have enabled Monika to identify potential compliance risks, provide appropriate guidance to colleagues and clients and ensure that customs procedures are managed correctly.

Ultimately, their increased knowledge and expertise help to protect both the company and clients from customs compliance risks, financial exposure and potential penalties.

The qualification has already had a direct and positive impact on Monika's professional role, strengthening their knowledge of customs legislation and compliance requirements.

Monika now feels more confident when dealing with complex customs matters and assessing potential risks before applying the knowledge gained to real-life situations and providing practical solutions. It has enabled Monika to support colleagues and clients with accurate customs guidance and helped identify areas where customs processes can be improved.

This reduces the risk of errors, financial exposure and potential penalties for the company and clients, which contributes to a stronger customs compliance culture within the business.

Overall, the qualification has strengthened Monika's professional capabilities and increased the value they bring to the organisation.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5ILAP (Top Mark in Module)

Joseph Maycock – Ahrend UK Limited

Joe Maycock is logistics director at Ahrend UK Limited, a position he has held for nine years.

Royal Ahrend is an international workplace solutions business with almost 130 years of experience, designing and delivering sustainable working environments across office, healthcare, education and other sectors.

In this role, Joe is responsible for the strategic management of logistics and supply chain operations, as well as the delivery products and services to customers.

Joe chose the Level 5 Diploma in International Trade to strengthen his existing practical experience and broaden his understanding of the strategic, commercial and regulatory aspects of international trade.

The course has already provided Joe with the opportunity to develop his knowledge of international logistics, purchasing, marketing, finance, customs and global trading.

The opportunity to combine his practical experience with a recognised international trade qualification will allow Joe to challenge existing processes, broaden his understanding and bring new ideas and solutions back into the business.

Through this, the business aims to strengthen our international trading capability and identify opportunities to make supply chains more efficient and commercially effective.

Joe feels that the qualification will give both customers and colleagues assurance that he provides them with a high level of expertise.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5IMS (Top Mark in Module)

Susan McColl – Scottish Enterprise

Susan is a senior international trade specialist within the global energy transition team at Scottish Development International, the international arm of Scottish Enterprise.

She supports Scottish companies to identify and develop international market opportunities within the energy transition sector, helping them understand the market requirements and develop export strategies to support their international growth ambitions, which generates international sales and creates new jobs in Scotland.

Susan chose the qualification to strengthen their knowledge of international trade and to provide the highest level of support and advice to Scottish companies looking to export and grow internationally.

As global markets become increasingly complex, Susan wanted to develop a deeper understanding of trade while gaining a recognised professional qualification that would provide her with more confidence when supporting clients to trade internationally.

With this qualification, Susan aims to bring new skills, knowledge and expertise back into Scottish Development International, contributing to the ambitious targets the Scottish Government has set the organisation to increase export sales.

Susan feels the qualification has significantly enhanced her understanding of international trade and global market dynamics while providing practical knowledge that can be directly applied to the role.

As a late-in-life student, Susan was initially apprehensive about undertaking this qualification, however, she felt very supported both by colleagues and the course lecturers.

The qualification is challenging but highly rewarding, and the practical application of the knowledge has immediately been valuable.

Susan advises potential students to take opportunities where employers will support professional qualifications that can enhance your job.

While balancing study with work commitments can be demanding, the knowledge, confidence and professional recognition gained through the qualification make it well worth the effort.

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PRIZE WINNER BIOGRAPHIES

GRADUATION 2026 PRIZE WINNER

L5IMT (Top Mark in Module)

Amy Chesworth MCIEx – Marken (a UPS Healthcare subsidiary)

Amy Chesworth has worked in the logistics and supply chain industry for over 12 years and is currently based in the regulatory compliance team at Marken, a UPS Healthcare company specialising in logistics solutions for the life sciences sector.

Amy's role involves supporting regulatory and customs requirements for pharmaceutical imports and exports, customs classification, broker oversight and wider global trade compliance activities.

Amy chose the Level 5 Diploma in World Customs Compliance & Regulations to build on the practical experience already gained throughout their career.

Having spent many years working with customs and trade requirements, Amy wanted to develop a deeper understanding of the legislation and regulatory framework that sits behind them.

Amy also felt the diploma was a fresh challenge to continue developing professionally.

The qualification has already helped broaden Amy's knowledge and provided a greater understanding of customs compliance beyond the day-to-day operational aspects of the role.

It has enabled Amy to contribute more confidently to training materials, guidance documents and policy discussions as well as broker oversight activities and regulatory projects across the business.

One of the biggest benefits has been to combine the experience built over the years with a more detailed understanding of customs legislation and compliance principles.

This has helped Amy add greater value within their role, support colleagues across the business as well as contribute to strengthening customs governance and compliance processes.

Amy encourages anyone working within logistics, customs or international trade to continue investing in their professional development.

Formal qualifications provide an opportunity to build on existing experience, develop new skills, and gain a broader understanding of the industry, all of which can open new opportunities for future career progression.

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