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Harris' hard work pays off

Four years of hard work and study have paid off for one lucky Fife apprentice.

Harris Davidson from Dunfermline has just been offered and accepted a full-time job as a Shift Process Technician with Fife Ethylene Plant, after completing his Modern Apprenticeship with ExxonMobil at the Mossmorran site.

And the 21-year-old former Queen Anne High School pupil says he is delighted with the way things have worked out.

"It's the job I have always wanted with the company I always wanted to work for, in the place I have always wanted to work, so I couldn't be any happier," he said.

Harris studied as an Apprentice Machinery Technician for a year full-time at Forth Valley College, followed by two years day-release at college, with the rest of the week spent on site, then a final year full-time on-site at FEP putting the skills and knowledge learnt in the classroom into practice.

"When I heard I had been offered a full time post I was absolutely over the moon. I start on August 1st and I really can't wait," he said.

"Although my apprenticeship was in Mechanical, I am going to be working as a Process Tech – on the other side of the fence, so to speak. The mechanical techs carry out repairs and maintenance then hand it over to the process guys who run the plant 24/7.

"There is a strong link between the two and I will be able to use all the skills I have learned in my new post."

And the keen guitarist and rugby player can't wait to get started.

"I'm looking forward to getting in and getting my hands on my own bit of the plant, expanding my skillset and continuing to learn and develop.

"I have always wanted to learn more, and on a plant like this there is always plenty more to learn. The more you know, the more valuable you are to the company, and it's always a good feeling when you do well and get recognised and appreciated for your work.

"It's a lot more responsibility, but I'm keen to show what I can do and move onwards and upwards.

"With a company like ExxonMobil the sky's the limit on where you can go and what you can achieve."

Harris will undergo basic operator training before going on to learn more job specific information and being assigned to his own section of the plant to work.

"It's like learning to drive a car – you do all the theory and learn the basic manoeuvres, but it's when you are actually out driving on the roads that you really start to learn, and I have had, and will continue to have a lot of experienced workers to help me along the way," he added.