

Inaugural KMF Young Engineer of the Year Award

The inaugural KMF Young Engineer of the Year Award saw more than 1,000 secondary school children from Stoke-on-Trent inspired to view manufacturing in a new light.

The challenge sent out to local school children was to design a clock. KMF (01782 569 060) would supply the mechanism and provide some classroom support, but the concept had to be the children's own work. The response was overwhelming.

"At one stage, I could barely get into my office, due to the number of mechanisms," says KMF managing director Gareth Higgins. "We had 18 schools take up the project, with over 1,700 mechanisms being distributed."

Those 1,700 entries were whittled down to a shortlist of 100 and then to the 14 finalists, who,



along with parents, teachers and a wide range of customers and suppliers to KMF, attended the prize-giving ceremony at Stoke City's Britannia Stadium. Awards were presented by the Gadget Show's Jason Bradbury, with 10 runners-up each receiving an iPod, and the two winners receiving an iPad and other prizes from the TV presenter.

Ben Walker of Ormiston Horizon Academy was the winner in the under-14 category, with Cameron Forrest (pictured with Jason Bradbury) of Madeley High School the winner in the under-16 category.

Finalists' designs will be available in a local shop. More at www.machinery.co.uk/49112