

ANCON BUILDING PRODUCTS	
Business sector	Construction
Number of employees	350
Type of engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee volunteering • Hosting student visit to workplace • Development and supervision of language activities
Purpose of employer engagement	To demonstrate to students the relevance of language learning in the construction industry and to inspire them to continue with their language studies.
Engagement activities	<p>Workplace visit: GCSE students from Minsthorpe Community College visit Ancon to see how modern languages are used in a busy commercial environment. Visits aim to encourage the students to understand the benefits of learning languages and to make them aware of the range of exciting and rewarding careers languages opens up for them.</p> <p>Language activities: Students complete various activities while on site. Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reading and interpreting French business correspondence from a product enquiry through to a sales invoice • conversing in French with UK employees from the sales and marketing departments, who use language skills in their everyday work duties.
Employer history	<p>Ancon Building Products designs and manufactures high-integrity steel products for the construction industry, supplying customers worldwide in a variety of sectors from small-scale residential developments to major infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Ancon employs 350 people at three sites in the UK and in nine overseas offices located in mainland Europe, the Middle East and Australia, making it well placed to demonstrate the value of language in the workplace. Hervé Poveda, manager of Ancon's UK-based Products for Structural Concrete sales</p>

	division, said, “In the business world, language barriers can limit sales growth. It is essential that Ancon is able to communicate...with its colleagues and customers overseas; the foreign language skills of our staff are invaluable.”
Find out more	CILT, The National Centre for Languages Ancon Building Products RLN Yorkshire & Humber Routes into Languages