Education Providers Update
November 2026

Numbers attending IMS courses during 2026 remain broadly consistent with 2025 across all modules, with delegates primarily from the retail, distribution/logistics and manufacturing sectors.

Demand for the Measurement Practitioner qualification continues to exceed progression to the full Productivity Analyst qualification. We believe this reflects the profile of delegates, who typically come from organisations already engaged in method, process and continuous improvement activities and are seeking to strengthen their work measurement capabilities.

This trend is also reflected in some organisations seeking shorter courses or choosing to only attend Module 1, rather than pursuing the Measurement Practitioner qualification.

While we would welcome more delegates progressing to the Productivity Analyst qualification, and have capacity to do so, it is the 'unique elements' of understanding how to create time standards and the work measurement techniques which attract organisations to the IMS Measurement Practitioner qualification.

Whilst Work Study/Industrial Engineering as a profession has declined in the UK over the years, the need for accurate time standards has not and the techniques to create them are being sought to merge into roles such as manufacturing engineers, process engineer, continuous improvement, lean associates etc.

The IMS may consider how it could 'capitalise' to increase membership by more actively promoting itself to these occupations and relevant professional bodies.

Looking into 2027, we already have provisional bookings which equate to 12% of this year's Mod1 quantity, 23% of Mod2a, 20% of Mod3 and 23% of Mod4, so positive

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