

UK IT Challenge Video Transcript

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Roy O'Shaughnessy, CEO Shaw Trust, "The UK IT Challenge's purpose is to find young people that have a disability, that are uniquely skilled or have a particular brilliance in technology that hasn't yet been discovered."

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses BT, "Innovation is key to make those changes to take us forward into the future and what's really important is that it has to be an inclusive future where everyone is part of it."

Aaron Phipps, Paralympian/ Adventurer, "Life as a disabled person sometimes can be tough and can be difficult. You don't know what route you're going to take."

Roy O'Shaughnessy, CEO Shaw Trust, "Shaw Trust is a national charity. Our aim is to assist 1 million people a year by 2022. We are across almost every sector, we have social enterprises, we have lots and lots of volunteers, we believe that people with a disability should have every opportunity to succeed in life and currently in the UK people with a disability ever three times less chance of achieving sustainable employment no matter how qualified they are."

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses, BT, "I run BT's innovation hot houses here at Adastral Park, our research centre. Technology is changing, jobs are changing but we want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to take part in those new careers going forward."

Roy O'Shaughnessy, CEO Shaw Trust, "What we're trying to do is to work with youth not only in the UK but around the world to use the IT technology in the emerging technologies to create their own futures."

Aaron Phipps, Paralympian/ Adventurer, "I've had numerous people come up to me and say that they've done things here they've never thought they would be able to do and now they're considering a career in technology in the future which was phenomenal to here."

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses, BT, "BT, has always believe in using communication that make a better world and we're delighted to work with the Shaw Trust on this project."

Aaron Phipps, Paralympian/ Adventurer . “In my experience life is always just about taking opportunities and making positive choices and what we have just created is a room full of role models now who are going to go away, go back into our education establishments, they are going to speak to their peers and tell them what they've just achieved and I think that's just going to spread and it's going to become so incredibly important. We're just breaking down those barriers to just show that a young person whether disabled or not it's just capable of doing anything if they put their minds to it.”

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses, BT, “ And we are really looking forward to see what technology ideas the students come up with, where they go and hopefully whether they enter employment, and I really hope some of them come and work for BT in the future.”

Aaron Phipps, Paralympian/ Adventurer, “We live in a world that is so much more inclusive than it ever has been. I would have loved to have attended an event like this when I first became ill but I didn't have opportunities like this. It's nice to be at the end of that journey and be able to share some of my experience with the young people who are just starting out on their journey or perhaps their career and where they may end up.”

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses, BT, “Well, it's important that everyone realizes they've got a future in all those new jobs that are being created now and going forward.

Aaron Phipps, Paralympian/ Adventurer, “ I was chatting to one of the executives before the event and he said I'm in charge of a recruitment in my organization and I would have recruited all the young people who were in the room yesterday so that just proves how important an important event like this is and those young people may not realize it but they are making those really valuable life skills that they can take forward to use into the future.”

Roy O'Shaughnessy, CEO Shaw Trust, “Our aspiration is not only to be able to make a huge difference in the UK to those who have barriers to employment and to a life that we are all entitled to, but our hope is to do that across the globe with partners who are like minded.”

Adam Oliver, Head of Hothouses, BT, “Technologies make a difference but importantly everyone can make a difference to that technology”

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