

## **Growth of Digital Talent**

Capgemini and Aston University partnership on delivering degree-level apprentice education

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### **Executive Summary**

Capgemini UK, a global leader in consulting, technology services and digital transformation, and Aston University, a professionally-focused University with an international reputation situated in the city of Birmingham, UK, have cooperated to design and deliver a degree level programme for individuals across the IT sector. Initially envisioned as a bespoke degree for the company, this programme has led the way as one of the first Degree Apprenticeship programmes supported by UK government. The first cohort of graduates from the programme, who were the first, degree apprentices to graduate in the UK, received their degrees in July 2017.



*Figure 1 First degree apprentices graduated in July 2017*

The programme offers education in Information Systems Management and Software Development and addresses current skills gaps in the IT sector. It provides the breadth and depth required to prepare graduates for future leadership roles. It has grown rapidly since its first intake in April 2014 and now has 250 enrolled students.

Delivery is via blended learning, with eLearning, face to face and work-based learning elements. Regular communication

between the partners is essential to managing both the day to day monitoring and support of learners, and the quality enhancement of the programme.

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The initiative has had an immediate positive impact on the development of apprentices within Capgemini, which is demonstrated by the excellent results achieved, but has also been influential on the national stage in the UK, providing a pioneering example of the co-design of programmes by industry and academic partners.