



STAR SYSTEM PUTS TRAINING IN SPOTLIGHT

THE Institute for Trade Skills Excellence has recently introduced a star-rating scheme to assist employers and students in the evaluation of training providers.

The rating scheme can be applied to education providers like TAFE or a Registered Training Organisation.

RTOs that adopt the ratings appraisal system will receive a one, two or three gold star rating, providing students, employers and parents with a reliable ratings system to distinguish excellence in trade training by evaluating teaching standards.

Twenty RTOs across the country participated in the trial of the star ratings scheme, which was officially launched by Minister for Education and Training, Andrew Robb in

Geelong earlier this month.

A further 100 applications from various RTOs have since been received.

Institute chief executive Brian Wexham said the scheme allowed employers to assess training courses and rate how well they address the day-to-day needs of students and industry issues.

Mr Wexham said the scheme aimed to recognise high performing registered training providers and help individual schools and faculties understand exactly what their clients want from their training.

"The star rating scheme is a national initiative which will help promote and advance the quality and relevance of vocational and technical training

for the trades in Australia," Mr Wexham said.

The scheme will make it easier for students and their parents to ascertain which registered training providers have been recognised at an industry level, within their field of interest.

Employers will also be able to assess the quality of trade skills training that graduates hold from each registered training organisation rated within the scheme.

"The results of the trials indicate that registered training providers want to be recognised for their achievements in trade skills training.

"This is about recognising those registered training providers that achieve excellent results" Mr Wexham said.