

Further Information:

Helen Singleton
The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence
(02) 8314 7304/ 0412 136 169

MEDIA RELEASE

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It's GOLD for Metals & Engineering at Wodonga Institute of TAFE

TAFE Victoria's Wodonga Campus has been recognised as a leading Registered Training Organisation with a Two Gold Star Rating for its Metals and Engineering courses.

The Star Rating Scheme is administered by The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence and recognises excellence in trade skills training among TAFE and Registered Training Organisations.

Brian Smith- Acting CEO Wodonga TAFE said that the Star Rating Scheme brings valuable independent evaluation and encourages self assessment.

"The assessment process provided a means of obtaining a third party evaluation of the Institute's training. This was valuable as it required our staff to undertake a self assessment against criteria set by the Institute of Trades Skills Excellence and engage in providing additional information to an evaluation team", said Mr Smith.

The Star Rating Scheme identifies the very best training providers, industry by industry, to enable employers, career counsellors, potential students, and parents to distinguish excellence in trade training by evaluating training providers.

Industry areas within Registered Training Organisations which apply receive either a: One Gold Star; Two Gold Star; or Three Gold Star Rating to indicate that they have achieved excellent results for their students.

The Star Rating Scheme focuses on the following eight areas of skill shortage:

- Automotive
- Building and Construction
- Electrical
- Hospitality and Personal Services
- Manufacturing

- Metals and Engineering
- Mineral Resources
- Rural and Farming

Evaluations are carried out against three broad criteria that were developed in partnership with the industry.

The evaluation process includes an initial self evaluation by the relevant faculty or school, followed by a site visit to schools or faculties who demonstrate potential to achieve a One Gold Star, Two Gold Star or Three Gold Star rating.

Brian Wexham, Chief Executive Officer of The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence said that the Star Rating Scheme reassures students that they are selecting the most appropriate course.

“One of the biggest concerns when choosing a course is whether or not it will get people the job they want when they complete the course. Thanks to the Star Ratings Scheme, prospective students and employers now have a credible source to validate a course.

“The Scheme aims to recognise high performing registered training providers such as TAFE Queensland, and help individual schools and faculties understand exactly what their clients want from their training.

“The Star Rating Scheme is an industry driven initiative and has been developed by The Institute and industry to provide a platform that will deliver the vocational training outcomes required to meet industry needs” said Mr Wexham.

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About

The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence (The Institute) promotes the importance of trades and skills and recognises excellence in trades and skills education and training through:

- SkillsOne – an integrated platform of television programming, interactive website and media partnerships;
- The Star Rating Scheme, which awards high performing training organisations with Gold Star Ratings; and
- The Trades and Skills Teaching Awards which recognise excellence amongst teachers in trades and skills education and training.

The Star Rating Scheme:

The Star Rating Scheme will identify the very best training providers, industry by industry. It is a way to enable employers, career counsellors, potential students, and parents to distinguish excellence in trade training by evaluating training providers. Industry areas within RTOs which apply will receive either, a One Gold Star, Two Gold Star, or Three Gold Star Rating to indicate that they achieve excellent results for their clients.

It's also about creating a better informed market which will expect high quality, and thereby help to lift the quality bar on training.

The Star Rating Scheme focuses on the following eight areas of skill shortage:

- Automotive
- Building & Construction
- Electrical
- Hospitality & Personal Services
- Manufacturing
- Metals & Engineering
- Mineral Resources
- Rural & Farming

Evaluations are carried out against three broad criteria that were developed in partnership with businesses that employ tradespeople.

The evaluation process includes an initial self evaluation by the relevant faculty or school, followed by a site visit to schools or faculties who demonstrate potential to achieve a One Gold Star, Two Gold Star or Three Gold Star Rating.