



## Media Release

---

Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

09/06/08

### **Bosses jump at chance to improve training techniques**

Employers of apprentices in Western Australia have embraced a pilot program to learn how to better train and assess the up-and-coming tradespeople at work.

The Department of Education and Training launched the program to offer employers and supervisors free training in a set of skills from the nationally recognised Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

So far, more than 180 employers and supervisors from the automotive, metals and engineering, hospitality, building and construction, and electrical industries have signed up for the program.

It is now open to employers and supervisors of apprentices and trainees across all industry areas.

Robert Player, Deputy Director General, Training for the Department of Education and Training said the program would ultimately help employers and supervisors better support and train their apprentices.

“With Western Australia’s tight labour market, it is important to give employers of apprentices a helping hand to fulfil their significant role training the skilled workers of the future,” he said.

The training for employers and supervisors of apprentices and trainees is being offered through selected registered training organisations.

Tyrone Hosking, Employee Development Coordinator for Austal Ships enrolled 49 staff in the training to help them improve their ability to mentor, train and assess the apprentices they supervise.

The Henderson-based company has more than 300 apprentices employed in electrical, marine fit-out, aluminium fabrication and engineering areas.

“This training is going to upskill our people and better equip them to carry out on the job training and assessment of the apprentices,” Mr Hosking said.

“It really is a win-win for both the supervisors and the apprentices as it will make training on the job more seamless and efficient.

“Another benefit is that it gives our staff a boost and some may even find that they can develop their interest in training further.”

For more information about the free training offer visit: [apprenticentre.wa.gov.au](http://apprenticentre.wa.gov.au) or call 13 19 54.

(ENDS)

**Media contact:** Emma Jones on 9264 4857 or [emma.jones2@det.wa.edu.au](mailto:emma.jones2@det.wa.edu.au).