



training and education  
moving you forward

**Motor Traders Association of NSW**  
43-51 Brisbane St (Locked Bag 5012)  
Darlinghurst, 2010  
P: 02 9213 4222  
F: 02 9212 6889  
E: [training@mtansw.com.au](mailto:training@mtansw.com.au)  
W: <http://training.mtansw.com.au>

# Training News May 2008

## Contents:

Trade training centres in schools program launched .....	1
E-learning saves busines\$\$ .....	2
Queensland government encourages 'age-friendly' workplaces.....	2
Federal government launches new skills and training website .....	2
New Report reviews 'Skilling Australia's Workforce 2005-08' .....	2
Strategic analysis of User Choice arrangements in NSW .....	2
Mutual recognition of occupational licences to be achieved by September 2008.....	3
Fast-Track Apprenticeships grant funding for Registered Training Organisations .....	3
FASTER TRAINING COULD PLUG AUSTRALIA'S SKILLS GAP .....	3

## Trade training centres in schools program launched

Today the Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, has written to all Australian secondary school principals encouraging them to apply for funding under the Rudd Government's new \$2.5 billion Trade Training Centres in Schools Program.

Trade Training Centres in Schools Program was a major election commitment designed to give young Australians greater training opportunities and help address the skills shortage.

The Government has set a national target to increase the proportion of students achieving Year 12 or an equivalent qualification to 85 per cent by 2015 and 90 per cent by 2020.

Schools will be able to apply for between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million over the 10 year life of the program.

Funds can be used to:

build new, or upgrade existing trade or vocational education and training facilities;

- purchase or replace a range of trade training related equipment; and/or,
- bring facilities into line with current safety or industry standards.

[Further information](#)

[Back to top](#)

## **E-learning saves busine\$\$**

E-learning is helping businesses provide safer workplaces across a number of Australian industries, with one business saving as much as \$200,000 a year in delivery costs alone.

[Find our more](#)

[Back to top](#)

## **Queensland government encourages 'age-friendly' workplaces**

The Queensland Government has released two new resources to assist employers to recruit, retrain, and retain mature-aged workers.

[More information](#)

[Back to top](#)

## **Federal government launches new skills and training website**

This new website supports the Australian Government's Skilling Australia for the future initiative. It gives relevant details and links to information about the current vocational education and training (VET) environment, and a 'road map for reform' document in the Skills and Training Information section.

[Visit the site](#)

[Back to top](#)

## **New Report reviews 'Skilling Australia's Workforce 2005-08'**

The Australian Government has issued a new report called 'Skilling Australian's workforce 2005-08 mid-term review' by the Boston Consulting Group. It is a review of the 'Skilling Australia's Workforce 2005-08' agreement signed off by the Commonwealth, States and Territories in 2005.

[View report](#)

[Back to top](#)

## **Strategic analysis of User Choice arrangements in NSW**

The New South Wales Board of Vocational Education and Training has endorsed the New South Wales Department of Education and Training's recommendations on User Choice arrangements which arose from the strategic analysis conducted in 2007.

For more information contact John Skeen, Department of Education and Training, on **02 9266 8637** or [john.skeen@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:john.skeen@det.nsw.edu.au) or contact Training Market Customer Support on **02 92668008** or [trainingmarket@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:trainingmarket@det.nsw.edu.au)

[More information](#)

[Back to top](#)

## Mutual recognition of occupational licences to be achieved by September 2008

At its meeting of [26 March 2008](#), the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to advance the due date for mutual recognition of vocationally-trained licensed occupations. Effective mutual recognition is now due to be completed by September 2008.

The due date for mutual recognition had previously been set as December 2008 by COAG in its meeting on [10 February 2006](#).

The COAG meeting focused on a number of areas, including health, water, regulatory reform and the broader productivity agenda. A [communiqué](#) has been released providing details of the agreed reforms.

[More information](#)

[Back to top](#)

## Fast-Track Apprenticeships grant funding for Registered Training Organisations

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will soon be calling for a second round of *applications for funding* for \$50,000 (GST exclusive). Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) will be funded to develop and implement 'Fast-Track Apprenticeships'.

Applicants should outline how their proposed activity will reduce the amount of time taken to complete entire apprenticeships (not just off-the-job components) in a way that ensures quality and meets the needs of industry, employers and apprentices. Prospective RTOs will also need to demonstrate how they will work with industry and local employers to develop and implement apprenticeships pathways for this purpose.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate:

- how proposed activities will reduce the completion time of an apprenticeship (not just off-the-job components), and still meet the high quality demands of industry, employers and apprentices;
- how they will work with industry and local employers to 'fast-track' apprenticeships; and
- how they will address skill shortages within regions as well as industry demand.

[More Information](#)

[Back to top](#)

## FASTER TRAINING COULD PLUG AUSTRALIA'S SKILLS GAP

New style, faster apprenticeships may be an answer to Australia's much talked about skills shortage, according to research released today by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research.

The report, *Accelerated apprenticeships: Apprentice, employer and teaching staff perceptions* by Victor Callan, says faster trade training has potential benefits for workers and employers.

[Read More](#)

[Back to top](#)

**IMPORTANT:** This publication is intended to provide general information for the benefit of clients of MTA NSW and should not be relied upon in place of specific legal or professional advice. While all care has been taken to ensure that the information contained in this publication is true and accurate no responsibility or liability is accepted MTA NSW or its staff for any claim which may arise from any person acting in reliance on the information set out in this publication.

This e-mail, including any attachments, may contain private or confidential information. If you think you may not be the intended recipient, or if you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender immediately and delete all copies of this e-mail. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not reproduce any part of this e-mail or disclose its contents to any other party.

It is your responsibility to scan this email and any files transmitted with it for viruses or any other defects.

You are currently subscribed to MTA NSW's Training News. To unsubscribe send an email to [layla.kemp@mtansw.com.au](mailto:layla.kemp@mtansw.com.au)