



'Stars' for excellence in training

Gippsland Group Training has been recognised for excellence again as a leading registered training organisation with a 'Three Gold Star' rating for two of its courses: Construction and Plumbing.

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.

Training manager of Gippsland Group Training, Phil Backman, said receiving the three gold star rating was recognition of the high quality of teaching delivered through its centres at Bairnsdale and Morwell.

"The recognition we have received validates our position as a leading choice in training in the plumbing and construction industries," Mr Backman said.

The Star Rating Scheme identifies the very best training providers across all industries 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 and Rural and Farming.

The evaluation process includes an initial

self-evaluation by the relevant faculty or school, followed by a site visit to schools or faculties which demonstrate potential to achieve a star rating.

Chief executive officer of The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence, Brian Wexham, said the Star Rating Scheme reassured students that they were choosing 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 Gippsland Group Training, to help individual schools and faculties understand exactly what their clients want from their training," Mr Wexham said.

Mr Backman said the organisation viewed the Star Rating Scheme as an effective way of addressing Australia's skills shortage.

"We found the process to be a valuable addition to our own internal quality processes and regular self-assessment work, and a great mechanism to maintain our focus on providing excellence for our customers."

"During this critical skills shortage period, we welcome initiatives that seek to identify and meet specific industry needs - such as the Star Rating Scheme. "They help us ensure that our apprentices and trainees have the right skills to contribute to industry and the region's economy," Mr Backman said.