



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

**The Fabrication, Welding and Technology Department,
Wodonga Institute of TAFE**

The Fabrication, Welding and Technology Department of Wodonga Institute of TAFE has been recognised by the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence as one of Australia's premier providers and awarded two gold stars under the Star Rating Scheme.

The department delivers nationally recognised qualifications based on the endorsed standards of the Metals and Engineering Training Package.

A summary of the Department's strengths against the evaluation criteria are:

Training and assessment which focuses on enterprise and learner needs

Institute-wide measures are in place to identify and meet learner and enterprise needs and the Department develops its own strategies within this context and regularly consults with industry on an informal basis. The provision of client-driven customised programs is reflected through the development of a range of Training Plans and the addition of initiatives such as the incorporation of stainless steel training for apprentices and the provision of a wide range of welding certification programs. The delivery of training is based on the needs of clients especially in relation to institutional block delivery although other forms of delivery are available as required. Innovative support is provided to clients through the implementation of a year apprentice coordinator system for students and their employers. Recognition of Prior Learning practices are formalised on an Institute-wide basis and incorporate a range of measures. Learner feedback is regular and occurs in both written and verbal form.

Excellent trainers and assessors, and contemporary equipment

A staff professional development plan is implemented and includes an individual training and workforce development plan, a return to industry program and maintenance of industry currency through regular visits to industry. The Department facilities effectively support student development and are enhanced by industry through donations of equipment and consumables.

The Department has a strong commitment to secondary schools and working effectively with school networks.

Support to enable enterprises and learners get the most out of the apprenticeship/ traineeship

The Institute produces comprehensive information and a wide range of support services for students and industry. The high standard of counselling and career advisory services has been recognised by a Victorian Training Award. The Division actively participates in Institute-organised promotional activities and events. The Department has made a major contribution to the standard of welding skills in the region through the provision of its certification programs.

For more information about the Wodonga Institute of TAFE **visit the RTO's website at**
www.wodonga.tafe.edu.au

The **Institute for Trade Skills Excellence** is an initiative of Australian industry and Government established to promote the trades and recognise those registered training organisations (RTOs) truly focused on industry's needs and achieving excellent results.

How does it work? ... Under the **Star Rating Scheme**, individual faculties or schools within RTOs are evaluated by the Institute using industry experts and industry designed criteria. Those considered excellent are awarded one gold star, two gold stars or three gold stars by the Institute. The Institute issues a **Capability Statement** for each RTO which it publishes to explain the school or faculty's strengths and the level of service an employer can expect to receive.

Quite simply, where RTOs are doing great things, the Institute wants to ensure industry knows about it, and so an employer looking to select an RTO for their apprentice or trainee, can make an informed choice.