

TAC UPDATE

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I
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E

- 1 Christmas Message from TAC
- 1 New members on the Council
- 2 NTIS Training Package Updates
- 2 TAA Transition for extension to scope is now over
- 2 Know the facts about TAA04
- 2 National Quality Council
- 2 2005 National Strategic Industry Audit
- 3 About the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*
- 3 Reminder about use of Logos
- 3 Falsely Claiming Registration
- 4 Vocational Education and Training for School Students in WA
- 4 2005 Publications
- 4 New Diversity Resource Guide for VET
- 5 Quality of Offshore Education and Training
- 5 Transnational Quality Strategy

Christmas Message from TAC

Welcome to the December 2005 Bumper Edition of *TAC Update*, bringing you the latest State and national information relevant to quality assurance in Vocational Education and Training (VET).

Training Accreditation Council members and Office of TAC staff would like to wish all our readers, families, friends and colleagues a very merry and safe festive season and a healthy, happy, AQTF-compliant New Year.

Training Accreditation Council's new members

TAC welcomes two new members, replacing retiring members Geoff Hawke and Michelle Gianatti.

Liz Harris is the General Manager of Training, Research and Development at Challenger TAFE, providing strategic vision, direction and support for the Training, Research and Development



Directorate. The position forms part of the College Corporate Executive and contributes to corporate strategic planning, policy development and resource allocation. Liz also leads the business development of the Directorate.

Liz has worked in both the VET and university sectors, in VET at both State and national levels, including a 3 year period as a national manager with ANTA.

Liz holds a range of qualifications including a Master of Education from Murdoch University, and is a member of the Institute of Public Administration.

Iain McDougall is the General Manager of Hospitality Group Training WA (HGT), the largest employer of apprentices and trainees in WA's hospitality industry .



As a Registered Training Organisation, HGT also services an additional 200 trainees and several school based VET programs. Iain came to HGT with twenty years' experience with the Federal Government, including overseeing the introduction of traineeships and group training policy in WA .

Iain has sat on many education groups including the Post-compulsory Education Committee, VET in Schools Committee, the Course of Study Reference Group for Hospitality and is President of the Hospitality Group Training Network Australia.

He is also Chairman of both the North Lake Senior Campus Council and Buzz Dance Theatre and National Director of Group Training Australia.

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NTIS Training Package Updates

Did you know you can subscribe to NTIS Training Package updates?

- Go to www.ntis.gov.au
- Click on the Training Packages link
- Look for *Training Package Updates Mailing List*
- Click on **Subscribe/Unsubscribe** and leave your email address.

TAA Transition for extension to scope is now over

The transition arrangements that have been in place for RTOs to add qualifications from the TAA04 to their scope of registration ceased on 23 November 2005.

From 24 November 2005 the Training Accreditation Council's existing process for amendment to registration will apply. Please refer to [Amendment to Registration Application Guide](#).

Know the facts about TAA04

To deliver and assess training from training packages and accredited courses other than the Training and Assessment Training Package, existing trainers and assessors are not required to upgrade their BSZ98 qualification or units of competency.

New trainers and assessors (without training and assessment qualifications) who are employed by an RTO on or after 24 November 2005, will be required to hold the TAA04 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (or demonstrate equivalence) to comply with Standard 7 of the revised AQTF Standards for RTOs.

RTOs cannot take any new enrolments in BSZ98 qualifications as of 24 November 2005. However, students who had already started BSZ98 before 24 November 2005 can complete their qualification. RTOs should consider that it is in the best interest of learners to have the most up-to-date qualification.

National Quality Council

The *Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005*, which establishes the framework for the new national training system, includes the establishment of a new National Quality Council, which will progress much of the work that has been carried out by the National Training Quality Council (NTQC).

The NTQC was a committee of the ANTA Board and ceased to exist following passage of *Skilling Australia's Workforce* legislation. As an interim arrangement the NTQC will act as a Committee of the Ministerial Council, to allow quality work such as endorsing Training Packages to continue.

Membership of the new National Quality Council will remain the same as for NQTC until the end of 2006, comprising industry, government and equity representatives, one public and one private provider representative. The first meeting of the new Council is scheduled for March 2006.

The National Quality Council is being established as a Committee of the Ministerial Council. Its key role will be to oversee quality assurance and ensure national consistency in the application of Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) standards for the audit and registration of training providers.

2005 National Strategic Industry Audit

The national strategic industry audit into training in the Hospitality Industry is progressing, with most WA audits to be completed in the first week of December. Most other states and territories have finished their audits of RTOs.

Apart from compliance with the AQTF for RTOs, the audit identifies areas of good practice and the key issues impacting on training outcomes in the Hospitality Industry, and will recommend strategies to strengthen the quality of training and assessment within the sector across Australia.

Continued on page 3...

Training Accreditation Council

...Continued from page 2

To this end, students and employers have been surveyed to gain a picture of the quality of training and assessment, training outcomes and input on how training and assessment could better serve their industry. Specifically, the student survey is targeted at current or recently completed Hospitality trainees and apprentices; whilst the Employer survey focuses on employers who currently employ trainees or apprentices within the Industry.

The composite results of the RTO audits, and the two surveys will be compiled into state and territory reports, collated into a national report and published in March next year. For further information contact Rozana Kemp on 9441 1921.

About the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*

The *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004* was passed by State Parliament on 26 November 2004 and is scheduled to be proclaimed on 1 January 2006. The Act introduces compulsory criminal record checks for certain people working with children in Western Australia.

Comprehensive information about the new scheme can be accessed through the Working With Children website at www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au including a copy of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004* and the *Summary Of The Key Features Of The Working With Children Scheme*.

Working With Children Checks aim to help protect children from harm by:

- deterring people from working with children where they have criminal records that indicate they may harm children; and
- preventing people with such records from gaining positions of trust in certain paid and voluntary work with children.

Working with Children Checks will be phased in across the community over five years, starting from 1 January 2006. By the end of 2010, all new and existing employees, volunteers and self-employed

people in child-related work will be required to have a Working with Children Check.

Reminder about use of Logos

The majority of complaints handled by TAC in 2005 have been from RTOs about the erroneous use of national and State logos:

- by non-registered RTOs;
- by organisations partnering with RTOs.

RTOs are the only organisations able to utilise logos for advertising and award purposes, and then only for statements of attainment and AQF qualifications within their scope of registration.

Partnering organisations utilising logos give the false impression that they are also a RTO. The Nationally Recognised Training logo can only be used by RTOs and State and Territory registering/course accrediting bodies and other authorised bodies.

The format and colour of the logos must conform to the style guides outlined in two leaflets on *Logo Guidelines* in the Publications Directory on the TAC Website, for use of both national and State logos. Any variation or omission from these rules may invalidate the national recognition given to the certification by other RTOs.

Compliance with these specifications and further advice on ethical marketing and advertising is set out in the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2005 (Standards 11 and 12).

Falsely Claiming Registration

The *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996* allows the Department of Education and Training to prosecute under Section 65 organisations that falsely claim to be a Registered Training Organisation. In the past, two organisations have been fined for claiming that their training organisation was registered and delivered training under the Act.

The Department will enforce the provisions of the Act to ensure the quality of vocational education and training delivery in Western Australia is maintained.

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Vocational Education and Training for School Students in WA

The Ministerial Policy Statement on Vocational Education and Training (VET) for school students in Western Australia is the context for delivery of VET to school students.

The policy will be effective from January 2006 and replaces the Joint Ministerial Policy Statement *VET Future Directions*.

The new policy for VET for school students provides for schools to seek registration with the Training Accreditation Council to become a Registered Training Organisation.

The document is available from:

www.vetinfo.net.det.wa.edu.au

For further information contact Matthew Jones at the VET in Schools Branch, Department of Education and Training on 9264 5066.

2005 Publications

Department of Education and Training Guides

The Department of Education and Training has published four Professional Development resources as follows:

- Troubleshooting Guide, Competency Based Assessment
- A Guide to Continuous Improvement of Assessment
- The AQTF at Work — Examples of Good Practice
- Recognition of Prior Learning (Skills Recognition) - An Assessment Resource for VET Practitioners.

These guides are available in hard copy from the

VET Teaching and Learning Directorate (phone Joan Bennett on 9264 4600) or they can be downloaded from the VETinfoNet website:

www.vetinfo.net.det.wa.edu.au

Look for the purple Professional Development tile and click on *Resources*.

New Diversity Resource Guide for VET

According to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA), Australia's cultural diversity impacts on every Australian and every occupation.

Further, the education sectors have a pivotal role in developing knowledge, understanding and experience of cultural diversity.

DIMIA states that Education for diversity across the three sectors of School, VET and Higher Education and into the workplace is progressive and cumulative. It starts with awareness in schools, develops workplace skills in the VET sector, and progresses with higher level strategic and policy skills in higher education.

Managing Cultural Diversity: a guide to resources for educators and managers working in schools education, vocational education and training, and higher education is actually a series of three guides developed through DIMIA to help locate resources that can enrich teaching and learning and assist in managing a diverse workforce.

For further information go to the Diversity Australia website at: www.diversityaustralia.gov.au and click on **Resources and Educators** in the left hand column and look for the *Guide for VET*.

These guides link key education sector concepts, competencies, employability skills and courses specific to each sector to the "Diversity Works!" resource materials.

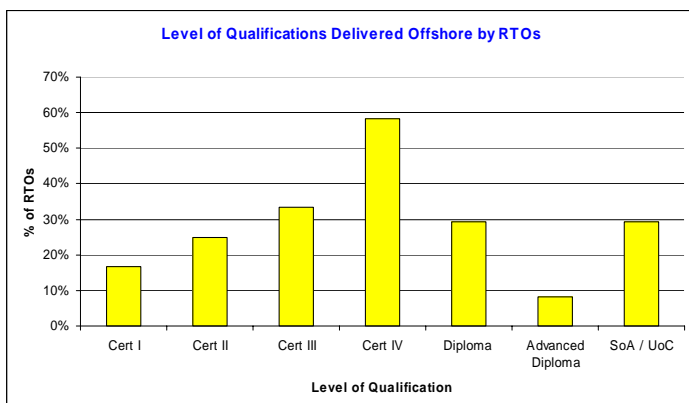
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Quality of Offshore Education and Training

TAC identified offshore delivery as a risk area in the 2005 Audit Strategy and has recently completed an Offshore Delivery Survey of all RTOs.

Survey responses indicate that:

- Six percent of RTOs registered with TAC, are currently delivering VET offshore;
- Over the next three years the number of RTOs delivering offshore may increase to around 75;
- When WA RTOs deliver offshore they are more likely to do it on a permanent or one-off basis rather than monthly or quarterly contracted delivery;
- The majority of offshore delivery is at AQF level 4, the Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training being popular along with other business and frontline management qualifications;
- Most popular delivery sites were Indonesia & China, followed by Malaysia, Tanzania, Pakistan, Vietnam, PNG, Asia, Turkey & Kenya.



The most common delivery site was the client's workplace. This may indicate that WA RTOs are mostly flying in and out to deliver the training. This is supported by the staffing arrangements which suggest that the majority of RTOs use Australia-based Staff to deliver training offshore.

Transnational Quality Strategy

On 17 November 2005, Education and Training Ministers across Australia agreed to a Transnational Quality Strategy to ensure the quality of Australian education and training delivered in other countries is equivalent to the standard of delivery and outcomes determined under nationally recognised quality assurance arrangements.

The Strategy covers face-to-face delivery in higher education, vocational and technical education and schools education. (Note, Online and remote delivery is not considered to be Offshore delivery under the Transnational Quality Strategy.)

Throughout the development of this strategy, TAC has been in consultation with key stakeholders along with Education and Training International and the Department of Education Services. Western Australia has continually emphasised the need to incorporate the Strategy within the AQTF rather than developing a separate framework for quality assurance of offshore VET delivery.

For further information contact:

Robert Petherbridge on 9441 1920, or
Robert.Petherbridge@det.wa.edu.au