

17 August 2010

## **KIC's Metals and Engineering Traineeship wins award recognition!!**

Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) is thrilled that it was voted the winner of the Community Commitment Award in the 2010 RKCC Bendigo Bank Small Business Awards. KIC wishes the trainees, past and present, the best of luck with their careers. On behalf of our members we would like to thank our partners Gilmore College, SMYL and Challenger Institute of Technology for contributing to this highly successful program.

The KIC Metals & Engineering School Based Traineeship is an initiative of the KIC and is based at Gilmore College. Students are enrolled full time at Gilmore College, receive training one day per week at Challenger Institute of Technology and spend blocks of time in work placements. It has been in existence for many years and each year sees 14 year 11 students completing a two-year traineeship in their last two years of high school. The students themselves view actually qualifying for acceptance into the traineeship program as a big deal, and Gilmore College itself holds the program in high esteem

Many KIC members have taken on the trainees over the years, and many of the trainees have been offered employment within the hosting companies. Members have reported that the high calibre of the engineering education the trainees present with, together with their workshop experience and their great attitudes, makes for trainees that fit easily into the workforce due to the excellent education they receive during their traineeships.

The KIC program is held in high regard in industry and placement rates for students into apprenticeships are very high at the end of Year 12. Over 200 trainees have graduated from the program over the last 10 years, students have operated at such high standards they have gone on to represent the program at the national 'World Skills' event.

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Photo: Gilmore College Principal Graham Butler (left) and KIC Director Chris Oughton