

5 December 2011

## POSITIVE ALLIANCE TO BOOST EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) has formed an alliance with MEGT Australia to work on developing a broad suite of programs and initiatives to provide positive employment outcomes for local students.

MEGT is a Group Training Organisation that employs Australian Apprentices and hires them out to different businesses. This system provides a safety net for our local students entering the workforce – with more security and continuity of employment in case the host employer runs out of work before they have completed their apprenticeships or traineeship.

They check out the premises to ensure they will be working in safe conditions and that they receive the right vocational training for their chosen industry. The Field Officers provide mentoring and pastoral care – so important to a young person entering the workforce for the first time.

KIC has greatly increased its commitment to developing career opportunities for students in the region through support of the KIC Education Partnership and the engagement of Industry Education Community Liaison Officer, Wendy Cooke.

Wendy has been working with school principals, further education providers, VET coordinators and local industry representatives with a view to developing initiatives relating to workforce development and school based programs.

KIC Director Chris Oughton believes the alliance with MEGT will add value to the programs that deliver local jobs for local students.

“We have recently invited Gilmore College to be a part of the alliance through the KIC Metals and Engineering School Based Traineeship,” Mr Oughton said.

Mr Oughton said that the Gilmore College based Traineeship is an important KIC initiative and has provided a successful pathway for many local students and their employment prospects.

“Our priority is to see these successes and positive employment outcomes for local students continue, he said.

“We believe that MEGT will be a valuable link to help deliver on this outcome.”

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Photo caption: Top left: Colin McCabe, General Manager MEGT  
Top right: Michael Gammon, State Manager-Victoria MEGT  
Bottom left: Carolyn Cook, Principal Gilmore College  
Bottom right: Chris Oughton, Director KIC