**Queensland Water Skills e-Flash #27**

**Information for Water Industry Managers, Human Resources Personnel and Employees in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #27 – 17 December 2013)**

**1.        Draft Water Industry Competency Framework Released for Comment**

**2.        Water Training Australia now a Pre-Qualified Supplier for User Choice Training (Water)**

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**4.        Wide Bay TAFE – Graduation Ceremonies**

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**1.      Draft Water Industry Competency Framework Released for Comment**

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Government Skills Australia (GSA) is developing an Occupation and Competency Framework for the water industry. The competency framework will be an online tool and live within the new companion volumes of the National Water Training Package (NWP). The framework will contain water industry occupations aligned to NWP qualifications and provide a guide of typical workplace tasks, skills, knowledge and qualification level.

Work on the framework commenced in January 2013 and to date has focused on the following six streams; Hydrography, Processing, Networks, Source, Compliance and Irrigation.

A draft of the framework incorporating all streams and their roles is now available for review and comment until Friday 31 January 2014.

To read the project update and review the draft framework please go to the [GSA website.](http://www.governmentskills.com.au/water/25-water/105-water-competency-framework) Comments or questions on the framework can be emailed to Sue Peisley [S.Peisley@govskills.com.au](mailto:S.Peisley@govskills.com.au) by Friday 31 January 2014.

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**2.      Water Training Australia now a Pre-Qualified Supplier for User Choice Training (Water)**

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Water Training Australia has recently received approval from the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) to deliver Certificate II and III Water Operations qualifications under the User Choice Program.  Part of the approval process requires a letter of support from ***qldwater*** on behalf of the Queensland industry, which is provided to RTOs who can demonstrate appropriate skills, experience and potential to appropriately service the Queensland market.

The User Choice program provides public funding for the delivery of accredited, entry level training to apprentices and trainees. The program works in conjunction with the Commonwealth Australian Apprenticeships System, under which apprentices and trainees enter into legally binding training contracts with their employers and receive structured training to achieve a nationally recognised qualification.

The Queensland User Choice program enables apprentices, trainees and their employers to select a preferred Registered Training Organisation (RTO) from a list of Pre-qualified Suppliers for the delivery of accredited training to meet their specific needs.

Both Certificate II Water Operations and Certificate III Water Operations are currently priority 1 under User Choice, attracting up to 100% funding for the qualification. Further details on funding can be obtained from the DETE website - <http://www.training.qld.gov.au/training-organisations/user-choice/pricing.html>.

A guide to accessing User Choice funding is available on the ***qldwater*** website -<http://www.qldwater.com.au/Skills_Funding>.

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**3.      New Practice Aptitude Quiz Available – Water**

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The Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service now publish 29 industry-based practice aptitude quizzes. These career development resources are designed to generally illustrate the literacy, comprehension and numeracy levels required of people undertaking entry level training in a relevant qualification.

A new quiz designed for the water industry – has been added to the quiz collection. Please visit one of the following AAT Information Service websites to download the quiz in PDF format:

* [www.aatinfo.com.au/quiz](http://www.aatinfo.com.au/quiz)
* [www.aapathways.com.au/quiz](http://www.aapathways.com.au/quiz)

For more information, contact the AAT Information Service on 1800 338 022 or [contact@aatinfo.com.au](mailto:contact@aatinfo.com.au).

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**4.      Wide Bay TAFE Graduation Ceremonies**

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The Wide Bay TAFE will be holding its 2013 Graduation Ceremonies for Water and other qualifications in February 2014.  Graduation is a celebration of the successful completion of your course and provides an opportunity for family, friends and staff to recognise your achievement.  A ceremony will be held at each of the following locations for eligible graduands from Certificate II to Advanced Diploma:

* Bundaberg Graduation Ceremony - Monday, 10 February 2014 at the Moncrieff Theatre, Bundaberg.
* Gympie Graduation Ceremony - Wednesday, 19 February 2014 at the Civic Centre, Gympie.
* Fraser Coast Graduation Ceremony (Hervey Bay and Maryborough) - Thursday, 13 February 2014 at the Brolga Theatre, Maryborough.

To register your attendance, go to the WBIT website <http://www.widebay.tafe.qld.gov.au>  for all details and to complete the response form. Return the form to your nearest campus or email it to [graduations.wbit@tafe.qld.edu.au](mailto:graduations.wbit@tafe.qld.edu.au) or phone the Call Centre on 1300 656 188.

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