**Queensland Water Skills e-Flash #78**

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

**(Issue #78 – Thursday 18 July 2019)**

1. Last chance to provide feedback on revised Water industry qualifications
2. Queensland Urban Water Workforce Snapshot Report
3. An Aussie Operator’s Tour of NZ

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1. **Last chance to provide feedback on revised Water industry qualifications**

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The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has finalised the draft materials from its review of a number of National Water Training Package qualifications and has released the drafts for public consultation.

Feedback on the [draft qualifications and units of competency](https://www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/projects/nwp-qualifications-review/) is invited by close of business, **Thursday, 25 July 2019**. A mapping document highlighting all recommended changes from the current training package is also available for [download](https://www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/projects/nwp-qualifications-review/).

***qldwater*** holds a position on the TAC and a couple of key changes have been recommended:

* Specialisations have been removed from the **Certificate II** **in Water Industry Operations**;
* All units of competency have been reviewed and some updated with several units being retitled to more accurately represent the content of the units; and
* The three existing **Certificate III** qualifications have been merged into one qualification with seven specialist elective groups.

Feedback should be submitted [online](https://austindustrystandards.sharepoint.com/%3Ax%3A/r/IRCOpsTeam/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?guestaccesstoken=9kUeYqLm8pWHjxxVPHYBkB1uJWrwC7uGliTyq5RrzV4%3d&docid=1_10a45b8d85a7d4f808124f2e967163c20&wdFormId=%7B8110D717%2DEE1E%2D4781%2D9470%2DD6B42FE99CB1%7D&action=formsubmit&cid=c5736f15-c6f5-440b-8887-05f90a66016b) or email Carlie Sargent with your comments. All feedback will be considered by the TAC before the qualifications are submitted to the Water Industry Reference Committee for review and approval.

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1. **Queensland Urban Water Workforce Snapshot Report**

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***qldwater*** through the Water Skills Partnership is pleased to release the latest [Queensland Urban Water Industry Workforce Snapshot Report](https://www.qldwater.com.au/Skills_Workforce_Resources_and_Publications) which provides an overview of key workforce indicators from a representative sample of Queensland urban water and sewerage providers.

The report confirms a number of continuing trends and challenges facing the industry, particularly an ageing workforce, declining participation of employees under the age of 30 and a growing shortage of qualified operators. More positively, the proportion of women employed in the industry is growing, albeit slowly.

The report is available on the [qldwater website](https://www.qldwater.com.au/Skills_Workforce_Resources_and_Publications) along with all previous biennial workforce reports produced since 2010 and a one page overview of key indicators from the report.

Thank you to everyone who contributed data for the report. The Water Skills Partnership will continue to look at ways to address the workforce issues identified in the report and welcomes your feedback to Carlie Sargent.

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1. **An Aussie Operator’s Tour of NZ**

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Unitywater’s Andrew Hanifin is described by his peers as the go-to liaison for “challenging” customers and an excellent role model for his team. He was awarded ***qldwater’s*** Young Operator of the Year award in 2018 and as part of his prize recently participated in WIOA’s facilities tour of New Zealand.

You can [read about Andrew’s learnings](https://www.qldwater.com.au/qldwater-blog/2018-young-operator-tour-nz) from the tour and his thoughts on the key differences and similarities between New Zealand and Australian water service providers.

**qldwater has been privileged to present awards for the Young Operator of the Year and Civil/All-Rounder Operator of the Year in conjunction with WIOA for the past ten years.** [Find out more](https://www.qldwater.com.au/qldwaterAwards) **about our awards program and consider nominating yourself or a colleague in the future.**

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