**Queensland Water Skills e-Flash #23**

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

**(Issue #23 – 6th September 2013)**

**1.        Free ‘Introduction to Water Treatment’ online course – starts 16th September (EdX)**

**2.        Qld Water Skills Partnership Members 2013/2014**

**3.        GSA Annual E-Scan Survey**

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**1.      Free ‘Introduction to Water Treatment’ online course – starts 16th September (EdX)**

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EdX is a non-profit organisation created by founding partners Harvard and MIT. EdX offers variety of free interactive online classes. Participants can register for courses and simply audit the course or undertake the assessment tasks and achieve a ‘Certificate of Mastery’ for the course.

The ‘introduction to Water Treatment’ course will detail urban water services, focusing on basic drinking water and wastewater treatment technologies. Unit processes involved in the two treatment chains will be described as well as the physical, chemical and biological processes involved. There will be an emphasis on water quality and the functionality of each unit process within the treatment chain.  After the course one should be able to recognise the process units, describe their function and make simple design calculations on water treatment  plants (drinking and waste water).  Overall the course will teach the role of treatment technologies in providing adequate water supply and effective sanitation which are essential for human society and the safeguarding of public and environmental health.

For more information visit the EdX website - <https://www.edx.org/course/delft-university-technology/ctb3365x/introduction-water-treatment/786>.

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**2.      Qld Water Skills Partnership Members 2013/2014**

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There has been a very positive response from industry following our call for subscribers to the Water Skills Partnership for the 2013/2014 financial year. All previous subscribers to the Partnership have renewed their subscription and there are 9 new financial subscribers to the Partnership for 2013/2014.

Current members of the Qld Water Skills Partnership for 2013/2014 include:

* Goondiwindi Regional Council
* Central Highlands Regional Council
* Mackay Regional Council
* Seqwater
* North Burnett Regional Council
* UnityWater
* Richmond Regional Council
* Balonne Shire Council
* Banana Shire Council
* Hinchinbrook Regional Council
* Etheridge Shire Council
* Mt Isa City Council
* Redlands City Council
* McKinlay Shire Council
* Queensland Urban Utilities
* Charters Towers Regional Council
* Toowoomba Regional Council
* Gold Coast City Council
* Logan City Council
* Longreach Regional Council
* Burdekin Shire Council
* Sunwater
* South Burnett Regional Council
* Diamantina Regional Council
* Barcaldine Regional Council
* Carpentaria Shire Council
* Gympie Regional Council
* Bundaberg Regional Council
* Winton Shire Council
* Tablelands Regional Council

To subscribe to the Queensland Water Skills Partnership complete the subscription form your Council has received in the mail and email to mhill@qldwater.com.au or contact us to receive a new subscription form.

A meeting of the Industry Leader’s Group (ILG), the steering group for the Partnership, will take place on 25th September, 2013 to prioritise Partnership activities. Invitations to join the ILG meeting have been sent to all Partnership members but please contact Michelle Hill - mhill@qldwater.com.au  if you would like further information. Relevant outcomes from the meeting will be advised.

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**3.      GSA Annual E-Scan Survey**

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Government Skills Australia is currently seeking input from the water sector for their 2014 Environmental Scan (EScan).

The annual GSA EScan provides information and intelligence to develop a more strategic understanding of existing and emerging skill shortages. It also provides the context and driving force behind the continuous improvement of GSA’s training packages for the forthcoming year. The focus of the GSA EScan is to provide readers with a clear understanding of the factors currently shaping and impacting on workforce development and how training packages, and the system more broadly, are responding. For a copy of the 2013 EScan, please click [here](http://www.governmentskills.com.au/resources/26-cross-sector/84-2013-environmental-scan).

The main areas that the survey explores are:

* size and location of your enterprise
* volunteer workforce
* recruitment and retention
* factors impacting on your workforce
* emerging skills needs
* training activity
* use of nationally-endorsed vocational education and training.

**To complete the survey:**

·        Please complete the survey in one sitting

·        For this reason, a PDF can be obtained by contacting Susan Peisley from GSA -  S.Peisley@govskills.com.au.

·        Most questions are multiple choice or Yes/No style. Some questions provide you with the opportunity to type in additional comments

·        Please complete the survey by **COB** 13 September.

To complete the survey please use this link – <http://www.cvent.com/d/scqfct/3B>

GSA request that only one survey is completed per organisation. If you feel that there is a more appropriate person within your organisation to complete this survey, please forward this e-mail to them.

All data presented in GSA publications will be de-identified and will not be linked back to individual respondents. For more information on GSA including their privacy policy, follow the link to [the GSA website](http://www.governmentskills.com.au/).

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