

## **CASE STUDIES FROM PATHWAYS PROGRAM TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS INDUSTRY 2008**

### **A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE**

#### **What interested me about the course?**

Although I didn't know much about transport and logistics when I started, I wanted to find out more about the industry and what opportunities were available. I wanted to gain my Certificate I Pathways in Transport and Logistics so I would have more skills and experience to help me find work. I was also interested in doing the work placement so I could practice what I had learnt in the classroom and decide if transport and logistics was an area I would be interested in working in.

#### **What kept my interest?**

I enjoyed studying at Challenger TAFE. The course was interesting and covered a lot of different areas including occupational safety and health in the workplace. The lecturer talked to us about the industry and related our classroom sessions to the workplace and this helped to prepare us for our work placement. I also enjoyed studying with students from other schools and made new friends.

Challenger TAFE organised a number of visits to different warehouses including Anchor Foods, Dubai Ports, CoventryAuto and Woolworths. During these visits we learnt about the size and number of staff employed at the different warehouses. We also looked at the structure and different technology being used, as well as occupational safety and health issues. These visits gave us a better understanding of what we were learning and how to apply it to the workplace.

I enjoyed going to the workplace each week. The supervisor gave me different tasks to complete and the staff were very helpful. The trainer visited the worksite on a couple of occasions to assess me on the job so I could complete my certificate.

#### **Where did it leave me?**

I completed Certificate I in Pathways in Transport and Logistics and at the end of the course we had a graduation ceremony which was attended by many people including my family and teachers. I have developed a lot more confidence in myself and in making decisions at work. I have also made a lot of new friends from different schools.

I am currently looking for work in this industry as I think transport and logistics is a good industry to work in. I would also like to complete further studies in Certificates II and III through a traineeship.

#### **Recommendations**

I would recommend this course to other students if they were fit, safety aware and wanting to work in transport and logistics.

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### **A SCHOOL'S PERSPECTIVE**

#### **What interested the school in becoming involved?**

Up to now there have been limited career pathways for students from education support units. This project offered an opportunity for our students to participate in something different and gain qualifications which could lead them into jobs or more training. The pathway offered training and experience which was suitable for our more able students, and the students were keen to participate. The Project Manager (Logistics Training Council) arranged to find industry placements for the students which made things a lot easier.

#### **What kept our interest?**

The training was well conducted and included several site visits which consolidated what the students had learned. The information, pitch of the class and behaviour management were excellent and students responded well to the lecturer.

Participating students were able to access opportunities for realistic post-school employment pathways. They were also able to increase their skills bases and other work-related competencies, as well as having the opportunity to participate and understand the concept of warehousing.

#### **What were the outcomes?**

As well as completing Certificate I in Pathways in Transport and Logistics, students gained newfound confidence in themselves and their ability to work in industry. Even students who have chosen other career pathways have benefited from the project.

The graduation ceremony was an opportunity for students to receive acknowledgement for their achievements in front of their family, teachers and some of the employers. Students enjoyed the interaction with other students and developed new relationships and friendships which have continued.

We will definitely be participating in 2009 and already have a number of suitable candidates we would like to nominate.

#### **Things to look out for:**

Ensure that the coordinator communicates primarily with the ESU teacher as well as having details of other staff members and that the school has representation at all relevant meetings.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is important to maintain good communication with the coordinator and the RTO, particularly in relation to the students' progress.

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### **AN EMPLOYER'S PERSPECTIVE**

#### **Why did the company become involved?**

When approached to take students for workplace learning we thought it would be a good opportunity to introduce young people to the industry and give something back to the community. It is important to encourage young people into the industry and spend the time giving them an understanding of what is involved.

#### **What kept our interest?**

The students who came to us were enthusiastic and willing to learn. They did what they were asked and on some occasions were able to pick up discrepancies. They had already learnt about the industry and had some knowledge of the tasks to be completed. The supervisor expressed his interest in working with the students and ensured that they performed tasks upon which they could be assessed. The trainer attended on a number of occasions to assess the students and liaise with the supervisor so students could complete the tasks.

#### **What were the outcomes?**

We enjoyed the experience, and would like to be involved in the program in 2009. The supervisor has suggested a number of improvements and adjustments we can make as a result of the pilot and these will be incorporated into the program in the future.

The students progressed well during their period of work placement. By the end they had matured and settled into the work and had gained skills and knowledge to consolidate what they had previously learnt.

It was good to see students graduating and to be given the opportunity to promote logistics in this environment.

#### **Things to look out for:**

It is important that prospective employers and supervisors study the units students will be assessed in before committing to the placement so they can provide suitable tasks to complete the assessments. It is also important to maintain good communication between all parties.

#### **Recommendations:**

Taking students for work placement does require a certain amount of time and effort but is a worthwhile experience and a great way to encourage more young people into the industry.