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**COMMONWEALTH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE INQUIRY
INTO EMPLOYMENT IN THE AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENT
MANUFACTURING SECTOR - INFORMATION REGARDING SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT IN VICTORIAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Victorian Certificate of Education and Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

Vocational Education and Training in the automotive industry can contribute to satisfactory completion of either of the senior secondary certificates in Victoria: the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). In August 2006, 2707 VET in Schools students in Victoria are enrolled in an automotive training program leading to a nationally recognised qualification.

The state-based approved pre-apprenticeship qualification is Certificate II in Automotive Technology Studies. Most VET in Schools automotive students are enrolled in this VCE VET Automotive program which provides direct credit in the VCE and is also undertaken by students enrolled in the VCAL. Completion of this qualification provides direct articulation into the trade level Certificate III in Automotive, drawn from the Automotive Retail, Sales and Repair Training Package. A student who completes the pre-apprenticeship and progresses into the trade level qualification will gain credit for 12 months of the apprenticeship and will enter the trade training program on 2nd year apprentice wages. In 2006, 2406 students are enrolled in this pre-apprenticeship qualification.

In 2006 in Victoria, 234 students are engaged in an Australian School-based Apprenticeship in the automotive industry, ranging from Bicycle Services to Vehicle Body to Marine Mechanics. The qualifications in which these students are enrolled are all drawn from the national Automotive Retail, Sales and Repair Training Package.

Another 67 students are undertaking components of nationally recognised automotive qualifications through institution based training programs.

Technical Education Centres

The Ministerial Skills Statement *Maintaining the Advantage: Skilled Victorians* allocated \$32 million over four years to establish Technical Education Centres (TECs) in Victoria. The announced four TECs will be established in Wangaratta, Ballarat, Berwick and Heidelberg from 2007-2010.

The TECs will be hosted and managed by TAFE Institutes. They will be delivering a range of vocational education and training (VET) programs such as VET in Schools, pre-apprenticeships and School Based New Apprenticeships to young people. Students will be able to undertake these programs as part of their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL).

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The TECs will provide cutting edge training facilities and high quality teaching in industry priority areas with strong links to local industry in an environment appropriate for young people. The final mix of program offerings will be the subject of consultations with local industry and schools, taking into account the results of demand analysis undertaken by the hosting TAFE. It is expected that where automotive skills are identified as local industry shortage area, a relevant VET program will be offered by the nearest TEC.

Australian Technical Colleges

The Commonwealth is establishing 24 Australian Technical Colleges (ATCs) across Australia that will provide tuition in both academic and vocational education for Year 11 and 12 students. Each College specialises in a particular trade, but offers at least four trades including:

- engineering (machinists, fabricators, toolmakers, welders sheet metal workers);
- automotive (mechanics, auto electricians, panel beaters, vehicle painters);
- construction (bricklayer, plumbers, carpenters);
- electrical (including refrigeration and power line); and
- commercial cookery.

The Colleges are located in regions with skills shortages, a large youth population and a strong industry base.

There are six ATCs in Victoria - three government schools and three non-government schools. The three government ATCs are: Eastern Melbourne (Ringwood Secondary College in partnership with St Joseph's College); Sunshine (Sunshine College), and Warrnambool (Brauer College in partnership with Baimbridge College). The three non government ATCs are located in Geelong, Bendigo and Bairnsdale/Sale in East Gippsland. Each of the ATCs will be offering SBNA's at Certificate III level training in trades in skill shortage areas including automotive.

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Table 1 – Overview of Australian Technical Colleges in Victoria

Australian Technical Colleges	Industries with Representation on the Australian Technical College Governing Body	Target Student Numbers	Trades to be Offered
Eastern Melbourne – Ringwood Secondary College in partnership with St Joseph's College (government)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Automotive Air (AAA) • ANCA (Tool Manufacturer) • Gemcan Constructions • Bowens Timber • GMG Electrical Motors • Melbourne East Group Training (MEGT) Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006- 75 (Actual as of August 2006- 19 students of which 13 are SBNAs) • By 2008-270 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automotive • Cabinet Making • Electrotechnology • Metals and Engineering • Building and Construction • Commercial Cookery
Sunshine-Sunshine College (government)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toyota Motor Co • Buffalo Trident • Austans • Australian Industry Group (AIG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007-50 • By 2009-300 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metals and Engineering • Automotive • Building and Construction • Electrotechnology • Commercial Cookery
Warrnambool-Brauer College in partnership with Baimbridge Secondary College (government)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rogers Construction • Hetherington Engineering • Lenehan Homes • DM Truck Centre • Ted Finchett Pty Ltd • Rossander Angus Stud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007- 60 • By 2009 - 295 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metals and Engineering • Automotive • Building and Construction • Electrotechnology • Commercial Cookery
Bendigo (non-government school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Conveying Australia Pty Ltd • McKern Building Products • Flowserve Pump Division • Morey and Hurford Builders • Perseverance Corporation • Poyser Motors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 - 65 • By 2009 - 204 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metals and Engineering • Building and Construction • Automotive • Commercial Cookery • Electrotechnology
Geelong (non-government school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G-Force Recruitment • Shell Refinery • Geelong Manufacturing Council • Ford Motor Company • Geelong Regional Vocational Education Group (GRVEC) • Lyons Construction • Alcoa Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 - 72 • By 2009 - 286 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and Construction • Automotive • Metals and Engineering • Electrotechnology
Gippsland-Bairnsdale/Sale (non-government school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farquhars Plumbing & Gas • Civil Contractors Federation • Patties Food • Bonaccord Foods • Chris Banks Building • Dullard Motors • Kennedy Trailers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007 - 53 • By 2009 —142 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and Construction • Automotive • Commercial Cookery • Metals & Engineering • Civil Construction • Electrotechnology

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Skills Centres for School Students

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) provides Victoria with capital and equipment funding to support the provision of VET programs under the *Skill Centres for School Students* component of the Infrastructure Program.

Skill Centres for School Students are funded on successful application addressing a number of selection criteria set out by DEST. Each Centre is expected to be utilised by a number of students from several schools, rather than just the successful applicant-school, and serve as a local hub of VET training in specific programs available to many students.

The Skill Centres are used primarily for VET delivery as part of the senior secondary certificates (VCE and VCAL) with support from the local TAFE Institute and the relevant Industry Training Board.

Since 2000, 33 Skill Centres have been established in Victoria under the DEST Infrastructure Program. Nine of these Centres have an automotive component in a mix of other programs.

School Based New Apprenticeships

School Based New Apprenticeships (SBNA) is a distinct pathway within VET in Schools where students have the option of combining employment, school and training. An SBNA program is undertaken as part of the VCE or VCAL, leading to a nationally recognised qualification at Certificate II and Certificate III levels. Requests for an SBNA at Certificate IV level are considered by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) on a case by case basis.

As at 31 July 2006, there were 315 training contracts in the automotive industry registered with the Office of Training and Tertiary Education (Table 2) with training provided by 24 Registered Training Organisations (Table 3).

South West Local Learning and Employment Network

The Victorian Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) foster local partnerships between schools, industry, government and community organisations to improve education and employment outcomes for young people. The state wide network of 31 LLENs has a specific focus on SBNAs, reflected in the 2005 Agreement between the Victorian Learning and Skills Commission and each LLEN.

Over the past two years, the South West Local Learning and Employment Network has been working with the local automotive industry, Automotive Training Victoria and the South West Auto Industry Group to strengthen the automotive industry profile and encourage student participation in automotive training programs in the region.

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Table 2 - School Based New Apprentices and Trainees in Training

Qualifications	Registered contracts as at 31/7/2006
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SERVICES & RETAIL (LIGHT VEHICLE MECHANICS)	1
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTO (MECH - HEAVY MOBILE EQUIP PLANT/EARTHMOVING/AGRIC)	6
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (ELECTRICAL - ACCESSORY FITTING)	5
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (MECHANICAL - UNDERBODY)	9
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (MECHANICAL - VEHICLE SERVICING)	200
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (SALES - REPLACEMENT PARTS & ACCESSORIES)	6
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (SALES - SERVICE STATION OPERATIONS)	1
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (VEHICLE BODY - DETAILING)	4
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE (VEHICLE BODY - PAINT/PANEL PREPARATION)	16
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING (BUS TRUCK & TRAILER)	1
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE BODY: PAINT PREPARATION	2
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE BODY: VEHICLE PRESENTATION	7
CERTIFICATE II IN AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE SERVICING: LIGHT VEHICLE	9
CERTIFICATE II IN BICYCLES (SERVICES)	5
CERTIFICATE II IN MARINE (SERVICES)	1
CERTIFICATE II IN OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT	1
CERTIFICATE II IN OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT (SERVICES)	6
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE (ELECTRICAL)	2
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE (MECH - HEAVY VEHICLE ROAD TRANSPORT)	12
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE (MECHANICAL - ENGINE RECONDITIONING)	1
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE (MECHANICAL - LIGHT VEHICLE)	15
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY: AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRONICS	1
CERTIFICATE III IN AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY: AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC HEAVY VEHICLE ROAD TRANSPORT	3
CERTIFICATE III IN MARINE (MECHANICS)	1
TOTAL	315

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Table 3 – Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) with SBNA enrolments in the automotive sector.

	RTO
1	BENDIGO REGIONAL INST OF TAFE
2	CATERPILLAR INST (TAS VIC) PL THE
3	CENTRAL GIPPSLAND (GIPPS TAFE) TAFE
4	CHISHOLM INSTITUTE OF TAFE
5	CREATE (GEELONG) INCORPORATED
6	EAST GIPPSLAND INSTITUTE OF TAFE
7	ECHUCA & DISTRICT VOCATION EDU & TRAIN
8	EMPLOYMENT FOCUS (HBERG TRG & RES CENT)
9	FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA LTD
10	GIPPSLAND GROUP TRAINING P/L
11	GORDON INSTITUTE OF TAFE
12	GOULBURN OVENS INSTITUTE OF TAFE
13	HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE OF TAFE
14	KANGAN BATMAN INSTITUTE OF TAFE
15	LINK EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING INC
16	MURRAY MALLEE TRAINING COMPANY
17	RECRUITNET CAREER SKILLS
18	SOUTH WEST INSTITUTE OF TAFE
19	SUNRAYSIA INSTITUTE OF TAFE
20	SWAN HILL SECONDARY COLLEGE
21	SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECH
22	TAFE NSW - RIVERINA INSTITUTE
23	UNIVERSITY OF BALLARAT
24	VUT (TAFE DIVISION)

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Contacts:

Further information regarding the Victorian Local Learning and Employment Network, Technical Education Centres, Australian Technical Colleges, School Based New Apprenticeships and Skills Centres is available from George McLean, General Manager, Post Compulsory Division, Office of Learning and Teaching (telephone: 9637 2179 email: mclean.george.g@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Further information regarding the data for School Based New Apprenticeships is available from Chris Stewart, Assistant General Manager, Apprenticeships and Traineeships, Training Operations Division, Office of Training and Tertiary Education (telephone: 9637 2699 email: stewart.chris.c@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Further information regarding the Victorian Certificate of Education or the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning is available from John Firth, Chief Executive Officer, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (telephone: 9651 4314 email: firth.john.e@edumail.vic.gov.au)

