WorldSkills Australia provides a great stage for individuals to continually improve their skills, knowledge and ability, whether as a competitor or a coach/mentor to be the best they can be.
VISION
To contribute to sustainable economic prosperity through the development, recognition and promotion of excellence in skills.

MISSION
To actively engage in the development of policy and the practice of skills excellence in Australia through competitions, international benchmarking and applied research.

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WorldSkills continues to grow as an international organisation, with new member countries joining this past year that include Kingdom of Bahrain and Chile.

The ever increasing number of member countries joining the WorldSkills family is indicative of the role WorldSkills plays and importantly its potential to influence skills learning and excellence globally through collaboration.

Vocational education and training is fast emerging as an important area of focus, evidenced by the well-publicised needs of the emerging economies in Asia and South America.

WorldSkills can play a critical role in fostering the exchanges of ideas, technological developments, the establishment of partnerships and the adaptation of new teaching methods.

Education delivery is in itself changing as it adapts to new age sophisticated teaching platforms. There is much that can be learnt.

WorldSkills Australia is well placed to make a significant contribution to the Asia Pacific region. Our achievements in the world arena can support Australia’s exports and assist in marketing Australia’s education, now recognised as Australia’s fourth largest export valued at over $15 billion dollars annually.

WorldSkills Australia is a strategic export asset as well as being a benchmark for excellence within our own vocational system.

WorldSkills Australia’s achievements in Germany are testament to the dedication and quality of the mentors, the teachers, the experts, the employers, the registered training organisations, the sponsors and of course all the competitors themselves. Those who compete in the regionals, those who compete in the nationals, and of course those who go on to compete at the international level, the Skilled Australians.

They all contribute to raising the status and profile of vocational education, and provide the platform for inspiring stories to be shared; stories that will serve to inspire other young Australians to embark on a skills based career.

I am deeply privileged to take on the role of Chair at this time in the WorldSkills journey. I do so confident that WorldSkills Australia has the ability and the energy to grow in stature and influence. Maintaining its commitment to skills excellence, and importantly to provide young Australians with the opportunity to aspire and inspire.

I would also like to acknowledge the previous chair of WorldSkills, Jeanette Allen and thank her for her stewardship and inspiration over the past three years. WorldSkills owes much to Jeanette and I am delighted Jeanette has chosen to remain on the Board.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Directors for their contribution and input, and acknowledge the Chief Executive Officer, Mark Callaghan, and his management team, the volunteers, industry experts, and all competitors for their outstanding work and commitment.

It has been an exceptional year. Exceptional because WorldSkills Australia has accelerated along its path to becoming truly relevant in its role, showcasing the outstanding achievements through Australia’s vocational education system.

This time of year is given over to reviews and previews. It provides a great opportunity to take stock of what the WorldSkills family has achieved and what our plans are for the future.

Any way that you look at it, 2012/2013 was an extremely busy year for WorldSkills Australia (WSA).

• August/September 2012 saw the WSA National Competition being held at Sydney Olympic Park with the competition culminating in a glittering Presentation Ceremony that celebrated the achievements of Australia’s most talented young men and women.

• June/July 2013 saw two teams of champions proudly represent Australia on the world stage - our BIM Skilled Future Program recipients and the WSA Team Australia Skillaroos.

• Throughout 2013, Regional competitions have been held throughout the country.

On top of delivering our core program - skills competitions - WSA has increased our involvement in other activities through programs such as ‘Try a Trade/Try a Skill’, AuSkills (a partnership with VETNetwork Australia) and research such as Gen Green. All of this is aimed at increasing the recognition of WSA as a critical participant and advocate in the development and promotion of skills in Australia.

None of what WSA achieved throughout the year would have been possible without the support and hard work of many. From the professional staff of the WSA National office and the WSA Board, led by Brian Wexham, to our Government partners, industry sponsors, TAFE’s, RTO’s, ISIC’s and others - your support is invaluable. The real driving force behind WSA is our volunteers - the WSA family. I have had the privilege of meeting many members of the family during the year and I am always amazed by their level of passion, dedication and commitment. Despite operating in an increasingly difficult climate, the WSA volunteer army continue to ensure the ongoing success of all our programs.

And what of the years ahead. The WSA Board and staff are committed to ensuring WSA continues to grow and be an integral part of skills development in this country and to ensure that we remain globally competitive. WSA’s greatest asset is its people and our future strength lies in our regions. As such, we have embarked on an extensive review of all regional activity aimed at broader engagement from all stakeholders at the regional level.

WorldSkills on the international stage continues to grow with Australia now being one of 67 Member Countries worldwide. Being a part of this global network provides us with the opportunity to not only benchmark our skills and training system against the rest of the world but also allows us to utilise and leverage our international membership and international links in ways which will provide a greater return on investment for governments, the training sector and industry alike.

WSA will continue to offer opportunities for anyone who wants to be involved or contribute. There are countless stories of Australians who have been inspired by their involvement or by what they have seen at a WorldSkills event. I look forward to continuing to work with everyone in the WSA family to ensure we continue to build a skills respect culture and to ensure that we promote skills excellence - both of which will contribute to our nation’s future success.

BRIAN WEXHAM, CHAIR OF WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

MARK CALLAGHAN, CEO OF WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA

FROM THE CEO
“WorldSkills Australia provides a great stage for individuals to continually improve their skills, knowledge and ability, whether as a competitor or a coach/mentor to be the best they can be. The push for excellence by both ensures we can compete in international competitions at world class standards.”

Doug Wright
CONSULTANT, AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY GROUP

“WorldSkills Australia provides the opportunity for young Australians to improve their vocational and life skills through participation in competitions in Australia and internationally. Increasing the skills of young people is one of my key objectives and I’m delighted to make a contribution as a WorldSkills Australia Board Member.”

Martin Baird
MANAGING DIRECTOR, ARIA & OFFICE PTY LIMITED

“The excitement and energy that WorldSkills Australia competitors exude is infectious. When combined with the experience and expertise of the organisation, I get a buzz every time that I get to work with WorldSkills Australia.”

Jeanette Allen
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SERVICE SKILLS AUSTRALIA

“WorldSkills Australia offers young people many opportunities to build and enhance the skills and knowledge achieved through their Vocational Education and Training programs. It matches national industry skills standards to international benchmarks through competition and assists in building tomorrow’s industry leaders through the personal growth of individual young people.”

Wayne Collyer
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COLLYER CONSULTANCY PTY LTD

“WorldSkills Australia continues to provide significant opportunities and experiences in the development of the futures of young Australians.”

Kevin Harris
DEPUTY CHAIR OF WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE DIRECTOR, TAFE NEW NORTHERN SYDNEY INSTITUTE

“WorldSkills Australia enables and empowers young Australians to have a go at being the best in the world. It is so rewarding to be part of the team that enables and empowers young Australians to hone their skills to the level of excellence and in many cases, to be the best in the world in their chosen field. If you haven’t been to a WorldSkills competition you are missing out on being inspired.”

Jarrad Langdon
DIRECTOR, JALA DESIGN

“WorldSkills Australia provides international benchmarking standards for skills being taught around Australia. The competition cycle demands that trainers, competitors, volunteers, sponsors and employers involved demonstrate excellence in their respective fields providing growth across all fronts.”

Jack Hanrahan
RETAIL RELATIONS GENERAL MANAGER, WESTFIELD

“WorldSkills Australia provides the opportunity for young Australians to improve their vocational and life skills through participation in competitions in Australia and internationally. Increasing the skills of young people is one of my key objectives and I’m delighted to make a contribution as a WorldSkills Australia Board Member.”

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WSA EXPLAINED
WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA’S PURPOSE

WorldSkills Australia (WSA) is a dynamic national organisation that has been actively contributing to Australia’s economic prosperity through the development, recognition and promotion of vocational skills excellence since 1981. WSA is our country’s premier showcase of youth skill and trade excellence. Our mission is to actively engage in the development of policy and the practice of skills excellence in Australia through competitions, international benchmarking and applied research. Our aim is to encourage Australians to celebrate vocational education and training, to shift perceptions and create the understanding that to learn a skill, to choose a skill-based career, is one of the most important decisions a young person and their family will ever make. Our competitions operate on a two-year cycle; Regional Competitions flow into National Competitions and National Competition winners, if eligible, can become members of the Team Australia Skillaroos.

WSA’s program of competitions, aligned to National Training Packages, work to ensure that today’s young people have the skills and abilities to compete within a rapidly changing global marketplace.

Regional Competitions

Regional Competitions provide young people, working in or studying a trade or skill, with the opportunity to showcase their passion and talent in over 50 competition categories. Regional Competitions may then be eligible to compete at the 2014 WSA National Competition, Perth.

At WSA we have seen many young people transformed through the challenge of competition. Their dedication in undertaking months of intensive training to prepare for competitions, their satisfaction in achievement and the development of personal confidence has ensured that WSA continues to nurture young people to be the best they can be. National winners are overwhelmed by the knowledge that they represent the best in Australian vocational skills achievement. The excitement and inspiration generated by these young people, as they awaken to their enormous potential, has driven WSA’s programs to ensure that competition is only the beginning of a tremendous life journey.

WSA is more than just Australia’s biggest and most prestigious skills competition; WSA competitions unearth trade excellence. Our mission is to actively engage in the development of policy and the practice of skills excellence in Australia through competitions, international benchmarking and applied research.

Benjamin Antigny, 2013 Team Australia Skillaroo, Fashion Technology.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The WSA National Competition hosts Australia’s best students, trainees and apprentices for three exhilarating days of competition in over 50 specialised skill areas. The venue for the National Competition alternates between states every two years. Medalists from the 2014 WSA National Competition may be selected to be part of the Australian team, known as the Skillaroos, who will compete in the International Competition to be held the following year. Eligible competitors from the competition are also encouraged to apply for the scholarship programs associated with WSA.

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

WSA is one of 67 WorldSkills International Member Countries/Regions. Every two years, participating nations converge at the world’s largest skills competition, the WorldSkills International Competition. Competitors have had to advance from both the Regional and National levels to prove their commitment and skills in their chosen field and the International Competition is the ultimate test. Members of the Team Australia Skillaroos become ambassadors not only for their industry, but also their training institute, employer, region, state and country.

The 43rd WorldSkills International Competition will be held in São Paulo, Brazil in August of 2015. This is where the 2015 Team Australia Skillaroos will defend Australia’s ranking as the 13th most highly skilled nation in the world.

BENEFITS OF COMPETITION

- Provides a friendly and competitive platform for individuals, employers and training institutes to benchmark training and skills standards
- Encourages ambitious students, trainees and apprentices to challenge themselves
- The competition environment increases the determination to achieve excellence
- Showcases the high standard of training available in Australia’s vocational education and training sector
- Celebrates and promotes trade and skill pathways as viable first choice career options
- WorldSkills Australia competitions open up a wide range of progression opportunities including further training, mentoring, scholarship programs and international pathways
- Proven platform for providing personal and professional development

COMPETITIONS

Regional Competitions

WorldSkills Australia’s (WSA) national program of Regional Competitions was held between March and December of 2013. The regional round of competitions is held biennially, with approximately 4000 students, apprentices and trainees across the 30 WSA Regions, competing in over 500 Regional Competitions.

Regional Competitions

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Regional Competitions run over one or two days and are organised by WSA’s dedicated volunteers. All competitions are convened in either a public forum or a training facility such as a TAFE institute.

Benefit of competition:

- Provides a friendly and competitive platform for individuals, employers and training institutes to benchmark training and skills standards
- Encourages ambitious students, trainees and apprentices to challenge themselves
- The competition environment increases the determination to achieve excellence
- Showcases the high standard of training available in Australia’s vocational education and training sector
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For approximately 500 eligible medallists who will be progressing from the regional round to the 2014 WSA National Competition in Perth, this is only the beginning of their life-changing WorldSkills journey.

WSA is pleased to report the return of Regional Competitions to the Pilbara region in Western Australia and the introduction of new competition categories in a number of the WSA Regions across Australia including Goldfields, North Queensland, Wide Bay and Ballarat/Wimmera, signifying the growing reach of WSA across Australia.

WSA would like to thank our State and Territory Managers, our Main Regional Coordinators and all of our wonderful volunteers who collaborated to deliver over 500 Regional Competitions across our 30 WSA Regions. We look forward to welcoming our 2013 regional champions to the 2014 WSA National Competition in Perth.
TEAM AUSTRALIA 2013
SKILLAROOS - THEIR JOURNEY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TEAM

Following their medal winning success at the 2012 WorldSkills Australia National Competition held in Sydney and a rigorous selection process, the 2013 Team Australia Skillaroos were announced on the 19th of November, 2012.

The announcement marked the beginning of a new WorldSkills chapter for 33 of Australia’s most talented trade and skill technicians, who were nine months away from departing Australia as a representative of their industry and their country at the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition being held in Leipzig, Germany.

The selection of the team who would represent Australia at the International Competition was filled with a number of firsts for WorldSkills Australia. Not only were the 2013 Skillaroos one of the largest Australian teams in history. For the first time in over 20 years, WSA saw the return of the Carpentry category and the addition of a new competition category for Australia in Polymechanics.
In addition to the Skillaroos, there are a number of other people who together make up Team Australia and who are crucial to the success of the Skillaroos at the International Competition. WorldSkills Australia would like to thank each member of Team Australia who accompanied the Skillaroos to Leipzig as well as all of the support from trainers, mentors, sponsors, families and friends back in Australia who worked together to prepare the Skillaroos for the International Competition.

TEAMS AUSTRALIA EXPERTS

Adam McDonald
Auto Body Repair

Alan Randle-Smith
Floristry

Ben Meade
Landscape Gardening

Brad Franklin
Car Painting

Brent Butler
Manufacturing Team Challenge

Caroline Hawkins
IT Software Solutions for Business

Chris MacDonald
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning

Darren May
Jewellery

Dave Arnold
Electrical Installations

Dion Iori
Joinery

Donna DeMaria
Hairdressing

Donna Drain
Fashion Technology

Grant Stewart
Plumbing and Heating

Grant Pitch
Automobile Technology

Hilton Jones
Sheet Metal Technology

Ian Vickery
Painting & Decorating

James Sun
Restaurant Service

Jarred Langden
Web Design

Jason Hindes
Cabinetworking

John Sharples
Construction Metal Work

Marion Fitzpatrick
Cooking

Paul Condron
Welding

Peter Buttenshaw
Polymechanics

Philip Austin
Compatriot Support Expert Role

Ron Simeon
Wall & Floor Tiling

Sarah Jones
Graphic Design Technology

Sue Collins
Beauty Therapy

Troy Everett
Bricklaying

Warren Cartlyn
Industrial Control

TOP TO BOTTOM: James Sun and Jessica Martin, Restaurant Service; Troy Everett and Alan Randle-Smith, Floristry

TEAM AUSTRALIA SUPPORT STAFF

Brigitte Collins
Team Australia Technical Delegate

Neel Munkman
Team Australia Technical Delegate Assistant

Rachel Wallace
Team Australia Team Leader

Dave O’Donnell
Team Australia Team Leader

Tyson Knight
Team Australia Assistant Team Leader

Steve Bulman
Team Australia Expert Support

GLOBAL SKILLS CHALLENGE

The 2013 Global Skills Challenge (GSC), an integral event for preparation and training in the lead up to the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition, was held in Perth between April 30th and May 3rd, 2013.

The GSC welcomed competitors from several WorldSkills Member Countries/Regions including China, Malaysia, Canada and the United Kingdom. Approximately 85 competitors converged on Polytechnic West’s Bannleigh, Carlisle and Midland campuses for four days of exhilarating competition.

The simulated International Competition proved an invaluable training opportunity for all competitors involved, particularly the 2013 Team Australia Skillaroos, who were able to test their skills in a high pressure environment against their international peers and identify areas that required further training, all with the goal of improving their individual performances in Germany.

THE 42ND WORLDSKILLS INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, LEIPZIG GERMANY

On the 2nd of July 2013, Leipzig Trade Fair opened its doors to over 1,000 competitors, 2,000 experts, 3,000 volunteers and 200,000 visitors for the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition.

Over four days of competition, skill and trade professionals from up to 65 countries and regions competed across 46 official trade and skill disciplines for the title of world champion. The International Competition saw each member of the 2013 Team Australia Skillaroos pushed to their limits.

To paint a picture of the type of work the competitors were expected to complete over the four days we asked our 2013 international gold medallist in Automobile Technology, Timothy Taylor, to explain his project: "My competition was made up of six different three hour modules, spread over the four days. I had to repair and overhaul an Audi A4 engine as well as a five speed manual transmission out of a VW Scirocco. I had to diagnose and repair several different aspects of the braking system on a VW Golf and do the same with the steering and suspension systems on a VW Passat. Those four tasks had me running flat out the whole time, trying to squeeze several hours of work into the three. The other two units were focused on electrical diagnosis and repairs on the body systems of a VW Golf, and the engine management system on a VW Beetle. I found the two electrical modules to be the most challenging, because there had been so many complicated faults placed into the vehicles.

The WorldSkills International Competition was by far the most mentally and physically demanding four days of work I have ever done, but I really enjoyed the challenge and had a lot of fun."
THE RESULTS

After four of the most challenging working days the 2013 Skillaroos had ever experienced the team joined 1000 international competitors and thousands more spectators for the official award ceremony of the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition in Leipzig, Germany.

The 2013 Team Australia Skillaroos, left the competition with an impressive collection of medals across a broad range of skill areas. WorldSkills Australia is pleased to report that even up against stronger competition and an increased number of competing nations, Australia’s exceptional skill standards and vocational education and training system have been reflected in our nation’s impressive international ranking.

Taking home a total of 19 medals – including one gold, two silver, one bronze and fifteen Medallions of Excellence, Australia made an outstanding effort which has secured our ranking as the 13th most highly skilled nation in the world.

| Gold Medal | Tim Taylor | Automobile Technology |
| Silver Medal | Tayron Scagnetti | Jewellery |
| | Jessica Martin | Restaurant Service |
| Bronze Medal | Lachlan Mayled | Welding |
| Medallion of Excellence | Alan Ramsden | Bricklaying |
| | Aidan Meale | Landscape Gardening |
| | Alex De Koeyer | Plumbing and Heating |
| | Andrew McCormick | Car Painting |
| | Ashleigh Huntley | Fashion Technology |
| | Benjamin Hackett | Painting and Decorating |
| | Dayne Ciborowski | Autobody Repair |
| | Hannah Colquhoun | Beauty Therapy |
| | Jay Logan | Sheet Metal Technology |
| | Jessamy Mooney | Hairdressing |
| | Jessie Lucas | Cooking |
| | Keith Buckley | IT Software Solutions for Business |
| | Mitchell Barron | Refrigeration and Air Conditioning |
| | Mitchell LaRosa | Web Design |
| | Ryan Dahblom | Landscape Gardening |
| | Brandon Gillett | Polymechanics/Automation |
| | Brett Cahill | Cabinetmaking |
| | David Corrigan | Joinery |
| | David Cumings | Electrical Installations |
| | Dayne Robinson | Floristry |
| | Kurt Maier | Construction Metal Work |
| | Luke Wray | Wall and Floor Tiling |
| | Mathew McGlashan | Manufacturing Team Challenge |
| | Patrick Markovic | Carpentry |
| | Philip Matthews-Fredrick | Manufacturing Team Challenge |
| | Rowan Diggins | Manufacturing Team Challenge |
| | Shaun Francis | Industrial Control |

Top L-R: Tayron Scagnetti, Jewellery; Jessica Martin, Restaurant Service; Lachlan Mayled, Welding
Above: 2013 Team Australia Skillaroos at Closing Ceremony of WorldSkills Competition
Thank you to each and every one of our Team Australia Skillaroos sponsors and supporters

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Jewellery Association Australia
John Sharples
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Master Builders Australia Ltd (CAMS)
McGraw Hill
MTR
PerthWater
Plumbing Services Fellowship
Polytechnic West
Queensland Government
Refrigerant Reclaim Australia
Service Skills Australia
SkillsTech Australia
SkillsTech Australia - Eagle Farm
SkillsTech Australia – Queensland
Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE
South West Institute of Technology
TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute – Wollongong Campus
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute – Wagga Wagga Campus
TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute - Hornsby Campus
TAFE NSW New England Institute - Armidale Campus
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute - Albury Campus
TAFE NSW Western Institute - Dubbo College
TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute - Greenville College
TAFE NSW South Western Sydney Institute - Lidcombe College
TAFE NSW South Western Sydney Institute - Milperra College
TAFE NSW South Western Sydney Institute - Milperra College
TAFE NSW Sydney Institute - Ultimo College
TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute - Ryde Campus
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute - Greenville College
TAFE NSW Riverina Institute - Leeton Campus
University of Ballarat – TAFE

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Effcop
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Goldwell
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Heatcraft
Illawarra TAFE Student Association
IRWIN Industrial Tool Company P/L
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Master Painters
Matrix
Miami
Montgomery Tactiles
Northern Sydney Institute – Student Association
Pallflex Group
Paracatta Smash Repairs
PPG
RCA
Rothschild
SAGE
Sales
Siemens Australia
Smythers Glass
Standex McGinty
Stauff Tubing P/L
SWSI - Student Association
Sydney Automotive Paints & Equipment
Tri Tech Refrigeration
VW Australia
VOG

TRAINING INSTITUTES

Box Hill Institute
Cairns Beauty Academy
Canberra Institute of Technology
Central Institute of Technology
Central Queensland Institute of TAFE – Gladstone Campus
Institute of TAFE – Gladstone Campus
Polytechnic West - Bega Campus
SkillsTech Australia – Eagle Farm
SkillsTech Australia – Queensland
Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE
South West Institute of Technology

WORLD SKILLS INTERNATIONAL

2013 INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

MEMBER COUNTRIES/REGIONS

Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Barbados
Belgium
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Canada
Chile
China
Chinese Taipei
Colombia
Croatia
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Hong Kong, China
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran
Ireland
Jamaica
Japan
Kingdom of Bahrain
Korea
Kuwait
Laos
Luxembourg
Macao, China
Malaysia
Mexico
Morocco
Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Oman
Paraguay
Philippines
Portugal
Principality of Liechtenstein
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
South Africa
South Tyrol, Italy
Sri Lanka
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States of America
Venezuela
Vietnam

WorldSkills Australia | Annual Report 2012-2013
In 2012, WorldSkills Australia (WSA) and VETnetwork Australia received joint funding to develop and implement the AuSkills program. The program aims to provide Australian apprenticeship advisors with the right tools and resources to better equip them in their dealings with job-seekers looking to pursue an Australian apprenticeship pathway.

The program has been achieving these goals through hosting a number of key events and professional learning sessions in each state and territory across the nation. Over the last 12 months there have been a series of AuSkills events held across metropolitan and regional Australia.

The events involve the use of existing Australian apprentices, employers, teachers and trainers to provide anecdotal insights into the challenges and benefits of pursuing a vocational education and training pathway.

Each AuSkills event has been designed to address and cater for the specific audience, location and the needs of the identified region in which it is being hosted. Some events have included additional features such as the development or use of aptitude and attitudinal testing or job matching support.

The AuSkills program also aims to support and/or provide resources for apprenticeship advisors and new employers to better equip them in supporting an apprentice who is making the transition from school to work. One of the resources developed through the program for apprenticeship advisors and job seekers is the AuSkills Mobile/Web Application, which was launched in 2013.

AuSkills has been funded by the Australian Government.

To read more about the WSA Try’aSkill events throughout the country visit the WSA website.

Try’aSkill events are run throughout the year in locations all across the nation. To find out about upcoming Try’aSkill events in your area visit the WSA website.

WorldSkills Australia (WSA) Try’aSkill is an interactive program which allows people to try their hand at various skill and trade professions. The displays are entertaining, informative and offer access to some of the basic skills involved within a range of fields.

The displays seek to motivate school students, young people and job-seekers through ‘hands-on’ experience and to give them a taste of some of the skills required in a number of different careers.

Try’aSkill offers participants the opportunity to interact with skilled tradespeople and to seek information from industry experts, other apprentices, TAFE teachers and local business owners about vocational education and training pathways.

Many Try’aSkill events are run in conjunction with WSA Regional and National Competitions and careers expos. This allows visitors at these events to watch, try and learn about skills all in the one location.

Try’aSkill events are run throughout the year in locations all across the nation. To find out about upcoming Try’aSkill events in your area visit the WSA website.

The Australian Apprenticeship Ambassadors Program

The Australian Apprenticeship Ambassadors Program, established in 2011, is an initiative of the Australian Government which aims to promote the benefits of obtaining a formal skills qualification to job seekers of all ages.

This is being achieved through the engagement of high profile Australian’s working in a range of skill and trade areas.

Throughout 2012 and 2013, Australian Apprenticeship Ambassadors, including sports persons, acclaimed chefs, television personalities and WorldSkills Australia (WSA) ambassadors have shared their story of how an Australian apprenticeship can offer skills for life at a range of events held throughout the nation.

WSA ambassadors including Regional and National competitors, BBM Skilled Futures Program recipients and Skilaroo have also provided their stories and advice as a public resource on the Australian Apprenticeships website for job-seekers wanting to learn more about the opportunities available through an Australian apprenticeship.

The use of real-life testimonies provides job-seekers with valuable insights into a number of skill and trade based professions whilst simultaneously highlighting the many benefits which can come from gaining a formal skills qualification.

Visit the www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au to view the case studies of the Australian Apprenticeship Ambassadors.

THE AUSSKILLS MOBILE/WEB APP

The AuSkills Mobile/Web Application (App), serves as a careers search resource for advisors and job seekers. The purpose of the App is to provide job matching support and comprehensive, interactive and engaging information to users interested in an Australian apprenticeship.

The App is powered through a basic search tool which allows users to follow a step-by-step process which will match them with a potential career pathway based on interests, perceived skills, subjects studied at school and geographical location (if applicable).

Included in the AuSkills App are profiles of a wide range of trades and skills, engaging video’s of people working in the industry, a snapshot of potential career opportunities and links to information of over 4000 vocational education and training courses being offered around Australia.

The AuSkills app is available for download through the App Store and Google Play.

AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIP AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

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Visit the www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au to view the case studies of the Australian Apprenticeship Ambassadors.
2012/2013 HIGHLIGHTS

2013 YOUTH FORUM & REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The 2013 Youth Forum and 2013 Regional Workshop took place from February 26th to March 2nd, in Melbourne at RMIT University, Brunswick Campus.

Over three days, 20 WorldSkills Australia (WSA) past regional and national competitors from all over Australia, each representing a broad range of skill and trade backgrounds, came together to share ideas and workshop suggestions in an exciting and stimulating setting.

The overall theme of the 2013 Youth Forum was: “How do we sell WorldSkills Australia?” The delegates came up with a wide range of creative and innovative ways to promote WSA’s program of events to key stakeholder groups such as:

- Employers
- Training Institutes
- Future competitors
- Volunteers

The Youth Forum culminated in an inspirational presentation delivered to an audience of over 50 key members of the WSA network including: Main Regional Coordinators, WSA volunteers, trainers, teachers and other interested stakeholders.

This presentation then flowed into the 2013 Regional Workshop, where delegates from across the 30 WSA regions worked together to brainstorm ideas, share suggestions, pass on their knowledge and develop new ways to deliver the regional platform of WSA competitions.

The Regional Workshop is critical in the forward planning of WSA Regional Competitions. Without the support at the regional level, the National Competition and Australia’s participation at the International Competition would not be possible for WSA.

Once again, these critical events proved to be hugely successful with an abundance of imaginative ideas and recommendations pouring out of both workshops.

Thank you to those who contributed and supported these hugely successful events.

GIANT STEPS PLUMBING PROJECT

In May of 2013, WorldSkills Australia (WSA), BBM Youth Support and TAFE NSW partnered to deliver an innovative community focused initiative referred to as the Giant Steps Plumbing Project.

Giant Steps is an educational facility for children and young adults with autism. The centre, located at the old Gladesville Hospital site in NSW, was established by a group of parents who wanted to build an institute where therapy and education could be combined in a supportive and understanding environment.

Since the centre was established, Giant Steps have been able to achieve incredible results whilst also providing emotional and educational support to families.

Part of the Giant Steps facility is a courtyard and playground, where the students are able to enjoy recreational activities outdoors away from classroom activities. Unfortunately during times of heavy rain, the courtyard would flood and due to the lack of a sufficient drainage system, would often remain flooded for days.

Like most organisations of this nature, Giant Steps was resource-poor and was unable to fix the courtyard on their limited budget, so WSA, BBM Youth Support and TAFE NSW teamed up to install a much needed drainage system in the Giant Steps courtyard.

Our goal was to clean the rainwater through a first-flush system before diverting it from the roof into the tank.

The local villagers were pretty happy. In small communities like that, vivo gets around that something is happening and everyone wants to have a look. Even without us being able to understand what they were talking about, it was pretty clear through their actions that they were interested to learn how it was going to work and were all keen for it to make a difference for them.

This project demonstrates how the skills and enthusiasm of students, matched to the real needs and knowledge of local organisations, can achieve a great result.

“I think WorldSkills competitions breed a special kind of person and after the competitions – these types of people yearn for something else. And often, a chance to give something back to people or communities is what these young people want and are keen to be involved in. Often you are at the top of your trade or skill when you are at the competition, so why not try to offer your skills to someone else who is less fortunate? I think it is a perfect progression,” says Grant.

The Nepal Sanitation Studio was made possible through the support from EgresStudio Newcastle - Australia, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), RMIT (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology) Australia, the World Plumbing Council and the WorldSkills Foundation.

GREEN PLUMBING IN NEPAL

On the 26th of January, WorldSkills Australia’s Plumbing Chief Expert, Grant Stewart and RMIT University Plumbing teacher, Wayne Elliott, arrived in Nepal to join the Nepal Sanitation Studio. The Nepal Sanitation Studio was a week-long design and development project initiated by Healthhabit which aimed to improve sanitation systems in the remote Dhulikel region of Nepal.

Grant and Wayne came on board to support Healthhabit’s team of plumbers and architects by contributing time and skills to work with a skilled team of local Nepali people to educate the communities and provide knowledge for how they can improve their quality of life.

The aim of the project was to provide these remote communities with access to a functioning sanitation system which included toilets, biogas and septic systems. The Nepal Sanitation Studio also encouraged villagers to observe the development and construction process, with the aim of passing on the necessary skills and understanding needed to apply any modifications or repairs.

When asked what the Nepal Sanitation Studio entailed, Grant explained: “The water tank is their lifetime. They don’t get a lot of rain in Nepal; there’s a long period between rainy season and dry season, so a lot of dust and other rubbish collects on the roofs.

Our goal was to clean the rainwater through a first-flush system before diverting it from the roof into the tank. The local villagers were pretty happy. In small communities like that, vivo gets around that something is happening and everyone wants to have a look. Even without us being able to understand what they were talking about, it was pretty clear through their actions that they were interested to learn how it was going to work and were all keen for it to make a difference for them. This project demonstrates how the skills and enthusiasm of students, matched to the real needs and knowledge of local organisations, can achieve a great result.

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SCHOLARSHIPS & INTERNATIONAL PATHWAYS

On the 16th of June, 16 of Australia’s elite trade and skill technicians embarked on the journey of a lifetime after being selected to be part of the 2013 BBM Skilled Futures Program. The program saw these highly skilled professionals head to the United Kingdom to participate in a leadership and development program facilitated by Mission Performance. This was then followed by an extensive international work experience placement, which enabled them to develop and advance further in their trade and industry.

The recipients of 2013 Skilled Futures Program were selected after their medal winning performances at the 2012 WorldSkills Australia (WSA) National Competition. Over the course of the two week leadership program, recipients faced a series of mentally and physically challenging team activities including a sinking ship simulator, mountain biking and trekking. Another important component of this course was the Strength Deployment Inventory, a self-assessment tool which analysed the behaviours and personalities of each team member.

Following the leadership course, the 2013 BBM team went their separate ways and began their individual work experience placements within their respective industries. Each member of the team had to organise their overseas work experience prior to departure.

QUEENSLAND OVERSEAS FOUNDATION

On the 20th of February, the Queensland Overseas Foundation (QOF) announced the 2013 recipients of their highly sought after overseas scholarship opportunity. The QOF was established in 1976 and has since supported over 100 Queenslanders from a variety of trade backgrounds. The purpose of this opportunity is to gain new experiences overseas that can then be brought back to, not only the state of Queensland, but also Australia.

Congratulations to the five of the 2013 QOF recipients who were also WorldSkills Australia competitors:
- Jessica Parker - Business Services
- Jessie Lucas - Cookery
- Rhys Walsh-Tindali - PC Support
- Richelle Hassett - Retail Baking - Bread
- Travis Duff - Turning

2013 BBM Skilled Futures Program recipients:
- Stephen Beelitz, Waikerie, SA – Fitting
- Tyler Cook, Bathurst, NSW – Mechatronics
- Mitchell Croke, Taree, NSW – Signage
- Jarred Denning, Surrey Downs, SA – Plastering
- Justin Halliday, Morphett Vale, SA – Painting & Decorating
- Richelle Hassett, Grays Point, NSW – Retail Baking-Bread
- Amy Kelly, Holgate, NSW – Retail Baking-Pastry
- Joshua Kleing, Dubbo, NSW – Mechanics
- Rachel Mammat, Kama, NSW – Business Services
- Matthew Papandrea, Cecil Hills, NSW – Meat Retailing
- Todd Richards, Hay Point, QLD – Bricklaying
- Angus Sweet, Mt Gambier, SA – Heavy Vehicle Mechanics
- Dylan Ward, Macksville, NSW – Vehicle Painting

BBM Youth Support has maintained a longstanding relationship with WSA and has become a prominent international pathway for WSA competitors, since first partnering in 2000. Together the organisations have worked to develop and enrich the lives of Australia’s young and talented, by granting them the opportunity to enhance their skills and in turn their career prospects.
Following an extensive marketing and public relations campaign for the 2013 International Competition, WorldSkills Australia (WSA) is pleased to report that our media coverage has grown substantially. For the period February 1st, 2013, to August 31st, 2013, WSA achieved an audience reach of 30,959,563 million and an estimated true editorial value of $8,040,185*, which equates to a total of $1,148,682 per month.

Below is a summary of the WorldSkills Australia website statistics between February 1st, 2013, and August 31st, 2013.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media Type</th>
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*Advertising and editorial media coverage is fundamentally different in content, placement, presentation and reader response. The Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA) recommend other measures are applied to assess the effectiveness and impact of editorial media coverage, including audience/market reach, share of voice, qualitative analysis of messages communicated and, ultimately, audience effects, such as recall, awareness and attitudes. Strong editorial coverage is much more valuable and effective than advertising. Editorial coverage calculated via the PRIA recommendations is to 4 times the value of advertising space rate.

WorldSkills Australia (WSA) has continued to build and develop our strong online community over the past reporting period. Our audience have become accustomed to staying up to date with all WSA activities through our highly active social media accounts and strong online presence. As a result, we have been able to report a considerable spike in our audience impressions.

The WorldSkills Australia Website
www.worldskills.org.au

Below is a summary of the WorldSkills Australia website statistics between February 1st, 2013, and August 31st, 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Visits</th>
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</table>
Her interest in the hospitality industry developed through watching her father in the kitchen, a chef of 40 years. Jessica grew up around family owned businesses and soon discovered the diversity which came with working in hospitality. She began studying at TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute’s Ryde Campus where she completed a Certificate IV in Hospitality Supervision. “My love for the industry grew the more I studied and learnt, being able to do both hands on learning with practical classes and theory was the perfect thing for me,” said Jessica.

Jessica began her journey with WorldSkills Australia (WSA) at the age of 17, when she first competed in the 2011 Restaurant Service Regional Competition. After placing 2nd, Jessica was chosen to represent the Sydney region at the 2012 WSA National Competition, “being selected for Nationals really made me realise how serious it had become, it was then that my training intensified and I was exposed to a whole new world of restaurant skills,” says Jessica.

In the nine months leading up to the International Competition, Jessica worked closely with her mentors Brigitte Collins and Ivan Novak of TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute, Ryde Campus and WSA Restaurant Service International Expert and 2009 international gold medallist, James Sun, to develop and refine her skills in preparation for the event.

Jessica Martin has always had a dream of representing Australia on the international stage. After retiring as a professional figure skater, Jessica turned her attention to her other passion, restaurant service and hospitality.

In July of 2013, Jessica along with her 30 teammates departed for the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition which was held in Leipzig, Germany. At the International event, Jessica competed against 28 other restaurant service competitors from around the world. After four days of exhilarating competition, Jessica took home a silver medal for Australia.

“From my experience of the competition, I could feel myself growing and changing as a person. Words really can’t describe the experience. Becoming a part of a team that consisted of Australia’s best is such an amazing personal achievement and has made me realise how far I have come,” said Jessica.

Since returning from the International Competition, Jessica is now focused on training the new up and coming Restaurant Service competitors and also hopes to be chosen to judge at the 2014 WSA National Competition which will be held in Perth.

In the future Jessica hopes to establish her own cocktail bar or restaurant. She is also interested in taking on the profession of teaching in the hope of passing on the skills and knowledge she has gained through her experience with WSA and TAFE to other aspiring fine dining waiters.
Mathew became involved in the fitting and turning industry after receiving some valuable advice from family and friends who believed he would be suited to the trade. Taking these recommendations on board, Mathew read up on the profession and made the decision to begin actively seeking an apprenticeship.

It didn’t take long for this hard working young man to secure himself employment, when C&M Luessink Engineering met Mathew they quickly spotted his evident talent and offered him an apprenticeship. Mathew has been with the company ever since.

Mathew entered a Regional Competition after some encouragement from his employer, who has consecutively entered employees into WorldSkills Australia (WSA) Regional Competitions. The benefits were reiterated by Mathew’s TAFE teacher, Peter Buttenshaw, who has more than six years’ experience with WSA competitions.

Mathew progressed to the 2012 WSA National Competition where he won the bronze medal in his category and as a result was selected to become a Team Australia Skillaroo as a member of the three man International Competition category, the Manufacturing Team Challenge.

We asked Mathew to share with us his experience of the International Competition:

“The WorldSkills competition was very exciting and something I will never forget, I absolutely loved the challenge, and although we did not get the desired gold medal we were after at completion, this was a massive learning curve and I’m sure my teammates will also agree with me about the feeling of accomplishment that we gave a hundred per cent and never gave up. My teammates and I were all very proud to represent Australia. WorldSkills has taught me so much about myself and has enhanced a variety of my skills which include but are not limited to teamwork, communication, self-determination and workmanship.

My European holiday after the competition was just the icing on the cake for me. I got to visit some incredible countries and had some amazing experiences. From skydiving the Swiss Alps, visiting concentration camps in Austria, to visiting the Eiffel tower along with all the pre-competition sightseeing and activities we did in Germany, I would have to say that the whole two months I was away were just unforgettable.

I’d like to take this opportunity to say that apart from my amazing experience with the competition and holiday, I have also had the chance to work with, train with and meet some inspiring and supportive people in the lead up to the competition.

There are so many individuals and organisations that have been a massive help and have supported me on the path to Leipzig and I would just like to thank as many of them as possible and to say that I appreciate all the support and have not forgotten about your generosity and encouragement.

To C&M Luessink Engineering, the company I work for, your support and encouragement has been second to none and I am very grateful for all the extra time off, tooling, training and funding. To WorldSkills Australia, thank you for giving me the chance to showcase my skills and represent Australia at the highest level.

To Brent Butler, my International Expert, thank you for all of the hard work and time you put in to helping us reach our goals. Thank you to TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute, Wollongong Campus - the institute I trained and competed at.

Peter Buttenshaw, my teacher for the duration of my apprenticeship, thank you for training me and encouraging me to compete in a WorldSkills Competition. To the Illawarra Rotary Club, thank you for the massive contribution given to me after your fundraiser and for your continual interest in my ongoing career and personal life.

Matthew Hare from Hare and Forbes, thank you ensuring I was ready for anything with all of the tooling you generously supplied me with and last but not least Rod Hanson from Iscar who was there from the start, supplying any tools that were required to help get the job done in both the milling and turning areas of the competition.

Lastly, I would like to say a very big thank you to my family and friends who have been so supportive of me during this time. They have been very understanding and accommodating of my needs, and have been there for me whenever needed. My parents, girlfriend and close family friends even travelled to Leipzig to watch me compete.

I am now back at work, and have slipped right back into the normal routine of everyday life, but this experience has changed me for the better and I will be forever grateful to all of those involved.”

Mathew is currently busy back at work at C&M Luessink Engineering and is looking forward to remaining involved in WSA for years to come.
Matthew Papandrea never realised how far his apprenticeship could take him until he discovered the WSA Regional Competition. Since then, he has travelled the world, experienced a once-in-a-lifetime overseas leadership course, worked in some of Europe’s highest profile butcher shops and gained invaluable international knowledge and skills within his industry.

He started working at a family butchery at the age of 14, working weekends and school holidays. By the age of 16, Matthew was working weekends and every school holiday until he finished his HSC. After high school, Matthew enrolled in a Bachelor of Business Management as well as a Certificate III in Meat Retailing, both of which he successfully juggled alongside continuing to dedicate his days off to work at the family store.

It was whilst he was completing his Certificate III in Meat Retailing, when Matthew was introduced to WorldSkills Australia, “my TAFE teachers entered me into many competitions, many of which I was successful in but the most valuable one for me was by far the 2011 WorldSkills Australia Regional Meat Retailing Competition,” says Matthew.

Matthew’s high achieving nature saw him walk away from both the 2011 WSA Regional Competition and 2012 WSA National Competition with gold medals, “winning the WorldSkills Australia National Competition was one of the proudest moments of my life,” says Matthew.

Following his gold medal success on the national stage, Matthew was selected to be a part of the 2013 BBM Leadership Development Program, a program which provides experienced placements.

During the two week leadership program, Matthew alongside 15 of his fellow BBM teammates, faced a series of mentally and physically challenging team activities including a sinking ship simulator, mountain biking and trekking.

Following the leadership program, Matthew undertook a variety of work placements across Europe, this included visiting a butcher shop in Denmark known as Slagterfrimann, Jamie Oliver’s Barbecoo in the United Kingdom and Lidgates butchery in London. Matt also found himself on a tour of the Veneto butchers, a well-known manufacturer of meat and sausages in Germany as well as joining a butchery class at one of London’s leading stores, the Ginger Pig.

“I was given the opportunity to pursue my passion in different countries, from Germany, the king of the sausage to Denmark the king of small goods and then to London where I was able to experience the historic and traditional butchery culture. My work experience was invaluable. I now have the experience of working in teams and have also gained knowledge about the culture of my industry. I learnt about new products and gained insight into different styles of working all of which I can utilise here in Australia to further my career in the industry,” said Matthew.

Matthew was also provided with the opportunity to meet a variety of industry experts, including a meat manager at Harrods, a world famous department store. Matthew says, “My surprise visit to Harrods was a highlight of my trip. Harrods has one of the most exquisite meat sections in London. I enjoyed a cooked steak and built a relationship with the meat manager, a great contact to have in the giant, high-class store. It was a real surprise experience.”

Since his WorldSkills journey, Matthew successfully completed his apprenticeship and was awarded with a state medal for achieving a final mark of 95.1%. He is now focused on completing his university degree. In the future Matthew hopes to open a meat retailing outlet that will stand out from the average store.

WorldSkills Australia has provided me with a truly wonderful life experience. I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to mentor the competitors. It gives me such a fulfilling pleasure to see the young competitors thrive and go ahead to achieve such great things. Things they never thought were possible in their groups.

Sue Collins has been an integral member of the WorldSkills family for fifteen years. She pioneered the establishment of the WorldSkills Australia (WSA) Beauty Therapy category in North Queensland and has since mentored, trained, supported and inspired many young beauty therapists to achieve excellence in their profession through the WorldSkills program of competitions.

Sue, a teacher and beauty therapist, by trade, began her WorldSkills journey in 1998 when she was first introduced to the WSA program of Regional Competitions. She viewed the competition platform as a great way to assess students progress and as a result decided to run WSA’s first ever Beauty Care competition in North Queensland.

Following a successful Regional Competition, Sue was invited to Judge at the National Competition the following year and in her words, “from that point I was hooked”. Sue has been heavily involved in every round of Regional and National Competitions since, in a wide range of roles including; organising and running competitions, training and mentoring students, designing projects and judging.

For the past 12 years and six WorldSkills International Competitions, Sue has represented Australia as an International Expert Judge. In 2009, 2011 and 2013, Sue was voted in by her international peers to hold the prestigious title of Deputy Chief Expert at the International Competition, a true testament to her impeccable skills, expertise and experience in the industry.

In her role as an International Expert, Sue has dedicated countless hours to training, mentoring and guiding six aspiring Beauty Therapy Skillaroos through the International Competition, where she has achieved incredible results including a gold and bronze medal.

We asked Sue to share with us one of her favourite WorldSkills experiences: “All of my competitors have wonderful stories, but one in particular stands out for me and that is of Jessie-Lee Gladwell, a student from my school who was never very confident. I knew she was good at her skill, so I encouraged her to compete in the regionals, which she won. We started training for the Nationals immediately. She worked extremely hard for months but just before the Nationals she broke her wrist. Against my advice, Jessie-Lee decided she would remove the plaster and compete anyway. Throughout the entire competition I was so anxious and worried about her, but she was so determined to succeed you would not have known she even had a problem with her wrist. She ended up winning the gold, I will never forget how proud I felt in that moment.”

WorldSkills Australia has provided me with a truly wonderful life experience. I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to mentor the competitors. It gives me such a fulfilling pleasure to see the young competitors thrive and go ahead to achieve such great things. Things they never thought were possible in their groups.

After the National Competition, we started training for 2009 International Competition in Canada. Things were going really well until Jessie-Lee started having problems with her neck and back and it was later discovered she had broken a vertebra in her back and needed spinal surgery. I thought for sure this was the end of her WorldSkills journey but she came back from surgery and began working harder than ever. At the International Competition, Jessie-Lee once again rose to the challenge and ended up walking away from the event with an international gold medal.”

Sue is a fantastic mentor who has helped change the lives of many young Australians. She has made a significant contribution as a WSA volunteer, whilst simultaneously juggling her roles as the Owner, Director and Principal of Cairns Beauty Academy Salon and School.

Unfortunately 2013 saw Sue retire from her numerous roles at WSA due to other commitments. WSA would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue for her incredible passion, commitment and dedication to helping young Australians achieve things they may not have imagined possible.
Volunteers are one of WorldSkills Australia (WSA)’s most precious assets. Without our inspiring ‘family’ of over 4000 dedicated volunteers who give their time, skills, knowledge and resources, WSA would not be the successful organisation it is today. WSA would like to thank everyone who has been involved with WorldSkills over this past year. To the people who coordinated and assisted with the Regional Competitions throughout 2013, to the judges who designed the projects, to the trainers and experts who dedicated countless hours to train and mentor our competitors and to every other person who has helped to make this year the success it was – WSA’s success is your success.

Thank you for your commitment, passion, dedication and support of WorldSkills and of Australian youth in their pursuit of skills excellence.

“Many in the international WorldSkills community ask me why Australia consistently performs to a high standard; without hesitation, my answer is always the same – it is due to the people involved in WSA.”

Mark Callaghan
CEO of WorldSkills Australia
WorldSkills Australia (WSA) is excited to announce that the 2014 WSA National Competition will be returning to Perth for the first time since 1989.

The competition will be held at Perth’s Convention and Exhibition Centre between the 18th and 20th of September.

The three day event will see over 500 of Australia’s most talented students, trainees and apprentices from 30 regions battle it out for gold medal success and the prestigious title of ‘Australia’s Best’ in their chosen skill or trade.

National competitors will get the opportunity to benchmark their skills against their peers in 50 categories, ranging from the traditional trades such as Bricklaying and Vehicle Painting to the more contemporary professions of Mechatronics and Web Design.

The National Competition will also feature WSA’s interactive Try’aSkill program, where visitors can try their hand at various skill and trade professions as well as seek information from skilled tradespeople and industry experts.

If eligible, medallists from the 2014 National Competition may then be offered a position on the 2015 Team Australia Skillaroos, to compete as Australian representatives at the 43rd WorldSkills International Competition to be held in São Paulo, Brazil.

Medallists from the National Competition are also encouraged to apply for one of the many scholarship pathways associated with WSA.

WorldSkills Australia Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) program is a series of work-simulated projects based on industry standard frameworks which are designed and administered by practising teachers and industry professionals. The competitions are open for students still attending secondary schools and colleges.

VETiS Medallists from State and Regional Competitions are eligible to compete against their peers from around the country in the 11 VETiS categories offered at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition.

WHAT IS VETiS?
The WorldSkills Australia Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) program is a series of work-simulated projects based on industry standard frameworks which are designed and administered by practising teachers and industry professionals. The competitions are open for students still attending secondary schools and colleges.

WSA VETiS Competitions operate on the same two year cycle as WSA Regional Competitions. VETiS Medallists from State and Regional Competitions are eligible to compete against their peers from around the country in the 11 VETiS categories offered at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition.
WorldSkills Australia presents its financial report for the year ended 30 June 2013.

The directors of WorldSkills Australia during the year and to the date of the audit report are:

- Jeanette Allen
- Jack Hanrahan
- Jarrad Langdon
- Brian Weaham
- Douglas Wright
- Martin Baird
- Kevin Harris
- Daniel Lester (Resigned 27 April 2013)
- Pat Forward (Appointed 9 August 2012 / Resigned 24 May 2013)
- Wayne Collyer (Appointed 3 December 2012)

The principal activity of WorldSkills Australia continued to be the organisation and promotion of regional, national and international competitions.

- For the purposes of this Annual Report, extracts from the audited financial statements are included. The complete financial statements and auditor’s report are available by request.
- The financial statements were independently audited by Kilpatrick Lake Mackenzie of Charlestown NSW and the audit report issued on 24 October 2013 was unqualified.
- The financial statements as at 30 June 2013 showed the following:
  - Operating loss for the year of $19,821
  - Net assets of $325,255

### Financial Report 2012-2013

#### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>$1,534,392</td>
<td>$3,123,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>$36,012</td>
<td>$60,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,570,404</td>
<td>$3,184,693</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### LIABILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>$1,153,592</td>
<td>$2,767,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current liabilities</td>
<td>$91,557</td>
<td>$71,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$1,245,149</td>
<td>$2,839,617</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td>$325,255</td>
<td>$345,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>$325,255</td>
<td>$345,076</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This information is an extract from the complete audited financial statements which are available by request.
“WorldSkills Australia provides a great stage for individuals to continually improve their skills, knowledge and ability, whether as a competitor or a coach/mentor to be the best they can be.”