



## Transport Forum of WA (TFWA) – ensuring a skilled future

Have you considered taking on a trainee? Has your son or daughter expressed an interest in the transport industry, but doesn't know where to start?

Training is the only way to ensure a skilled and professional workforce for the future of transport industry. Unfortunately, the industry is not always marketed as the most attractive option to young people and companies often view employing unskilled trainees as an inconvenience. But it doesn't have to be this way.

With quality training programs and gratifying training outcomes, both employers and trainees can reap the mutual benefits a traineeship can offer. This is where the Transport Forum of WA can help.

When choosing a registered training organisation (RTO), ensure it has the right qualities to suit your needs and time requirements and that it provides quality-training outcomes, following up trainees and assessing individual needs.

### Personal and professional growth

The transport industry is without a doubt, one of the largest and most varied and exciting industries to be a part of. From warehousing to truck driving, office admin to accounting, training to occupational safety and health and supervising to management, there are endless interesting and exciting areas to fill with room for personal and professional growth. And there is a training program to suit all requirements.

Stewart Beard, national OS&H and training manager for WA Freightlines Pty Ltd Group of Companies has had only positive experiences and successes with trainees. The company is even in the running to win a national training award, leading the way for traineeships in transport.

"As a company if you are considering taking on trainees, but don't know where to start, TFWA has all the resources, programs, knowledge and experience to help you and guide you through the course. They will even work within your time frame and needs, which is essential in the transport industry and provide the guidance and supervision required to ensure successful outcomes," says Stewart.

"We were the first transport company in WA to take on school based trainees through the TFWA. The trainees have each completed twelve months with us and have done exceptionally well in their courses and will now be employed full-time by WA Freightlines."

Go for it!

These two trainees are Sam Pelicano and Kelley McDonald. Sam's Mum, Carmella

Pelicano says she is behind the traineeship 100 per cent:

"Sam has gained confidence, motivation and focus. He is a hard worker, but would have slipped through the system at school.

"The traineeship has got him out of the classroom and provided some hands on experience and responsibility..."

He even won the 'Government School Trainee of the Year' award. I urge all employers to get behind the program."

Sam, although modest about his achievements, says he was pleased to win the award and has enjoyed the whole experience, having learnt about the pace and hard work involved in the transport industry.

"I would tell others all about it and to give it a go," says Sam.

Kelley McDonald is the second school-based trainee to have been taken on by WA Freightlines. With graduation of high school complete, Kelley will be taking on a role in the customer service and operations area of WA Freightlines full-time and says the program has been excellent at giving her an insight into the various areas of the transport industry.

"The traineeship is so well-structured," Kelley says.

"I would definitely recommend it to others and I think that more people should be giving it a go. I'm lucky to be going straight from school into a full-time job with such a big company."

Kelley's Mum Sue McDonald agrees the traineeship is a positive step and tells other parents to "go for it!"

"The trainees are assigned an area they're suited to and it gives them an opportunity to do real work and learn on the job," says Sue.

"Kelley has always been confident, which is a benefit to the work place, but she has



*Sam signing up for his traineeship*

matured and gained independence too."

So, whether you are a parent, teacher or company interested in learning more about the school based traineeship and what it can do for you, your company, trainees and the future of the transport industry, give Navinder Singh a call at Transport Forum WA on 08 9470 1245 and see how you can make a difference. ●



*Kelley's happy in her work*

Transport Forum  
37 Cohn Street,  
Carlisle WA 6101  
Ph: 9470 1245  
[www.transportforumwa.com.au](http://www.transportforumwa.com.au)