



**The Largest Employer Network of Apprentices & Trainees**

9 July 2014

### **Governor recognises state's top group training apprentices & trainees**

The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Honourable Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, and Mrs Scarce hosted a reception for South Australia's top group training apprentices and trainees, who were recognised as winners and finalists in the 2014 South Australian Group Training Awards.

The 2014 South Australian Group Training Awards recognises outstanding apprentices and trainees who were selected from approximately 4000 group training apprentices and trainees currently engaged in training and employment pathways in South Australia through Group Training Organisations.

The Governor, who is Patron of Group Training Australia (SA), hosted the 2014 South Australian Group Training Awards at Government House on the 9 July 2014 in the presence of The Hon. Gerry Kandelaars, MLC, David Pisoni, the Shadow Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, industry stakeholders, finalists, winners, host employers, Group Training Organisations and families and friends of the recognised apprentices and trainees.

Winners of the awards included the following outstanding apprentices and trainees:

**Apprentice – Marcus Harders**, Plumbing Apprentice employed by PEER VEET.

**Trainee – Foster Davis** Administration Trainee employed by Murraylands Training and Employment.

**Indigenous Apprentice (Trainee)– Anika Duffy**, Management Trainee with Career Employment Group

**School-Based Apprentice – Sarah Voigt**, Commercial Cookery apprentice with Hospitality Group Training.

His Excellency congratulated the finalists on the night and shared his words of encouragement as they enter in to the world of work "As our world becomes more globalised, digitised and future-focussed, as we 'outsource' more of our basic needs, we risk losing what earlier generations valued most: strength, skill, ingenuity, know-how, tangible connections between traditional and contemporary practice. I know that each of you is building and sustaining those values in your lives through your training programs, your apprenticeships or your traineeships in diverse and highly specialised areas of work. It is these traits that will ensure that South Australia will have a skilled work force to meet demands well into the future."

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Supporters for the event included:

Gold Supporter – Employers Mutual

Category Supporters –

Apprentice of the Year – MEGT Australian Apprenticeship Centre

Trainee of the Year - Business SA

Indigenous Apprentice (Trainee of the Year) – Department of State Development

Australian Schools Based Apprentice – DECD Trade Schools for the Future

GOLD SUPPORTER:



**Employers Mutual**  
Since 1910

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CATEGORY SUPPORTERS:



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*Group Training Australia (SA) is the state peak body representing a network of 16 Group Training Organisations (GTOs), employing apprentices and trainees throughout South Australia.*

## WINNERS DETAILS:

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### **Apprentice Winner –Marcus Harders**

Marcus has worked with a number of different plumbing companies throughout his apprenticeship, but spent a majority of time with his host employer National 1 Plumbing and Maintenance Services, where he continues now as a qualified plumbing tradesperson. Marcus was a participant in the 2013 Group Training Australia program 'Today's Skills; Tomorrow's Leaders'. Marcus believes that his apprenticeship was a rewarding experience that provided clarity for his future direction both personally and professionally. The judging panel explained that Marcus presented really well and displayed an enthusiasm and natural confidence that left the panel no doubt in their decision.

### **Trainee Winner – Foster Davis**

Foster grew up in the rural town of Murray Bridge. Foster found that his chosen university pathway did not fulfil his desire to positively impact the lives of others, and so chose to move in to his traineeship in a community orientated setting. Foster explains that his traineeship has gone beyond an investment into his education. The judges exclaimed that Foster was the perfect example of someone who has integrated their work, study and volunteering aspects at the same time in his life and career.

### **Indigenous Apprentice (Trainee) Winner – Anika Duffy**

Anika is the deputy administration manager for CEG training partnerships, after holding numerous roles with Career Employment Group over 6 years. Anika is passionate about her work and the impact of Vocational Education and Training on the community.

Anika impressed the judges with her mature outlook and impressive background in business administration. Anika is also keen to support Aboriginal women's issues.

### **School-Based Apprentice Winner – Sarah Voigt**

Sarah commenced her school based apprenticeship with Hospitality Group Training in 2012, as a student at St Patricks Technical College. Sarah has been hosted with Jacobs Creek Visitors Centre since commencing her apprenticeship, and is enrolled with TAFE SA Regional to undertake her off-the-job training. Sarah is recognised as being a confident, enthusiastic and driven person and has been supported in the workplace by being given the opportunity to progress through all areas of the kitchen.