

Media Release

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For immediate release



AISC encourages other industries to step up and offer internships

Chair of the Australian Industry and Skills Committee, John Pollaers, today congratulated the Australian Retailers Association for working with the Australian Government to offer 10,000 internships to young Australians on welfare payments.

“This is an example of industry taking the lead and stepping up to train and develop staff to ensure it has the skilled workforce it needs,” Prof Pollaers said. “I encourage other industry and professional organisations to follow the lead of the Australian Retailers Association and consider the Government’s PaTH program to help build their workforce.”

Prof Pollaers said both employers and interns using the PaTH program should look to the vocational education and training (VET) system to further support their training.

“Building on an internship with additional nationally recognised training will help employees gain the skills and competencies they need to excel,” he said. “For instance, the Certificate II in retail services ensures employees have skills in using communication in the workplace, responding to workplace problems, engaging customers and receiving and handling retail stock.”

Prof Pollaers said the Australian Industry and Skills Committee was working closely with industry to make sure that employers of all sizes have the skills they need – now and in the future, through flexible and relevant training.

“The new industry-led arrangements for vocational education and training are delivering a more flexible national training system – one that is responsive to the needs of industry, and which is actively partnering with industry. VET is critical to ensuring that Australia is innovative, productive and globally competitive,” he said.

The AISC is made up of experienced industry leaders with links across the economy and provides leadership and guidance to improve the overall responsiveness, quality and relevance of VET.

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