School to Industry Partnerships
- Into the Future.
“Current/Traditional” Partnership Models

• Industries go to schools to recruit year 11 and 12 students
• Recruitment is predominantly aimed at trades areas.
• Limited Interaction between schools and Industry
• Partnerships tend to be relatively informal (and fragile)
Partnerships
What's in it for Industry?

- A readily accessible location to market available vacancies.
- Opportunity to select the best students.
- Combining work ethic with school disciplines.
- Backup from Schools and Parents on any major issues.
- Rules at work apply at school and vice versa. 3 way partnership (parent, school and employer).
- SB apprentices available to “top up” full-time apprentices whilst they are off on training.
Partnerships –
What’s in it for the schools?

• More Administration
• More paperwork
• More disruption in timetabling

Seriously though!

• Employment for students on completion of year 12
• Improvement of student attitudes at school – Improvement in grades (NCVER Study - Smith & Wilson (2003))
• Role model for other students.
• Links with Industry established.
Partnerships – What’s in it for the students and parents?

Parents:
- Early Starts
- A taxi Service

Students:
- Head start over School leavers – straight into fulltime employment after schoolies week.
- Guarantee into a career.
- Theme - “Train to Retain” – not used enough
- Relates school work to “real world”
- Money! – (McDonalds)
- Teamwork and maturity comes from working with older apprentices and tradespeople.
Lessons Learnt

• Avoid getting too stretched and overcommitted
• Focus on local community (but not exclude the “fringe” communities)
• Quality partnerships rather than quantity
• Contact persons are critical – but vulnerable – “transient” staffing in schools.
• Communication on a regular basis
• Market, Market, Market!
Partnerships – Where to Now?

• Year 11 – too late to start?
• What can Industry do for schools to support and to strengthen the partnership?
• What can schools do to support and to strengthen the partnership?
• Partnership contacts (MOU) and regular liaison
• Student involvement in partnership?
Partnerships – Where to Now? (Cont.)

- Involvement commencing year 8/9
- Blur the boundary between school and Manufacturing industries
  - Bring students into Industry and Industry into school
- Manufacturing/engineering principles merged into curriculum, science, maths as well as technical areas.
Partnerships, Its About the Big Picture

- It's not just about apprentices and trades
- Accounts/Finance, Sales, Marketing, Design/CAD/CAM, engineering, etc all have a part to play
- Profile progression opportunities post Apprenticeship
- ABW – a key opportunity to market Manufacturing
- Sponsorship in materials, REA, Solar Challenge etc
Examples

• Sponsorship of student to Part-time studies at University – e.g. employed to become accountant

• Cert III Engineering – Technical – both in CAD and Engineering as SBA – with Progression as Cadet/ University
Examples (cont.)

- Enterprise specific competition involving several school areas.
- Adopt a School
Riviera Enterprise

- Developed at Helensvale SHS – Principal - Glen Hoppner
- Nothing to do with boats – More the Culture
- Program:
  Personalised Learning Opportunity
  Crossed a range of learning sectors
  Intellectually Challenging
  Connected to the “Real World” – with real world Outcomes
  Aimed at stimulating the High achiever and motivating the under-achiever
Reference Materials

- www.nisc.tvetaustralia.com.au
  Publications:
  - Fostering Effective Links and Partnerships Between Business and School
  - Getting Young People Work Ready: Positive Pathways to the Future

- www.ncver.edu.au
  Publications:
  - Learning and training in school-based new apprentices
  - How Workplace Experiences while at School Affect Career Pathways
The Best Has Yet to Come!