



# Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2015

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- E-Scans and Industry Workforce Development Plan now available
- GST to apply to all offshore sales
- WA Training Awards winners announced

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## Industry News

### 2015 RAPS ENVIRONMENTAL SCANS AND INDUSTRY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

RAPS are pleased to advise that the 2015 Environmental Scans and the 2015 Industry Workforce Development Plan are now available on our website. Click [here](#) to read or download them.

### WORKPLACE ESSENTIALS WEBSITE

The Workplace Essentials website provides small to medium businesses with a 'one-stop' gateway to find useful information, templates, links and resources that can help them to better plan, attract, develop and retain a skilled workforce.

The Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) and their project partners have published a series of workforce planning and development brochures tailored towards small to medium businesses. **All brochures are available on the Workplace Essentials website.**

### RAPS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS NEEDS EMPLOYER SURVEY

RAPS understands how valuable your time is, but would very much appreciate you completing the **EMPLOYER** survey at the following link: [RAPS Employer Survey 2015](#).

## **GST TO APPLY TO ALL OFFSHORE SALES**

State and territory treasurers have agreed to apply the GST to off-shore sales into the Australian Market.

From July 2017, the GST will apply to all products and services sold by vendors overseas into Australia.

This will ensure that there is a fair and equal treatment of all goods no matter what their price. There will be a “zero threshold” meaning it will apply to all goods no matter what their price.

Retailers and major shopping centre owners have welcomed the decision to close the GST.

Australian retailers will now be able to play the global economy on a level field.

## **WA EXTENDED RETAIL TRADING HOURS**

The WA Government has announced retail trading hours in Perth’s Metropolitan area on the Queen’s Birthday and throughout the Christmas trading period. Shops in Perth will be able to open at 7am on weekdays and Saturdays and 8am on Sundays and remain open until 6pm on weekends during the Christmas period. Click [here](#) for more information.

Let us know your thoughts on the further extended trading hours for Christmas 2015 by clicking [here](#).

## **2015 IBM SMARTER CUSTOMER STUDY**

While Australia’s affinity for online shopping is growing, so too is the expectation gap between consumers and their primary retailers. The recently released IBM Smarter Consumer Study reveals that consumer confidence and their willingness to spend more have significantly increased. However the lack of personalised service offerings across a number of consumer touch points is driving a decline in engagement and loyalty to a retailer.

The study revealed that the empowered consumer now expects digital solutions that enhance service, more flexibility in areas such as returns and digital loyalty programs. To read the study in full visit the [website](#).

*“What are your thoughts on extended Christmas Trading Hours?”*

*“25% of consumers are ready to spend more!”*

## State News

### STATE PRIORITY OCCUPATION LIST 2015

The Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) has just released the State Training Priority Occupation List 2015 (SPOL2015). The SPOL is a list of occupations produced annually by DTWD which are identified as a priority in Western Australia. As in previous years, SPOL2015 has been developed utilising a range of key economic and labour market data and projects and is also based on advice from the State's ten Industry Training Councils.

The underlying purpose remains consistent with previous years in that it informs training priorities as well as being an input into annual updates of the WA Skilled Migration Occupation List. All publications relating to the SPOL2015 can be accessed at the following link: [State Priority Occupation List 2015](#).

Please contact RAPS (9446 8177 or [email](#)) if you have any feedback regarding the List.

### NEW PLAN TO ADDRESS PEEL WORKFORCE CHALLENGES

**The Plan includes 17 priority actions to address workforce challenges**

Training and Workforce Development Minister, Liza Harvey, said the [Peel Workforce Development Plan 2015-2018](#) had a strong focus on improving education and training outcomes for young people, while also enhancing links with industry. Actions to be explored include:

- Young leaders and mentoring programs
- Local careers expo for students
- Enhancement of school-based apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities
- Skills development programs in key industry areas

*SPOL2015 now  
available  
[here](#)*

*Click [here](#) to  
download the Peel  
Workforce  
Development Plan*

**“WATA  
Winners”  
announced**

## **WA TRAINING AWARDS—WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

At the Annual Presentation Night on Friday, 4 September, thirteen winners received the State’s top awards in vocational education and training. Some winners will go on to represent WA in the Australian Training Awards.

The State Government has congratulated Jared Stone for being named WA’s Apprentice of the Year. Jared was inspired to follow a career as an electrician after studying music for two years. He developed an interest in the technical aspects of sound recording, playback and the electrical theory associated with the subjects. Training and Workforce Development Minister, Liza Harvey, congratulated all the winners, each of whom demonstrated the value and importance of vocational education and training. For the full list of winners visit [WATA Winners](#).

RAPS would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our industry sector applicants and in particular our semi-finalists Lisa Marie Greenfield—Hairdressing (WA Apprentice of the Year) and Mikayla Jayne Dayman—Beauty (WA Trainee of the Year).

## **National News**

### **TRAINING PACKAGE UPDATES**

#### **SHB Hairdressing and Beauty Services Training Package**

Draft 1 of the Hairdressing components of the Training Package is **now** available for public feedback on Service Skills Australia (SSA) feedback register and includes a full review of the current SIH121 Hairdressing Package. RAPS is conducting industry feedback workshops on Tuesday 22nd Sept in Bunbury and Wednesday 23rd Sept in Perth. An RTO workshop is also planned for Friday the 25 September.

Please [email](#) Jane at RAPS if you would like to register for a workshop, or alternatively visit SSA’s [feedback register](#).

**Feedback closes on the 25th September.**

**Hairdressing  
Training  
Package  
Workshops**

**Register [here](#)**

## *Training Package Updates*

### **SIR Retail Services Training Package**

Consultations have recently taken place with representatives of the retail industry in Western Australia regarding Draft 1 of the Retail Services Training Package. Feedback has closed and responses will now be collated prior to the validation process. RAPS would like to take this opportunity to thank all the retail industry sector representatives who contributed their valuable time and input on behalf of Western Australia.

### **SFI Floristry Training Package**

The SFL Floristry Training Package has been submitted to the Department of Education and Training for endorsement and The [Case for Endorsement](#) and the [submitted components](#) are available to both inform and assist in the planning activities of stakeholders. The package will be loaded on [training.gov.au](http://training.gov.au) and available for release when formal endorsement notification is received.

### **SIF Funeral Services Training Package**

Imported units from the following recently endorsed training packages have been updated.

- BSB Business Services Training Package
- HLT Health Training Package
- ICT Information and Communications Technology Training Package.

The revised Training Package is available on [training.gov.au](http://training.gov.au).

### **SIR Retail Services inclusive of Community Pharmacy Training Package**

Draft 2 Community Pharmacy training package components are now available via the Service Skills Australia (SSA) feedback register at [www.feedback.serviceskills.com.au](http://www.feedback.serviceskills.com.au). Following industry validation a Final Draft will be developed and submitted for endorsement in November 2015.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amy Giesbrecht at [agiesbrecht@serviceskills.com.au](mailto:agiesbrecht@serviceskills.com.au)