



The new Certificate IV will train ACMA staff to undertake work like testing for interference at the Australian Grand Prix.

National radiocommunications training addresses industry needs

A nationally accredited Certificate IV training course in Radiocommunications is now available to industry, following a three-year ACMA project.

Knowledge retention and the development and maintenance of specific technical skills are crucial to the ACMA's capacity to effectively manage the radiocommunications spectrum. This new national competency training will help to overcome the problem of an ageing workforce and ensure a pool of trained radiocommunications technicians is available in the future.

Work began in late 2007 with a skills and knowledge audit of relevant radiocommunications staff across the ACMA. A training specialist, Communications and Information Technology Training Ltd, was hired to map these skills and knowledge to existing industry competencies and qualifications. The exercise identified 17 core competencies, which included three new ones—monitoring, site audits and operating monitoring field equipment.

Industry validation of the competencies was conducted to ensure they had wide applicability within the radiocommunications industry. The validated package was then submitted to Innovation and Business Skills Australia (IBSA). This council is responsible for establishing Australia-wide skills training for the telecommunications and radiocommunications industry.

IBSA submitted the training package to education ministers in each state and territory and the package was approved on 11 November 2008. However, the three new competencies also required approval from each state training authority. This approval was granted in late 2009.

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Late in 2010, the Certificate IV in Telecommunications/Radiocommunications and its competencies was listed on the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). The AQF identifies training qualifications that are recognised nationally and endorsed by all governments in Australia.

Key attributes of this training framework include the:

- > ability to recognise prior learning so that skills training gained on the job can be formally recognised
- > flexibility to adapt course content to specific business or industry needs
- > availability of a range of training delivery mechanisms.

The ACMA has selected Chisholm Institute of TAFE to deliver the Certificate IV training to its staff. The radiocommunications industry can also access this Australia-wide training through Chisholm Institute of TAFE or any other Registered Training Organisation. 📞

Further details on the Certificate IV in Telecommunications/Radiocommunications is available on the National Training Information Service website at www.ntis.gov.au (go to Training Packages > ICT10 > Qualifications > ICT40310 > Packaging rules).