

NZWEA and UCOL

The future of wind technician training



*More than
an education*

Where it all started

Tararua District Council Wind Energy
Education Centre project with Meridian

What industry told us

- There is a need to train more wind technicians, especially in the maintenance space
- There is a well defined set of 'Base' skills required
- Internationalization was an increasingly important consideration for training and qualifications

Base skills

- Health and safety-working at heights, confined spaces, working remotely
- Hydraulics and pneumatics
- Electrical and electronics
- Mechanical engineering
- Tool use

Moving into UCOL


- Widening the scope for training in the energy sector and associated industries
- Industry consultation sessions
- Expansion of our understanding and dialogue with industry

What we now know

- 'Base skills' needs are the same across most parts of the sector
- Base skills are being framed as 'hard /technical skills'
- There is the commensurate need for 'soft skills' (about 50:50)
- Soft skills were identified as
 - Communication and interpersonal skills
 - Teamwork
 - Critical thinking and problem solving
 - Computer literacy, literacy and numeracy

Under development

- New qualification(s) that cover the breadth and depth of industry-defined skills needs
- 'Soft skills' have been reshaped as 'professional practice'
- Generic training platform with the option to specialize
- Access to industry kit and expertise
- Internships and industry-based projects

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- Multi-faculty approach to provide individualized training pathways
 - RPL (record of prior learning) can be applied to tailor the training programme to suit skills and experience

Where to from here?

- UCOL is developing a new approach to trades training through the NZWEA and energy sector relationships
- The new programme of study is designed with industry, for industry



- The new training platform is based on a flexible delivery model that can utilize block course, blended and off-site group work to optimise learning outcomes, minimize disruption and reduce costs.



- Programme is planned for release in 2015
- Suitable for school leavers, existing employees and new employees with industry experience
- We need industry to remain engaged in the development process

Thank you

- UCOL appreciates the time and contributions made by industry to date
- If you would like more information or to be involved in the programme development please contact:

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