



KCGM Media Release 15th July 2009

Positive Community Benefits Through KCGM Apprenticeships

What does an Auto Electrician, a Boilermaker and a Mobile Plant Mechanic have in common?

Well, they are all Apprenticeships offered through KCGM's annual Apprenticeship Program.

Gaining valuable mining industry experience, while applying practical skills is the key to the Program which was established in 2005 and sees four new Apprentices taken on board each year.

Training as Auto Electricians, Boilermakers and Mobile Plant Mechanics, the Apprentices are exposed to onsite training with six different contractors, spending a period of three months with each. The Apprentices are then paired with a local business for a further three months, obtaining knowledge and skills outside the mine site.

Practical experience is combined with professional training in Courageous Safety Leadership, Cross Cultural Awareness, Senior First Aid, Effective Communication and Project Management Fundamentals, to give the Apprentices a competitive edge in the workplace.

"We recognise that to support our local workforce, we need to offer excellent training and development opportunities and the Program is one way to ensure we deliver on that commitment" said Russell Cole, KCGM General Manager.

KCGM's Apprenticeship group expanded this year after the Black Swan Nickel Mine ceased operations in early 2009. Two apprentices were left without employment due to the closure, but KCGM jumped at the opportunity to take them on board.

"It was a win win situation because it meant that we could continue to up-skill the local workforce and they could see out their trade qualification with our full support" added Russell.

KCGM now employs a total of fourteen Apprentices who are at various stages in completing their qualification and afterwards, they will be partnered with a local business to begin their professional careers.

KCGM will be advertising its 2010 intake of Apprentices in the Kalgoorlie Miner in September this year and to be eligible, candidates must have their completed Year 11 high school studies.

The intake will also be advertised on the KCGM website www.superpit.com.au

Media Contact:

Please contact Brooke Martin, KCGM Community Relations Officer on 9093 3488 or 0400 205 445 to arrange a photo opportunity.