



Media Release

26 October 2015

nbn campaign to capture *Career Starters* as build ramps up

nbn has today launched its ***Career Start*** campaign, the first of several campaigns aimed at attracting workers to the **nbn**[™] network.

The campaign coincides with last week's announcement of a three year construction plan, which outlines the areas where construction is planned to commence by September 2018.* This massive ramp up of the construction of the **nbn**[™] network requires technically skilled workers with industry recognised qualifications.

Across the active workforce of Australia, the number of people who have the competency to be a Telecommunications Copper Cable Jointer or a Linesworker is well below what is needed to not only build the **nbn**[™] network, but provide telecommunications services in the future.

To help close the gap, **nbn** is working with Delivery Partners on employment and training programs that lead to industry recognised qualifications. The first campaign will promote our up-skill training program and target Australians starting their careers who have a real interest in how technology is built.

nbn CEO Bill Morrow said the ***Career Start*** campaign will not only kick start many telco careers, but it will be a key plank in future-proofing the Australian telecommunications workforce.

"The **nbn**[™] is Australia's largest infrastructure project and it is absolutely vital that we have enough people to construct the network as we increase the pace of the rollout," he said.

"At present a large proportion of the Australian telecommunication industry workforce are due to retire in around five years' time.

"Without the ***Career Start*** campaign, we believe that we would be potentially staring down the barrel of a telecommunications skills shortage in Australia.

"The ***Career Start*** campaign will not only help find young people interested in developing the highly technical skills needed, but it will provide a path for them to undergo training and start a challenging and fulfilling telecommunications industry career.

"It will also provide a platform for young people already working in the industry to access further learning and development."

The ***Career Start*** campaign is part of **nbn's** \$40 million ***Industry Workforce Development Program***, aimed at stimulating the employment of around an additional 4,500 skilled workers to construct, operate and maintain the **nbn**[™] network as well as setting up and maintaining a national skills register.

Mr Morrow said **nbn** was currently actively engaging with State and Territory Education, Skills and Workforce Development Departments about establishing collaborative partnerships and enlisting their support for the doubling of the workforce.



"I am pleased to report that **nbn**, our Delivery Partners, and all levels of Government understand that a recruitment and skilling drive of this scale requires team work and engagement to date has been fantastic," Mr Morrow said.

Mr Morrow also took the opportunity to announce the successful panel of 10 **nbn** approved Training Providers who will deliver technical skills training to the external workforce across Australia.

The 10 nbn approved Training Providers are ASG Integracom Management Group (Ash Pty Ltd); Blue Sky Academy; Careers Australia Institute of Training; Celemetrix Professional Services Pty Ltd; Chisholm Institute; Federation Training; Holmesglen Institute of TAFE; JB Hunter Technology; Ramsden Telecommunications Training; and Programmed SKILLED Training Services.

These training providers will work collaboratively with **nbn** and our Delivery Partners to deliver training, with an emphasis on flexible learning models and approaches to best accommodate worker needs for skills and training.

The **Career Start** campaign aims to attract Expressions of Interest from around 2000 candidates with minimal or no previous telco experience such as recent school leavers. Interested candidates need to have the ability to acquire a high level of technical skill and be able to meet the physical requirements of the roles.

While future campaigns are planned to attract experienced telco workers or mid-career industry changers for the cross-skilling training program, individuals at all points in their careers are welcome to register their interest.

Successful candidates will be employed by a Delivery Partner or sub-contractor, have access training paths that may lead to industry recognised Cert II or III Telecommunication qualifications, and be eligible to apply for federal, state and **nbn** subsidies.

Once the **nbn**[™] network is completed, long-term opportunities will exist as the network moves into operation and maintenance. **nbn** anticipates that **Career Start** participants would have an advantage in securing future Telco positions with their qualifications and practical on the job experience.

The campaign is scheduled to run for three months across a mix of online media channels.

To find out more or register your interest visit www.nbnco.com.au/careerstart

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* The three year construction plan does not include premises that are built, in-build or covered by satellite or new developments.