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MEDIA RELEASE

Student wins Hat Trick of Training Awards

The accolades keep rolling in for Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) Electrical/Instrumentation Contract Coordinator David Smith with three Awards for his training achievements in the last two months.

An employee at QAL for two and a half years, David undertook a Diploma of Management and Certificate IV in Frontline Management through CQ Institute of TAFE over a 21 month period.

Still overwhelmed from the announcement of his selection as the Central Queensland Regional Vocational Student of the Year at the Queensland Training Awards on Saturday night, David was even more surprised to learn he had also been selected as the recipient of the TAFE Trainee Award during his graduation ceremony in Rockhampton last night.

The run of success started last month when David was announced as the Manufacturing Trainee of the Year at the prestigious Manufacturing Skills Queensland Industry Training Awards.

David said he is thrilled to receive such recognition, although he was humbled by the experience.

"While the Awards are a great honour, it would not have been possible without the support of QAL and my course facilitator Cheryl Hopkinson."

"QAL took a chance on me when they offered me the role and I hope that in a small way the training results are repaying the faith they showed in me." David said.

"I have completed numerous short courses in the past but the opportunity to sink my teeth into a larger scale course was very challenging and rewarding. Completing the training has been a great confidence boost and hopefully the skills learned from the course are being reflected in my work here at QAL."

Managing Director Phil Campbell said he was very proud of David's achievements, which are testament to QAL's commitment to providing exceptional training and skills development for employees.

"As one of the region's largest employers we recognise the value in providing our employees with the kind of training opportunities that will provide a solid foundation for future career development." Mr Campbell said.

"These Awards do not come without a great deal of hard work, not only by the student, but also many people behind the scenes. We believe strongly in creating an environment for life long learning at QAL and these awards verify that our commitment is valued, not only by our employees but also the training industry."

David will be competing for the state Award in Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on Friday 10 September 2010. If successful, he will then contest at the Australian Training Awards held at the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre on 19 November.

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Caption: QAL Electrical/ Instrumentation Contract Coordinator David Smith has won three Awards for his training achievements in the last few months.

About Queensland Alumina Limited:

Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) commenced operation in March 1967 with an annual production rate of 600 000 tonnes of alumina. Today QAL is one of the world's largest alumina refineries, producing 3.95 million tonnes of the world's best smelter grade alumina per year. With an average workforce of 1050 employees, QAL is one of the region's largest employers and annually contributes approximately \$200 million directly to the local economy.

For further information and copies of images contact:

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