

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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Industry backs Civil Plant programme

Graduates of Tai Poutini Polytechnic's (TPP's) Civil Plant training are being snapped up by local industry for construction, forestry and mining jobs right here on the West Coast.

West Coast construction employers say there are jobs for good workers on the Coast and they are always on the look-out for graduates of TPP's programme, commonly known as the "Digger School".

TPP Civil Plant Tutor Tom Daly says the training is hands-on and aims to help people get into local jobs.

"We've got a fantastic work site and we can teach them all the skills they need to get work. I get local employers ringing me up all the time saying they are looking for good workers – our graduates get a head-start on local jobs by learning the skills the industry is looking for," he says.

Fulton Hogan Civil Construction Department Manager Nik Davy says the business is all about working as a team, so if graduates have a good attitude and are prepared to work hard they can go just about anywhere.

"The industry is generally busy – there are jobs and opportunities for the right people. We work with the Civil Plant tutors to find the right graduates and they do really well here."

Westroads Greymouth Manager Paul Macmillan says there are plenty of jobs on the Coast for graduates.

"I'll always consider TPP graduates because they've got the basic skills I need. They can make a great career in civil construction here and right around the world."

TPP's Certificate in Civil Plant Operation prepares students for a career in the civil construction, forestry and mining industries.

Students learn to operate heavy machinery in a real-world environment at the Rutherglen work training site. Along with logging practical hours on machinery, students are taught basic theory and health and safety. Tutors have strong contacts with local industry and work experience is a key part of the training.

For more information contact:

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The 'Industry backs Civil Plant Programme' video can be viewed at www.tpp.ac.nz