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Apprentices urged to show their Worldskills

Young Territorians have the chance to develop and showcase their skills in a competitive environment through the 2003 Northern Territory Worldskills competition.

Worldskills is a vocation-based competition where young people aged 25 years and under pit themselves against one another in their respective fields.

Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said young Territorians and their employers were now able to nominate for this year’s competition to be held in September and October.

"It is crucial that our young people have the skills and knowledge they need to find meaningful employment and contribute to the development of the Northern Territory," Mr Stirling said.

"Worldskills gives young people the chance to develop and improve their skills through competitions which challenge them and demonstrate the importance of pride, dignity and self esteem in their work.

"Successful contestants may have the opportunity to represent the Territory at the national competitions being held in Brisbane in June 2004, and possibly even represent Australia internationally.

"I would urge employers, industry and the community to get behind the competitions and encourage our young people to be the best they can."

Open Round Competitions (for young people born on or after January 1 1980) will be run in the following categories: Business Services; Cookery; Electrical Control; Electrical Installation; Plumbing; Retail Baking – pastry; Refrigeration; Hairdressing; and Welding.

The Open competition will be held on October 2.

There will also be Vocational Education and Training in Schools Competitions (for Year 11 VET students) in the categories: Business Administration; Construction; Food and Beverage Services; Information Technology; Metals and Engineering; Primary Industries General Agriculture; and Retail.

VET in Schools competitions will run from September 17 to October 17.

More information, including details on how to nominate, can be found on the website: www.deet.nt.gov.au/worldskills