

DRAKE THROWS SUPPORT BEHIND TOMORROW'S LEADERS

WEDNESDAY, May 28, 2008

Young Achievement Australia (YAA) has gained extra support in 2008, with international recruitment company, Drake International becoming a sponsor of the YAA Business Skills Program™ as well as earning the naming right for the 2008 Tertiary 'Business Person of the Year' Award.

The YAA Business Skills Program™ offers senior secondary and tertiary students the opportunity to start up and run their own small business over a 24-week period, under the guidance of experienced business mentors.

"Drake International has always had a strong focus on harnessing the potential of young people within business," said Alex Haritou, General Manager of Marketing and Communications for Drake International. "The YAA Business Skills Program is a perfect opportunity to inspire and promote bright, young, driven, and excited people interested in a career within business."

Today in Melbourne, hundreds of these young and bright participants are gathering at Victoria University to attend the 2008 YAA Management Skills Workshop. Attendees will be able to draw upon the wisdom and experience of a range of business experts including Peter Jensen, Organisational Consulting Manager for Drake International. Peter has had years of experience in helping businesses develop its human resources function and reach its potential.

PLACEHOLDER QUOTE ONLY - "This workshop is a bit like the seasoned campaigner meeting the fresh legs of the next generation," said Peter Jensen. "The next generation is blessed with unlimited potential and this workshop is about harnessing that, and creating success and fulfilment."

Peter's workshop will explore the importance of having fully motivated and engaged employees, and how this can impact upon the team, the business, and the customer. The workshop will discuss ways of managing

and maximising personal and team energy within an organisation to promote engagement within the workforce and increase employee retention.

"The YAA Business Skills Program™ is a fantastic stepping-stone for bright and passionate members of the next generation wanting to seize a head start in the business world," said Alex Haritou.

"We are extremely excited about working with YAA throughout the year to help these young participants realize their potential and venture into the business world with hands on experience and a deeper understanding of business operations within their chosen industries."

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About Drake International

Drake International is a global HR Services company and a leader in sustainable HR practice and talent management.

Established in Canada in 1951, Drake's business philosophy has stayed true since inception – 'organisations achieve the highest level of performance when they are staffed with the right people, working with the right skills, knowledge and behaviours, using the best processes and technology-driven solutions.'

One of a highly select number of global organisations providing a network of services so comprehensive it adds value across the entire HR function, Drake's portfolio of offerings include:

- Permanent and flexible recruitment
- Retention strategies and consulting
- Psychometric, behavioural and skill assessments
- Top performer profiling
- Team Building
- Training and development courses
- Six Sigma

- Employee assistance programs
- OH&S training and consulting
- Performance management solutions
- Succession planning
- Knowledge management systems
- Call Centre & Payroll Outsourcing
- Executive Coaching

For over 50 years Drake has grown to span numerous borders, industries and professions. With 25 metropolitan and regional offices across Australia, as well as New Zealand, Singapore, the Philippines, China, South Africa, Monaco, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States, Drake is positioned to help you manage your greatest asset – your people.

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Interview opportunities and images of Drake spokespeople are available on request.