



RTBU



MEMBER BULLETIN

Thursday 13 July 2023

RTBU-OWNED TRAINING ORGANISATION

As all of you would be aware, training organisations in our industries often deliver sub-standard training. The RTBU has long been concerned with the safety implications that arise as a result of poor practice by such organisations, and now, we are setting out to fix that problem.

The RTBU has acquired [Training Ahead Australia](#) (TAA) and will take ownership from 1 August 2023.

By acquiring TAA and maximising its potential, our intention is to:

- Ensure quality training for our industries
- Deliver medicals (Category 3 at first and then more later)
- Improve safety standards
- Become a recruitment funnel for our industries
- Deliver training to our officials, employees, delegates and HSRs
- In time, offer free courses to all RTBU members who want to upskill or cross-skill.

Over the coming months, key personnel from TAA and the RTBU will meet to formulate a strategy on how to maximise TAA's potential for the benefit of all members. This will include strategy on expansion of its Victorian operations to the rest of the country, expanding the medicals and courses TAA offers, and even considering whether to turn TAA into a not-for-profit for the benefit of all.

TAA's ultimate success will take time to achieve. We are hitting the ground running but will need your patience and support over the coming period while we map out and then steer TAA to its full potential.

In particular, as enterprise agreement negotiations arise, if there is potential at your employer for TAA to deliver training, we will be seeking your backing to force clauses into the enterprise agreement requiring your employer to train workers with TAA. Being union trained at union quality will and should become a way of life in our industries. But your support is essential to achieve this.

Over time, we hope that the RTBU will not only be viewed as a union, but also as members' career progression and training partner for life. For example, as TAA grows and becomes successful, we intend to provide training opportunities for members to upskill or cross skill within our industries free of charge.

All of this will take time to achieve and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we embark on one of the most transformative endeavours the RTBU has undertaken in recent years.

