

## First Industry Training Unit apprentices graduate

**September 2**

A major milestone was achieved for the BMW Industry Training Unit last night with the graduation ceremony for the first apprentices to qualify under the program.

Seven apprentices — and representatives of another three — were presented with certificates by Treasurer Troy Buswell, in front of an audience of the apprentices' family and friends as well as BMW executives and construction industry representatives. The apprentices were addressed by building industry identity Dale Alcock, who recounted his career in the industry, which began when he was an apprentice bricklayer in Kellerberrin.

The newly-qualified tradespeople entered the industry training program with its first intake of apprentices in 2006.

The Industry Training Program attracts and retains tradespeople to the building and construction industry, encouraging building as a career by providing quality training and managing trainees and apprentices to trade completion by deploying them on Government construction, refurbishment and maintenance projects.



*The apprentices and their representatives with Treasurer Troy Buswell*

Under the initiative, the Industry Training Unit supports apprentice training in government construction and maintenance work.

The program commenced in 2006 with 40 apprentices in the trades of electrical, carpentry and joinery, plumbing and gasfitting, glazing and bevelling, and refrigeration mechanical.

Trades were expanded the following year to include painting and decorating, tiling, plastering and bricklaying, and the program has also moved in to regional areas.

Over 150 apprentices and trainees are currently engaged in the program.