



MEDIA RELEASE/EDITORIAL

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Topic: **New course caters for horse performance sector**

The first specific vocational course for the equine performance management has been developed by the National Centre for Equine Education (NCEE) in conjunction with the performance horse sector.

The new Diploma of Equine Performance Management is aimed at the performance horse employment areas and provides the skills and knowledge required to manage or operate a range of small businesses or enterprises.

Participants who successfully complete the course will be competent in stable management, event management, preparing young and in-hand stock for sale, competition horse education and re-training and starting horses under saddle/harness. It is also suitable for professional riders and competitors and those wanting a career as a bloodstock agent.

NCEE Manager, Daniella White says the NCEE was approached early in 2006 by various members of the performance sector. Concerns were raised due to the lack of "specific" nationally accredited VET qualifications for this sector. "The new Diploma program now offers participants the opportunity to gain essential vocational skills and knowledge that compliments the many career pathways and diverse opportunities for employment," said Ms White. "It is intended that this program will consolidate the strong national standards of the performance sector."

The course is available by flexible delivery part time over three years with students required to attend two days per month on campus at the Park Lane Stud in Wangaratta.

Applicants to the course need some equine skills equivalent to the Certificate II in Equine Industry or should be able to detail equine industry experience and provide referees. Skills Recognition is available for any prior learning and may lead to credits towards the certificate.

For more information please contact the Customer Service Centre on 1300 00 NCEE (1300 00 6233) or visit www.ncee.edu.au