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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Defence Reserve Trainees Graduate!**

#### **Critical Trades Capability Initiative (CTCI)**

Training and Recruitment Specialists, Alliance People Solutions, Defence Force Reserves, Muswellbrook TAFE and local business leaders today celebrated the graduation of 10 young men and women keen on joining the Australian Army Defence Reserves, as well as wishing to undertake an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Alliance People Solutions and The Army Reserve have conducted a fully funded pre-apprenticeship course for 4 weeks full time as part of the selection process for 2007/2008 traineeship and apprenticeship intake.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for people who are serious about gaining a traineeship or apprenticeship, as well as being part of the Australian Defence Forces Army Reserve" said Steven Adams, Director of Alliance People Solutions.

"The advantages in employing one of the Australian Apprenticeship Access Programme (ACCESS) graduates is quite significant to any prospective employer" said Mr Adams.

"The initial four weeks that the participants are completing is equivalent to the first six months of the actual apprenticeship training with an employer and TAFE, therefore the apprentice or trainee will complete their studies sooner, being a huge benefit to the employer."

Warrant Officer Class Two Shane Green, Regimental Recruiting Officer, 12<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Hunter River Lancers said "We are undertaking this initiative to enable us to increase our recruiting throughput to meet the regiments recruiting targets which have been in a decline due to the low unemployment in the region".

W.O. II Shane Green said "This will also enhance the retention of the Army Reservists within the regiment by providing them full time employment and training whilst gaining job skills in the civilian field of their choice".

Based on the success of this course, the next programme is scheduled to commence on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October, 2007.

**For further information regarding this Australian Apprenticeship Access Programme, contact Julie Jordan or Joel Henderson on 1300 657 925.**

**"The Australian Apprenticeship Access Programme is an Australian Government Initiative"**