



NAITA teams up with topjobs for employment promotion through vocational and technical skills training



The National Apprenticeship and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) and the careers and employment website www.topjobs.lk (topjobs) have embarked on a project to promote employment opportunities for apprentices passed out of NAITA's vocational training programs. The project will leverage on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and the internet.

The objective of the initiative is to promote and create awareness of the range of employment opportunities available through the tertiary and vocational training sector. The program will utilize the excellent facilities of the NAITA training system and the widely-used topjobs internet recruitment platform.

By using the topjobs internet recruitment platform an efficient and convenient channel between employers and NAITA is created leading to easy placement of apprentices based on employer's needs and requirements. This scheme will address supply and demand discrepancies in vocational skills training sector. NAITA will have up-to-date information on employer requirements to prepare the training courses accordingly.

The main beneficiaries of this program are rural youth seeking to undergo a vocational skills training programme. Through the topjobs system employers can notify NAITA of the skills and training needed for their specific industry and NAITA can utilise the information to adapt training courses and curricula to meet the public/private sector needs. The internet system will then facilitate the quick placement of skilled apprentices who have successfully completed training courses for in-plant or on-the-job training with employers. All services by the topjobs system to jobseekers and to NAITA will be provided free-of-charge.

The project will also focus on career guidance in relation to the wide range of vocational trades available. Focus sectors include Information technology, hospitality and sales and marketing – which are currently in-demand. Topjobs clients include leading IT employers and the requirements of these employers will be channeled to NAITA's IT Training Centres which trains graduates up-to the Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) award. The project will also promote the well-recognised NAITA brand to overseas employers using the topjobs network and other internet marketing facilities to link NAITA graduates and trainees with foreign employment opportunities.

NAITA is a leading vocational and technical education training provider and has the following training institutes: Institute of Engineering Technology (IET) – awarding National Diplomas in Engineering Sciences in the fields of Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering including Marine Engineering; Automobile Engineering Training Institute (AETI) – providing training in automotive and related trades with National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) certification; Apprenticeship Training Institute (ATI) – producing apprentices in Electrical, Wood, Construction, Metal, Electronics and Computer trades. NAITA has a network of 36 Computer and English Training Centers, 18 apprenticeship training centers, and a printing school. In addition NAITA provides training through official training centers. (09 November 2009)