

# Blacksmithing Project Consultation Log



Public and government consultation was held between 12 August and 6 September 2024. We conducted two online information sessions.

This is a summary of feedback received, changes made to the proposed units in response, and the reasons for changes not made in response.

Sections below:

- Stakeholders consulted
- High-level summary
- Detailed consultation log
- Summary statistics of stakeholders who provided feedback.

## Stakeholders consulted

Organisation	Type	State
Ai Group	Peak body	National
Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	Union	National
Manufacturing Skills Queensland	State/territory rep	QLD
TAFE NSW	RTO	NSW
Sheldon College	RTO	QLD
North Metro TAFE	RTO	WA
TAFE Queensland South West	RTO	QLD
Artistic Blacksmiths Association NSW	Association	NSW
Artistic Blacksmiths Association SA	Association	SA
Queensland Rail	Employer	QLD
Geddes Blacksmithing	Employer	QLD
Dancing Lion Forge	Employer	QLD
FNC Blacksmith	Employer	NSW
Skender Iron	Employer	WA
Overall Forge	Employer	NSW
The Blacksmith Shop WA Pty Ltd	Employer	WA
Forge Bros Engineering	Employer	QLD
Prestige Wrought Iron	Employer	QLD
Sandvik	Employer	NSW
Creative Iron	Employer	NT
Ironfist	Employer	QLD
Zen Ironwork	Employer	QLD
Classic Steel and Design	Employer	ACT
Simply Forged Pty Ltd	Employer	VIC
Mattila Studio	Employer	TAS
Northern Springworks	Employer	SA
Evaleigh Works	Employer	NSW
Kymon Forge & Engineering	Employer	NSW
Granger Forge	Employer	NSW
Gas appliance regulators	Regulators	All states & territories

### High-level summary

Agreement with the proposed training products was received from the AMWU, employer organisations, and tradespeople and other industry experts from across the nation. Support was received from the only RTO delivering the qualification, TAFE NSW (Ultimo). Everyone who gave feedback on the project supported the changes overall, with some proposing minor changes at a detailed level (e.g. inclusions in tool lists). Many of these proposals were agreed to by the technical committee and project team. Explanations have been provided where these were rejected. The new units were strongly supported.

In the initial stages of this project, state/territory training authorities (STAs) and associated industry advisory bodies were provided with a summary of the project and were invited to nominate technical committee members to serve as state representatives. TAFE NSW (Ultimo) was also invited to nominate a representative. No specific nominations were made.

Technical committee members did, however, cover a range of states (Qld, NSW, Victoria, Tasmania) and included members with extensive and recent training and assessment experience in blacksmithing, including with TAFE Qld. Technical committee

Due to the small size of this industry sub-sector, a decision was made that it would be sufficient to undertake consultation with these stakeholder types (RTOs and state training/advisory bodies) during the public and government consultation phase and at other times during the project, rather than include them in the technical committee. It was also decided that union (AMWU) and employer organisation (Ai Group) oversight of the project would be provided via the Interim General Manufacturing and Engineering Standing Committee.

This table summarises consultations and approvals by industry representatives on the General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee.

Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
6/11/2023	Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	Union	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to update 6 units and develop 2 new units in Group F of MEM31922	Done

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
6/11/2023	Ai Group	Peak body	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to update 6 units and develop 2 new units in Group F of MEM31922	Done
9/7/2024	Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	Union	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to release the training package products for public and government consultation	Done
9/7/2024	Ai Group	Peak body	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to release the training package products for public and government consultation	Done
18/10/2024	Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	Union	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to submit the training package products for Senior Officials check	Done
18/10/2024	Ai Group	Peak body	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee agreed to submit the training package products for Senior Officials check	Done
18/01/2025	Geddes Blacksmithing	Employer/ SME/educational expert	QLD	Email	All	Hi Gordon. Thanks for all your hard work on this. I have reviewed the final drafts of the training products updated in the blacksmithing project. Regards. MG.	Thank you for your support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
20/01/2025	Wilkur Forge	Employer/ SME/educational expert	VIC	Email	All	Hello Gordon. I have reviewed the final drafts of the training products updated in the blacksmithing project. I am satisfied they represent the input which has been generated as we have worked through this project. Yours faithfully,	Thank you for your support.
20/01/2025	Artist Blacksmith's Association NSW	Professional association representative, SME	NSW	Email	All	Hi Gordon I have reviewed the final drafts of the training products updated in the blacksmithing project. Regards,	Thank you for your support.
18/03/2025	Australian Manufacturing Workers Union	Union	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee reviewed and agreed to release the submission form and associated documents to the Assurance Body for consideration.	Thank you for your support.
18/03/2025	AI Group	Peak body	National	General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting	All	The committee reviewed and agreed to release the submission form and associated documents to the Assurance Body for consideration.	Thank you for your support.

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### Detailed consultation log

Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
13/08/2024	Tradesperson	Other	QLD	Feedback Form	All units	This is relevant for all the units from what I can see. The assessment criteria requiring assessment to be under conditions that is basically an operational shop are an issue. Most blacksmiths currently working commercially work in small niche markets in small businesses. The chance of them having all the equipment required across the units operating as a function of their business are non-existent, and then chances of them even having the equipment is slim. The criteria will stop assessments being able to be done in a learning environment such as a TAFE. This requirement should be removed.	<p>Thank you for your feedback</p> <p>The RTO requirements have not changed substantially in this project.</p> <p>We have expanded the equipment lists in the Range of Conditions field, but an RTO doesn't require all the listed items to deliver the units.</p> <p>The technical committee does recognise that the standard text in the Range of Conditions field may cause uncertainty over what is required and what isn't. However, changing this would require decisions covering MEM units as a whole and may require discussions with RTO regulators on how auditors should interpret this text.</p>
19/08/2024	Geddes Blacksmithing	SME, educational expert	QLD	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	FNC Blacksmith	Employer	NSW	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	Overall Forge	Employer	NSW	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
19/08/2024	GIMB	Employer	QLD	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	NSW Department of Education	Government	NSW	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	Will Maguire Blacksmith	Employer	NSW	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	The Blacksmith Shop WA Pty Ltd	Employer	WA	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
19/08/2024	Forge Bros Engineering PTY LTD	Employer	QLD	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
27/08/2024	Geddes Blacksmithing	SME, educational expert	QLD	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
27/08/2024	Wilkur Forge	Employer/ SME/educational expert	VIC	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.
27/08/2024	Manufacturing Skills Queensland	State/ territory representative	QLD	Information Session	All	Attended Information Session (webinar)	Thank you for your participation.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
27/08/2024	Tradesperson	Other	QLD	Feedback Form	MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit)	This is a certificate III level course, basic trade skills. Such advanced techniques are out of place at this level. It should be part of a higher level qualification such as an AQF level 4 or 5 course for advanced tradesmen / supervisors / leading hands etc - or even a AQF level 6 unit, as part of a qualification for a Technician.	Thanks for your feedback. This unit is designed as one of the higher-level ones within the specialisation, but the degree of knowledge and performance are very similar to those required in <i>MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes</i> -- which has been deemed suitable for a base-trade qualification by employers, unions and other stakeholders.
28/08/2024	Manufacturing Skills Queensland	State/ territory rep.	QLD	Feedback Form	All	I support the changes proposed in the MEM Blacksmithing project.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	All.	Overall the unit descriptors are more complete and trade relevant than the previous offering.  Good update for the blacksmithing trade.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	All	Number requirements in range of conditions [Some categories shouldn't be just 'one or more of the following']	The required wording for this section does not allow much variance from 'one or more' for each item listed. The technical committee agrees that the wording for this Range of Conditions field should be reviewed and updated, but this will require decisions covering MEM units as a whole.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	All	Are the statements regarding gas appliances and training environments appropriate in the unit guide? Are these not covered in the RTO legislation? Do we have statements in the welding units that all electrical devices must comply with AS3760 if used?	Agreed. The advice on type B gas appliances will instead be added to the companion volume (CVIG). [see <i>Gas regulators</i> below]
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06011 Perform power hammer forging (to replace MEM06002)	Non Ferrous materials could also be added to the range of conditions.  Unit update is more relevant and complete	The technical committee agree that non-ferrous materials are suitable, but feel that the current list (low/high carbon steels, alloys, stainless steel, wrought iron) provides the right range to meet industry needs
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06012 Perform drop and upset forging (to replace MEM06005)	Range of conditions should be updated to include "open die forging hammer using closed dies" All processes that can be learnt and underlying principles are consistent with drop hammers.	We have updated the equipment to include one or more of: -drop hammer using open and closed dies -open die forging hammer using closed loose dies -upsetting machine or heading machine (aka horizontal upsetting machine).
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06013 Repair springs (to replace MEM06006)	Content is good, update is minor but is more specific.	Thank you for your feedback and support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06008)	Vee bar, tee bar etc are not terms I have used or heard used in industry. I would prefer the terms are left vague or better defined. I know what a V block is but not a V bar.	We've changed this to the more generic term porter bar.
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06015 Hand forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06009)	Good update to the unit with more applicable and specific processes identified.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06016 Perform press forging (new unit)	This is a necessary addition as there has been a hole in previous training packages. Presses are used widely in industry and the forming processes differ to hammers. When completing my trade, on the job training was the only way to learn press forging techniques.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
1/09/2024	Sandvik	Employer	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit)	A good extension to the perform press forging. Feedback is consistent with above.	Thank you for your feedback and support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
2/09/20224	Zen Ironworks	Employer	QLD	Feedback Form	All	Excellent to see the revision and development of the course and modules. This is an exciting development for the trade course and fully supported by myself and industry colleagues.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
2/09/20224	Zen Ironworks	Employer	QLD	Feedback Form	MEM06015 Hand forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06009)	I think this addition is a critical one for the development of the profession. Previously largely powerhammer based, the complex hand hammer skillset requires development within the industry to retain skills. I'd like to see a range of scrollwork and scroll ends included within the practical component.	Thanks for your feedback and support. The Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore skills needs for ornamental/architectural ironwork. It will include discussions on scrollwork/ends.
3/09/2024	Simply Forged	Employer	VIC	Feedback Form	New unit required	Dedicated unit covering architectural iron work & ornamental ironwork	This was deemed out of scope for the current project, but the Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore this option

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
5/09/2024	TAFE NSW	RTO	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06008)	Forgings should include forging cranks: single or double, three-way forgings (tee spigots)	Agreed. Forgings now includes one or more of: -forging using a mandrel -forging a boss -forging a ring or bush -forging a crankshaft -three-way forging -punching and opening of large diameter holes. These changes have also been made to MEM06017.
5/09/2024	TAFE NSW	RTO	NSW	Feedback Form	MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit)	<i>MEM06010 Perform hand forging</i> should be a prerequisite	The technical committee agree that this unit should be sequenced first, but in line with government policy, this does not require it being listed as a prerequisite. This unit is similar to MEM06014, which (in current and proposed versions) doesn't have hand forging as a prerequisite.
9/10/2024	Evaleigh Works	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	ME06011 and others	I'm glad to see the addition of a broader spectrum of heating methods.	Thanks for your feedback and support.
9/10/2024	Evaleigh Works	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	MEM06010 Perform hand forging	...removal of heat treating ... lots of tools we make will require heat treatment and its inconsistent not to include it if it's required	There is an inconsistency in -6001 in that heat treatment is mentioned in the Application section but not in knowledge or performance requirements. Heat treatment is covered in other units

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
9/10/2024	Evaleigh Works	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	MEM06016 Perform press forging & MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes	Useful additions	Thanks for your feedback and support.
9/10/2024	Evaleigh Works	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	New unit needed	Much of the industry is focused on ornamental and design work – a unit covering this including skills in scrollwork, hot riveting and fire welding would be beneficial.	This was deemed out of scope for the current project, but the Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore this option.
11/10/2024	Kymon forge	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	MEM06016 Perform press forging & MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes	Much needed. Modern industry needs both hammer forging and press forging. Presses are much quieter and allow forges to operate in areas where power hammers can't.	Thanks for your feedback and support.
11/10/2024	Kymon forge	Employer	NSW	Email & phone call	New unit	Ornamental work is an important part of the industry. A unit covering these skills would be useful	Thanks for your feedback
Senior officials' check							

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
5/11/2024	Skills Canberra	Government (SRO)	ACT	Email	All	<p>Thank you for your email dated Friday 25 November about the updates to the MEM Manufacturing and Engineering training package. The ACT has had no training in these qualifications and streams.</p> <p>As Acting Senior Responsible Officer for the ACT, I support the following proposed updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•MPT_ANN_2223_002 Non-Destructive Testing Skills;</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_001 Blacksmithing; and</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_002 Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering.</li> </ul> <p>I look forward to continuing to work with you to support training package development and improvement.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	Thank you for your support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
7/11/2024	Department of Trade, Employment and Training	Government (SRO)	Qld	Email	All	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to review the following three MEM Projects updating the MEM Manufacturing and Engineering Training Package.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPT_ANN_2223_002 Non-Destructive Testing Skills</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_001 Blacksmithing</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_002 Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering.</li> </ul> <p>As Deputy Director-General, Engagement Division, Department of Trade, Employment and Training, the nominated Senior Responsible Officer for Queensland, I confirm that based on the absence of any known issues for Queensland, the state supports progressing all three projects through the Training Package Products Development and Endorsement Process Policy for Skills Ministers' endorsement. Please reach out if you require any further information or clarification. Kind Regards,</p>	Thank you for your support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
8/11/2024	NSW Department of Education	Government (SRO)	NSW	Email	All	Thank you for your email. I am responding on behalf of Tim Bayl, Senior Responsible Officer of NSW. NSW supports the proposed changes to the MEM Training Package in the email below to proceed to the Assurance Body. Regards	Thank you for your support.
8/11/2024	Skills Tasmania	Government (SRO)	TAS	Email	All	I am responding on behalf of Tasmania as the Senior Responsible Officer as Peta Sugden is on leave. I can confirm that Tasmania supports the proposed training package changes and has no further feedback. We have also forwarded consultation details to relevant industry bodies and employers. Regards	Thank you for your support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
8/11/2024	Department of Employment and Workplace Relations	Government (SRO)	National	Email	All	<p>Thank you for the provision of the following Final Draft Materials to the Commonwealth Senior Responsible Officer for review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPT_ANN_2223_002 MEM Non-Destructive Testing Skills</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_001 MEM Blacksmithing</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_002 Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering The Commonwealth has no issues or concerns in relation to the Projects:</li> <li>• There were no significant or contentious implementation issues identified with the final draft training products submitted by the JSC.</li> <li>• All items raised that have implications on a national level or raised by the department /another federal government agency have been appropriately addressed and incorporated into the final draft training products. Kind regards</li> </ul>	Thank you for your feedback.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
8/11/2024	Industry Skills Advisory Council NT (ISACNT)	Government (SRO)	NT	Email	All	<p>The Northern Territory State Training Authority has no objections to the Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance's updates to the MEM Manufacturing and Engineering Training Package progressing to the Training Package Assurance Body for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Destructive Testing Skills</li> <li>• Blacksmithing</li> <li>• MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering.</li> </ul> <p>The Industry Skills Advisory Council NT (ISACNT), on behalf of the NTSTA conducted industry consultation on the proposed changes.</p>	Thank you for your feedback.

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8/11/2024	South Australian Skills Commission	Government (SRO)	SA	Email	All	<p>I am responding to the Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance (MISA) request for the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) Check regarding review of the draft training package product components for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPT_ANN_2223_002 Non-Destructive Testing Skills</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_001 Blacksmithing</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_002 Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering.</li> </ul> <p>As the SRO for South Australia, I note that on this occasion you will also be receiving a response from Skills SA, while we align our processes moving forward. Please find our response below: MPT_ANN_2223_002 Non-Destructive Testing Skills</p> <p>The SRO is supportive of the changes, and no further comments. MPT_ANN_2324_001 Blacksmithing. The SRO is supportive of the changes and has no further comments. MPT_ANN_2324_002</p>	Thank you for your support.
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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
						Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering. The SRO is supportive of the changes and has no further comments. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Regards,	
11/11/2024	Department of Training and Workforce Development	Government (SRO)	WA	Email	All	Thank you for your email and for the opportunity to review the draft training package products. The Western Australian Senior Responsible Officer supports the submission of the MEM Training Package Release 5.0 to the Assurance Body for consideration, which includes the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Destructive Testing Skills Project and general maintenance updates;</li> <li>• MEM80125 Graduate Diploma of Engineering; and</li> <li>• MEM31922 Blacksmithing Project.</li> </ul> Kind regards	Thank you for your support.

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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
14/11/2024	Skills SA	Government (SRO)	SA	Email	All	<p>Acting Director, Policy and Strategy, Skills SA, Senior Responsible Officer supports the updates to the Manufacturing and Engineering (MEM) training package projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPT_ANN_2223_002 Non-Destructive Testing Skills</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_001 Blacksmithing</li> <li>• MPT_ANN_2324_002 Update to MEM80122 Graduate Diploma of Engineering</li> </ul> <p>Kind regards</p>	Thank you for your support.

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22/11/2024	Victorian Skills Authority	Government (SRO)	VIC	Email	All	<p>MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING (MEM) TRAINING PACKAGE NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING (NDT) SKILLS and GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF ENGINEERING PROJECTS</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 25 October 2024 requesting a Senior Responsible Officers (SRO) Check for the Manufacturing and Engineering (MEM) Training Package – NonDestructive Testing (NDT) and Graduate Diploma of Engineering projects.</p> <p>Victoria supports the revised NDT and Graduate Diploma of Engineering training products proceeding to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations for quality assurance prior to submission to Skills Ministers for endorsement.</p> <p>I note that the proposed changes have been deemed equivalent. Advice from Victoria's Curriculum Maintenance Manager (CMM) Service is that the new packaging rules which</p>	Thank you for your support.
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Date	Organisation	Type	State	Channel	Component	Feedback	Response
						<p>increase the required number of units of competency for each of these qualifications, will result in implementation costs for RTOs and increased costs for funding bodies. These costs will only be partly reflected in the updating of the Victorian Purchasing Guide.</p> <p>I wish you well as you progress this work.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>	

### *Gas regulations*

Industry concern was provided to the technical committee that some forge operators were avoiding type B gas device certification requirements by creating DIY gas forges from components. It was proposed that these regulations be pointed out in the updated units with the following text: 'Advice should be sought from appropriate regulatory authorities on type B gas device certification requirements for any gas-fired heating equipment used.'

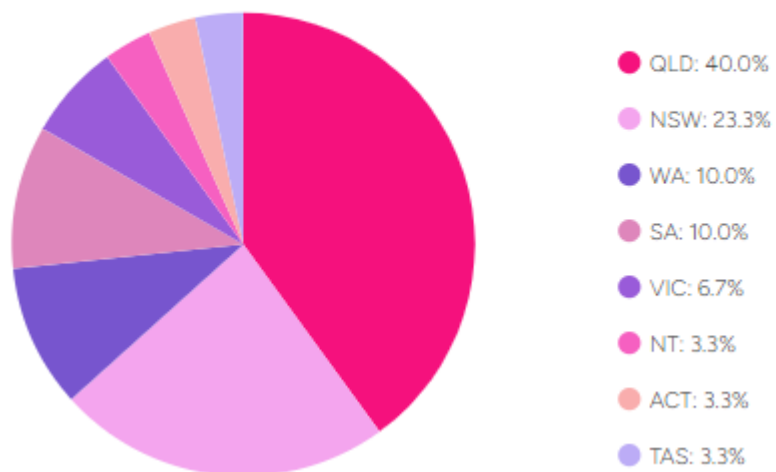
Gas regulatory agencies in all states and territories were invited to provide advice on this wording, and those that responded (ACT, Tasmania, and Queensland) were happy with it. Based on further industry feedback and discussion, however, it was decided that this information should be added to the CVIG rather than the unit.

## Blacksmithing Project Consultation Log


Statistics of stakeholders who participated during consultation period

⌵ Geographic Coverage ▾

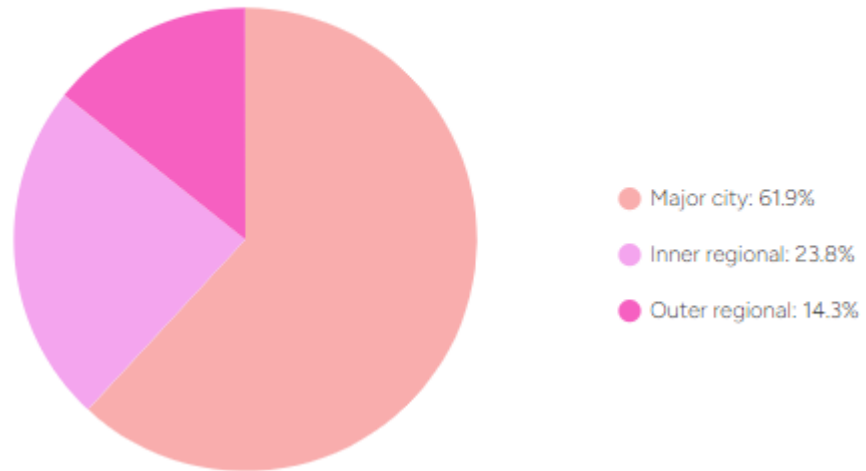
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## Blacksmithing Project Consultation Log

Remoteness area 

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**Remoteness area for blacksmithing enterprises.** Please note, this graph excludes RTOs, peak bodies, associations, ITAB/ITCs and CMMs. It includes self-employed blacksmiths and employers of blacksmiths.

## Blacksmithing Project Consultation Log

Stakeholder Type ▾

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