



26 August 2009

Media Release

AUSTRALIAN IDOL WES CARR SENDS OFF A NEW BREED OF AUSSIE IDOLS

Australian singing sensation Wes Carr today joined the Australian WorldSkills team (the Skillaroos) at their final farewell before they stampede to Calgary, Canada to compete in the 40th International Trade Olympics.

The Skillaroos, representing the best and brightest young trainees and apprentices from across Australia, depart for Canada tomorrow ready to do battle with the best from the rest of the world.

During a week of intense competition between 900 competitors from 50 countries, our very own Skillaroos will battle it out for the title of 'world's greatest tradie' – brickie versus brickie, welder versus welder and Australia versus the world!

A typically fiercely competitive Australian team will be looking to bring home a swag of medals in categories ranging from hairdressing to plumbing and everything in between. A podium finish is not out of reach for the Aussie team who currently hold a world ranking of 5th – the highest of any English speaking nation.

Helping the Skillaroos get a taste for their Canadian adventure, Wes Carr was this morning dishing out the maple syrup during a pancake breakfast for the squad and turning many heads of the morning commuters at Circular Quay as he set about trying his hand at a few trades.

Whilst the general consensus confirmed that Wes should stick to singing, there is no doubt that he understands the dedication and commitment required to make it to the top. After winning Australian Idol in 2008, Wes has had a string of hits in the Australian charts and cemented his place as an Australian music favourite.

CEO of WorldSkills Australia, Mark Callaghan, is looking forward to the competition in Canada and showing the world what Aussie tradies are made of.

"We couldn't be sending over a stronger team. The standard of skills within the group exceeds all expectations and is a testament to the high level of skill based training on offer across Australia," Mr Callaghan said.

“There is a real buzz amongst the group – this is the defining moment of their years of training. I have no doubt that each and every one of them will do their country proud,” Mr Callaghan said.

The 40th International WorldSkills Competition is held in Calgary, Canada from 1-7 September.

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WorldSkills Australia is a not-for-profit organisation that has been supporting youth in trade for over 28 years. WorldSkills Australia aims to raise the profile of skill-based vocations through a series of regional, national and international competitions, engaging industry, government and vocational education and training authorities to promote the benefits of skill development as a pathway to a career in trade.

For more information please contact:

Michael Bernard – The PR Edge
P 03 8416 6821
M 0421 988 797
E michael.bernard@che.com.au

Josie D'Arino – WorldSkills Australia
P 03 9249 1000
M 0421 274 961
E jdarino@worldskills.org.au