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News

Engineering career transitioning program launched

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The Society of Automotive Engineers – Australasia (SAE-A) has launched a national career transitioning program designed to help keep the nation's high level professional engineering skills employed – and keep them in Australia.

Introduced at this week's 2010 Change by Design Active Safety Conference in Melbourne, CareerDrive is described as a progressive plan that helps established automotive engineers develop a satisfying career – and helps graduates and young engineers begin a career.

SAE-A Executive Director Max Chanter said CareerDrive is unique because it focuses on automotive industry professionals and provides a complete career transitioning program.

“In the challenging automotive engineering field, the SAE-A wanted to take a stand for its members in securing and maintaining satisfying and productive employment,” said Chanter.

“The SAE-A does not employ engineers. But we did design a program to help Australian automotive engineers remain in this exciting industry, or at least transition into secure roles in related industries, such as aerospace, intelligent transport systems technology, rail and other forms of mobility engineering,” he said.

Chanter said CareerDrive is based on a sophisticated online program and also has plenty of human interface.

“CareerDrive takes users through a series of key steps, which can be revisited at any time. The user can load their resume on the system and change it at any time, they are interviewed about their need for careers coaching or skills training, we offer coaching, training and mentoring, and they can participate in online forums.

“The individual user controls their privacy and progress. They also gain access to positions advertised by relevant industry organisations.

“We are grateful to the Victorian Government for its support. That support enables SAE-A to offer this new service to members free of charge,” said Chanter.

Entry to SAE-A CareerDrive is via www.careerdrive.com.au