MEDIA STATEMENT
Monday, 7th December, 2009

Single National Regulator will Strengthen VET Sector

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) today welcomed the Federal Government’s announcement of a single national regulator for Australia’s Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector, saying it is a significant step forward in the development of Australia’s tertiary sector would enhance the industry’s reputation and better police an already sound legal framework.

ACPET CEO, Andrew Smith, said the laws governing vocational education and training are amongst the best in the world, but inconsistencies in implementation by some state regulatory authorities has allowed poor practices to emerge, and has created substantial barriers to innovative education delivery.

“We believe a single national regulator will improve student experience, enhance the reputation of our industry and remove some of the bureaucratic burden that stifles innovation and choice in vocational education and training.

“Australia needs skilled workers in many industries. A thriving VET sector, with strong links to industry and nationally consistent accreditation and regulatory practices is the best way to achieve that,” Mr Smith said.

“We look forward to reviewing the detail of this announcement, and in particular, we call upon the Government to explore ways to further move toward a single tertiary sector in Australia, combining vocational and higher education qualifications, that could become a key driver for productivity in our nation.

Andrew Smith is available for comment
Media Contact: Ben Eade, Wilkinson Media, 0434 708 095