



Australian Government

06
minister's awards for
EXCELLENCE

Border Express: Winner of the Minister's Award for Excellence for Employers of Australian Apprentices 2006 (Riverina Region, NSW)

“An Australian Apprenticeship at Border Express leads to a strong career path. Our Australian Apprentices can graduate with a nationally recognised qualification and can go on to be promoted through the company,”

– Mr Mark Chaston, National Training Manager, Border Express.

Since opening in 1981, Border Express has grown to become one of Australia's largest privately owned transport companies. As an interstate transport and distribution services company with a strong regional network, the company strives to provide the best possible quality of services and professional commitment to its customers.

The Australian Apprenticeships scheme has provided the company with an ideal framework to implement

training across all company sites on a national basis. In doubling its staff over the past four years, training has been crucial in supporting this growth, and has enabled the business to attract and service national clients.



This year, Border Express has won the Minister's Award for Excellence for Employers of Australian Apprentices in the Riverina region. Mr Mark Chaston, National Training Manager of Border Express, is dedicated to ensuring the company continues to foster its growth through employing Australian Apprentices.

“We are delighted and proud to have won this prestigious award! Our Australian Apprentices are extremely important to the success of our company. With 220 Australian Apprentices in a staff of 650 nationally, we recognise and appreciate how they contribute to the overall bottom line and future growth of the business,” Mr Chaston said.

“At Border Express each of our Australian Apprentices are supported by a national training programme that has changed the culture of our company and has been a huge driver for development in the business.”

“We are committed to encouraging youth into the industry and provide strong ongoing training and career opportunities, so we look for Australian Apprentices who are enthusiastic, have a strong work ethic, and are interested in the transport and logistics industry so that they can enjoy working for us!” Mr Chaston said.

“It is vital we continue to invest in Australian Apprenticeships and keep abreast of industry standards and new technologies, as having well trained staff with national qualifications is one of the ways we remain competitive in the market.”

“To meet the demand from our customers it really is important to ensure our people are trained to high standards. We are, after all, a predominantly service orientated business. Employing Australian Apprentices and training in general has been a smart move for us.”

“On the job training for a national qualification has improved our overall staff morale and internal communications. It has assisted the company’s bottom line by reducing wasted time and resources. Work place accidents have lowered, quality of productivity has improved and our staff are more responsive to change,” Mr Chaston emphasised.

“We encourage people from a young age to begin an Australian Apprenticeship with us. Our team of workplace trainers and assessors are very enthusiastic with all of their Australian Apprentices. They regularly pass on information on how to get the best out of the latest technology to their staff. Plus, our local Australian Apprenticeships Centre are fabulous, they offer a great range of free services to us as an employer, and our Australian Apprentices, and they visit us at our workplace. They provide us advice on all the paperwork, training options and talk us through all the incentives available,” Mr Chaston concluded.