



## Entry

### Overview

Completed - Certificate III in Electrotechnology Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Employer - Skill360 Australia Host Organisation - Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa RTO - TAFE Queensland North

My name is Aaron Lobley. I have always had an interest and curiosity in the electrical and refrigeration trade and how these principles worked. Therefore I decided to apply for an apprenticeship as a mature aged apprentice in hope to learn more about the industry and knowledge content.

My previous career was as a teacher. I taught Industrial Technology and Design, Manual Arts, Graphics - Graphical Communications, Vocational Education and Training - Certificate subjects in Furniture Making, Engineering, Automotive and Construction, Technology Studies, Engineering studies and Maths years 8, 9, 10. I have taught at a school in Brisbane and I was the subject Co-coordinator for the Manual Arts/Industrial Technology Department at Western Cape College Weipa for the three years prior to undertaking my apprenticeship.

I'm grateful to Skill360 and Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa for allowing me the opportunity to fulfill this aspiration of mine as the opportunity wasn't available to me in the area in which I grew up.

Immediately after completing my apprenticeship, I was successfully employed in a permanent role as an Electrical - Air Conditioning Maintainer with Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa.

As a mature aged person it was a difficult decision to take on an apprenticeship but I knew that at the completion of my trade I would be able to support my wife and three children and provide a better future and career for myself. The efforts that I put in throughout my apprenticeship gave me a rewarding future in the industry and beyond.

Throughout my apprenticeship I took particular pride in even the everyday tasks of the job including organising and sorting the refrigeration stock and tooling stores for stock take and accountability. I put the effort in to providing accurate history entry for job works so that accurate data is captured on our site assets.

I understand that real dedication and hard work is required constantly in order to perform well in any role. I have a strong

constantly in order to perform well in any role. I have a strong safety focus and I am committed to continually developing myself as a professional. I recently upgraded my Certificate IV TAE in Workplace Training and Assessment, allowing me to keep up with current training trends, assessment techniques and national compliance. I am committed to applying this knowledge when training apprentices in my field. I am also a member of the Australian Refrigeration Council that communicates new trends and technology in our field. From this, I have gained additional training for extra qualifications in our industry (Hydrocarbon Refrigerant License).

By working both on and off site and applying what I have learnt I have been able to assist community organisations like the BMX Club, Dirt Kart Club, Weipa Pig Hunt and the local School to keep their assets functioning and no cost.

Competency Results and Achievements:

- Completed my apprenticeship through Skill360, to which I am grateful for the opportunity years past when I mentioned the idea with my local Skill360 Apprenticeship Coordinator
- Successful in obtaining permanent employment with Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa, immediately after completion of apprenticeship
- Winner - Combined Trades Apprentice of the Year 2013 and 2014, Western Cape Apprentice and Trainee Awards
- Runner Up - Mature Age Apprentice of the Year 2014, Skill360 Australia Employment and Training Awards
- Obtained a full Refrigerant Handling Licence
- Obtained Restricted Electrical Licence
- High Risk Licenses for Forklift and Elevated Work Platform, Overhead Gantry Crane
- Organised and completed further competencies to obtain a Full Hydrocarbon Refrigerant licence
- Excelled at TAFE and tried to achieve 100% with every assessment
- Gave 100% in the field and developing documents, processes and procedures for my host employer Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa
- Employed and implemented changing technology in our industry into our scope of works at Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa
- Share new technology and advancements with not only my company but other refrigeration personnel in the community
- Completed safety and compliance training at Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa as outlined in Table.1 in my supporting attachments.

### Criterion 1: Training contribution to career and study plans

By excelling in my field I was able to complete my apprenticeship very early and immediately obtain permanent employment With Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa as an Electrical - Air Conditioning Maintainer. I managed and took control of my apprenticeship by excelling at TAFE, being invited to complete capstone early and finishing my trade a year and a bit early.

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Throughout my apprenticeship I also led projects to improve safety at the Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa site by developing trade specific power tool and fixed workshop equipment operating procedures as well as developing apprentice area specific site inductions for my work area.

Demonstrated understanding of the value of learning: I have been involved in arranging training onsite which has incorporated basic induction training through to technical trade training. My previous career as a teacher taught me the value of instructional training and I am eager to learn and absorb as much knowledge as I can not only in my trade but in all facets of the mining industry.

Throughout my apprenticeship I demonstrated leadership by actively managing and taking ownership of my apprenticeship, keeping up to date with my work and E-profiling books and participating in all the required HSE tasks.

I have led a project to improve safety at the Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa Site by being the first area to develop the trade specific power tools and fixed workshop equipment safety notices and have developed attachable cards that are displayed on the cords of power tools.

I have also developed the apprentice induction program for my work area and have implemented it in E-Days for the Building and Grounds Team.

Sharing knowledge from training with others: Throughout the entire of my apprenticeship, I actively supported the apprenticeship program – speaking at apprentice Away Days (training days) and gathering feedback on the site apprenticeship program and offering my support as a more mature aged apprentice to the younger apprentices.

I also worked with other refrigeration personnel in the community and passed on latest advancements and accessing new technologies available to us in our trade.

Career aspirations and plans to achieve them: Since finishing my trade, I have enrolled in and am completing a dual diploma in Management and Business to keep my options open for future career opportunities. I have upgraded my Certificate IV TAE in Workplace Training and Assessment.

## Criterion 2: Training contribution to skills

Effective Oral and Written Communication: I have written site specific induction programs for apprentices as well as Tooling inductions, which required collaboration with multiple teams and stakeholders

stakeholders.

Leadership and promotion of training, industry or other things: Throughout my Apprenticeship I demonstrated leadership by cleaning tools and workshops and taking ownership of the area that is supporting my apprenticeship.

I have taught a lot of students at school that now are doing apprenticeships with Skill360 and I continue to take pleasure in assisting and mentoring these young people.

Throughout my apprenticeship I actively participated and assisted in the apprentice induction program and the running of sessions in apprentice professional development days (apprentice Away Days). I am now able to pass on my knowledge to our new 2015 apprentice and prepare him for TAFE and concept comprehension to allow him the opportunity for success as well.

Capacity to be an effective ambassador for the industry and community: I taught for eight years in the senior section of education and taking on this apprenticeship afforded me the opportunity to finally practice what I preached for all those years.

It has also been an invaluable opportunity to complete my apprenticeship in a small mining town alongside some of the young adults that I taught. I have put pride in the fact that I have led by example but have also embraced the training opportunity which has been presented to me.

By also doing an apprenticeship I have more understanding of the values and should I ever go back to teaching I will be able to guide, mentor coach and encourage the younger generation on what it means to be trade qualified and what this can do for Australia as a whole.

I have lived in country Queensland all my life and moved to Weipa six years ago, being from the country and understanding the challenges that rural life presents – I would make a strong ambassador for the training system as I believe that I could make a difference by sharing my story and hopefully have other young rural kids step up and have a go at getting a trade and solidifying their future and that of the Australian Workforce.

### Criterion 3: Why you would be a good ambassador

I taught for eight years in the senior section of education and then did my apprenticeship and now employment has allowed me to practice what I preached for all those years.

If I were to go back to teaching, I would utilise the experience and knowledge gained through this experience to guide, mentor, coach and encourage the younger generation on what it means to

be trade qualified and what this can do for Australia as a whole. While working in the industry I am able to pass on my knowledge to new apprentices and prepare them for TAFE, concept comprehension and trade secrets to allow them the opportunity for success as well.

My message to encourage others who are interested in a career in refrigeration is: Don't hold back, go for it. Refrigeration is a massive field/trade with employment opportunities everywhere. The right attitude and a smile goes a long way!

#### Criterion 4: Achievements in other activities

Achievements in areas other than study and work (e.g. awards or scholarships): My wife and I have a small business: Western Cape Private Tutoring. We are currently looking into other business opportunities in our community, with plans underway for 2015: Nautigirl Adventures that targets family based fishing charter for mothers, children and family units.

Some of my achievements include:

- Winner - Combined Trades Apprentice of the Year 2013 and 2014, Western Cape Apprentice and Trainee Awards
- Runner Up - Mature Age Apprentice of the Year 2014, Skill360 Australia Employment and Training Awards
- Bachelor of Technology Education
- Academic Excellence Award at Griffith University
- Golden Key Honors Society Life member
- Cert IV TAE Workplace Assessment and Training
- Half way through completing a Diploma in Management and Diploma in Business

Involvement in community or sporting activities: I am actively involved in the Weipa community and often volunteer my services in major events and fundraising activities. Some of my other achievements are:

- My family and I are active volunteer wildlife carers for sick and injured animals
- Small Business Owner - looking to commence an additional local venture in 2015
- Community Events Volunteer - Assistant Coordinator, Volunteer my time and services to many community groups like BMX Weipa, Weipa fishing Classic, Weipa Hunting Club, Weipa Dirt Karts Club and the local school
- Dedicated husband and father of a 2, 6 & 7 year old
- Support my wife in her career as a teacher

#### Course/Certificate name in full

Certificate III in Electrotechnology Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration (UEE32211)

#### Course/Certificate completion date or expected completion date

09/02/2015

**Name of employer while completing apprenticeship/traineeship**

Skill360 Australia (GTO) / Rio Tinto Alcan Weipa (Host)

**Date of birth**

11/07/1979

**Name of supervisor**

Steve Lugsdin (Rio) David Morgan (Skill360)

**Name of registered training organisation (e.g. TAFE)**

TAFE Queensland North

**Name of group training organisation (if applicable)**

Skill360 Australia

 **Attachments**

ATTACHMENT 1 - Table 1 - safety and compliance training undertaken.pdf

ATTACHMENT 2 - Aaron Loblely - Cert III Airconditioning and Refrigeration Trade Certificate & Statement of Attainment.pdf

ATTACHMENT 3 - letters of support.pdf

ATTACHMENT 4 - Aaron Loblely - Award Certificates.pdf

ATTACHMENT 5 - Aaron Loblely - Other Qualifications.pdf

