



## Media release from The People in Dairy project

For immediate release: 5 December 2008 (280 words)

### Head: Dairy raises the HR bar

The dairy industry has lifted the bar in human resource (HR) management standards with the graduation last week (28/11/08) of the first five students in the Diploma of Business Management HR (dairy).

Most graduates have an advisory background in technical areas such as farm and financial management, animal health or people capacity.

The diploma adds another string to their bow, giving them the skills to help dairy farmers with recruitment, developing farm policies and systems, succession planning, performance management, and work-life balance.

Graduate, Gavin McClay, a Gippsland dairy consultant says the course provides opportunities to improve how we engage with others.

“Generally people want to be good employers but are not sure how to do it. This course is helping clarify that issue by providing strategies and structures to build a business that engages all people in the farm business.”

The diploma is the first time advisers have had an option of gaining HR training that is customised for the dairy industry. And dairy is one of the few industries with a specialist HR qualification.

Delivered through the National Centre for Dairy Education Australia (NCDEA), the diploma draws heavily upon materials and resources in The People in Dairy program.

Dr Pauline Brightling, Program Leader for The People in Dairy says the diploma has a very practical focus, being delivered by a series of guest speakers who are champions in their field.

Students in the first year have included farmers, consultants, factory field officers and dairy educators.

“The content is structured around the modules on The People in Dairy website which provides a clear pathway to successful engagement of people at all levels of the farm business,” says Dr Brightling.

Enrolments for 2009 are now open. For more information about the Diploma in Business Management HR (dairy) visit [www.thepeopleindairy.org.au](http://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au) or contact the course co-ordinator, Virginia Boyd ph 0407 669 597, email [vboyd@gotafe.vic.edu.au](mailto:vboyd@gotafe.vic.edu.au)

#### ENDS

**Photo:** taken at graduation presentation at DA AGM (28/11/08). Click on the following link to receive a high res image by automatic email: [pid\\_HR\\_graduates@monkscom.com.au](mailto:pid_HR_graduates@monkscom.com.au)

**Caption:** Front row l-r: Chris Hibburt (The People in Dairy), Peter Carkeek (Manager, NCDEA), Trevor Westacott (Graduate), Virginia Boyd (Course Co-ordinator), Gavin McClay (Graduate). Back row l-r: Karen Baum (Graduate), Peter Ryan (CEO GoTafe), Cameron Smith (Graduate).



Graduates (November 2008)

1. Trevor Westacott, dairy consultant, Western Victoria
2. Cameron Smith, Farmanco, Nth Vic
3. Gavin McClay Farm Management Consultant, Gippsland
4. Karen Baum, Dairy Industry Consultant, Gippsland
5. Frank Tyndall, Farm Management Consultant East Gippsland

### **Background information for media: About People in Dairy**

The People in Dairy is Dairy Australia's program to assist farmers as they improve how they attract, deploy, retain and develop the people they need to achieve the strategic visions of their businesses. *For more information contact The People in Dairy ph (03) 9620-7283 or [www.thepeopleindairy.org.au](http://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au)*

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### **Media contact**

This media has been released by Monks Communication on behalf of The People in Dairy project.

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