

IT SKILLS OPEN MANY DOORS



Within weeks of completing a traineeship in information technology, Ian Lewis became Systems Administrator at WorkVentures.

The first time Ian sought a traineeship, he was told he had no experience with customers. A stint working for Coles provided those skills. He enrolled in a private IT college, only to see the college go into liquidation. After some short-term jobs, Ian secured an IT traineeship with WorkVentures.

“Walter de Jong was my manager,” Ian says. “You learn the skills on the job, and there’s a lot of paperwork as you document what you can do and how you would solve problems.

I had a flair for the work and managed to finish the traineeship a year early, with a Certificate IV qualification.”

Walter says that Ian was friendly, helpful and thirsty for knowledge. WorkVentures’ relocation from Surry Hills to the city centre accelerated Ian’s knowledge of logistics and project planning. Ian accepted immediately when offered his current position.

“The whole WorkVentures work environment is positive, people are friendly and there are enough challenges to make you work harder. Most of the clients are internal to the company, but my regular visits to the Waterloo and Woolloomooloo Connect Centres give me contact with outside clients. User numbers are going up, and it’s interesting to track what they are doing. I also go to our Chatswood Employment Services at least once a week.”

Ultimately, Ian hopes to work in high-end system administration.

“The skills I’ve learned here have opened many doors for me, definitely.”