



Apprenticeship sparks reward

ONE of the Australian Technical College's first graduates has been named 2008 Apprentice of the Year.

Jake Stangewitz, 17, was recently endorsed by award sponsors ASC Pty Ltd.

He is undertaking a school-based electrical apprenticeship at the college's Adelaide South campus.

He also received an award for the outstanding second-year student in electrical principles - from the National Electronics and Communications Association.

Apprentice of the year criteria were assessed

against the employable-skills framework of technology, communication, teamwork, initiative and enterprise, problem-solving, self-management, planning and learning for improvement.

Australian Technical College principal Jim Fenoughty praised Jake's achievements.

"Jake came to the college with significant work experience in the electrical industry," he says.

"College mentor Luke Harris and trainer Phil Crookart helped Jake balance electrical theory, practical training, both on and off the job, and the study components for his SACE."

Receiving the award, Jake credited the course's mentoring program. "The mentoring aspect of the college was especially good, as it is more personal," he says.

"My mentor, Luke, spent time with me helping me to achieve the objectives I had set for myself."

Now in its second year of operation, the Australian Technical College has achieved significant accolades, including as a finalist in the VET in Schools excellence award and runner-up in the national school-based apprentice category.

"We have been encouraged by the expressions of

interest for enrolment at the college this year, and are looking forward to building on the successes that have already been established this year," Mr Fenoughty says.

"We are encouraged by the links that we have formed with industry, such as ASC, McMahon Steel, MTA Group Training, Fleurieu Cranes and REDARC Electronics.

"The college is one of three in South Australia offering trade-focused SACE and nationally accredited certificate III industry training."

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OUTSTANDING: Apprentice of the Year Jake Stangewitz