

To train or not to train – there’s just no question

THE NUMBER OF NEW ZEALAND SECURITY PERSONNEL IN TRAINING HAS RISEN STEEPLY IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS – AND ALL SIGNALS POINT TO ONGOING GROWTH.



Andy Gollings, director of Red Badge Group.

Certainly the Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act, due to come into effect on April 1 next year, and the Rugby World Cup, are playing their part. But for many firms this is just background, as they are committed to creating a strong and capable workforce anyway.

ETITO’s Industry Training Manager [Security] Ross Clarke says a growing number of firms are expressing a clear commitment to embedding training into their operations.

“More than at any previous time, the industry is in a strong position to make a real shift into a new era of professionalism – to lift the bar,” says Ross. “That has translated in a noticeable increase in training agreements with ETITO across the country in the last two months – and it comes on top of the 300 security personnel who have completed national qualifications to date this year.”

Among the large companies to strengthen its training programme is event and stadia specialist Red Badge Group.

Red Badge has signed 500 new training agreements with ETITO and is rolling out a major new training initiative across its national operations. It hopes to have the majority of its security officers trained to National Certificate in Security [Level 2] within the next seven months.

Red Badge Group director Andy Gollings and regional manager Glenn Simpson say the company has been committed to training for some time but what it is now embarking on will take its approach to a new level.

“This is about our commitment to our people, to the standard of service we deliver to our customers and to playing our part in further lifting the professionalism of the industry,” says Andy.

Adds Glenn: “Level 2 is the minimum for us; we want to be able to see our people move on and gain Level 3 and 4 qualifications as well. We’re now in an era that demands greater professionalism and accountability.”

Red Badge supports regulation and mandatory training. Andy and Glenn say it can only be positive for the industry, staff and customers.

Ross Clarke says ETITO is keen to see more companies engage in training – and build or strengthen a training culture that will provide benefits well beyond the Rugby World Cup.

“What is really pleasing to see – and this was very apparent at the New Zealand Security Conference – is that industry leaders agree that a new level of professionalism in the industry is long overdue and that training plays a key role.

“Regulation – and any associated training and qualifications – is good news for good operators. It recognises those who set and meet high standards, while no longer allowing poor and shoddy performers to play the same game on their terms. Over time, as we’ve seen in other industries, the bar just keeps lifting higher and higher.”

To find out more about how national qualifications training can benefit your security business, visit www.etito.co.nz or talk to an ETITO training manager today.

www.etito.co.nz

Auckland Ph +64 09 525 2590

Wellington Ph +64 04 499 7670

Christchurch Ph +64 03 365 9819

