

m e d i a r e l e a s e

Date: 7th July 2010

Subject: Year 12 Students undertake Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program

Year 12 students from Monaro High School recently participated in the Snowy Hydro's Young Driver Training Program. The program which focuses on the unique road conditions of the Snowy Mountains includes both theory and practical sessions designed to improve the attitude and driving behaviours of young people.

The practical sessions are held using a specially designed 'skid car'. The skid car is a Subaru Forrester with a custom designed skid frame which allows students, under direction and control of expert driver trainer, David Knowles, to experience what causes a car to lose control in a simulated skid situation. This improves the level of awareness of young drivers and demonstrates how easy it is to lose control in certain conditions.

Managing Director, Snowy Hydro Limited, Mr Terry Charlton said: "The Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program has been running locally for over 8 years. It's part of our long standing commitment to young people in our local area and is consistent with our company's focus on health and safety."

"We are all too familiar with disturbing news headlines about young people killed or injured in car accidents. Through Snowy Hydro's ongoing success in the National Electricity Market, we are able to make a significant financial investment in the local community such as this program. If our program saves a life or prevents one crash, then it is money well spent. I congratulate and thank local high schools for partnering with us and in sharing our vision of improving road safety through driver education for students."

Relieving Principal of Monaro High School, Mr David Brison, said: "The feedback from the students has been exceptional. Comments from students such as: "I didn't realise that talking or texting on a mobile phone could be so dangerous" and "the practical aspect was great – it's great to find out how skids on ice can occur and how I can control them". The students were unanimous in agreeing that the program was a great help and also hope that Snowy Hydro will continue to run the program in future so that other students can benefit from the knowledge that they gained."

The program is run in conjunction with the Australian Driving Institute and local high schools and this year more than 250 students participated across the region, including more than 75 from Monaro High. Snowy Hydro also thanks the Snowy Mountains Airport Corporation for their valued and continued support to this program through the use of the Snowy Mountains Airport.

Photo: (L to R) Maddison Caldwell, Monique Sellies, Mark Salvestro, Zeb Learoyd, Aaron Stevenson and in front Alisha Brady with David Knowles from the Australian Driving Institute.

For more information, please call:

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