

# **Employer Cooperation in Training**

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This presentation examines the extent of inter-firm cooperation in training in six Australian industries. The presentation identifies firm supplied cooperative training as a feature of inter-firm cooperation but finds that such training is undertaken by only a modest proportion of Australian firms. These firms are in a sound business position, place an emphasis upon the development of employee skills and engage in cooperative training to support their existing business relationships. There is little evidence for the existence of training networks in Australia and most firms engaging in cooperation do so through informal arrangements with a small number of partner firms. The presentation concludes that there are limited prospects for cooperative training to raise employer engagement in the Australian training system or to lift the overall provision of training without the creation of new kinds of training market intermediaries.