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Media Release:

Collie Senior High School onsite exploring automation

Six students from Collie Senior High School were at Premier Coal recently to understand how the mining teams operate in an automated workplace safely, efficiently, and effectively.

The session formed part of the students completing their Certificate II in Autonomous Operations with South Regional TAFE - Collie Campus.

The students are required to visit facilities across the region to understand how data is sourced, collected, and applied in various critical roles within the value chain of an automated workplace.

Russell Blount, Lecturer at South Regional TAFE was pleased to share the experience with the students.

“Unlike trade area work placements or work experience, the students are not undertaking physical tasks during the site visits, it is more about them getting the exposure to an automated workplace and understanding what value-chain is in the industry and how automation technologies affect each link of the chain.

“We get the amazing opportunity to visit a few workplaces across Collie and the students are encouraged to ask questions and collect as much information as possible.

“We want to thank Premier Coal for having us at their operation and letting the students inspect the ROM and Pit Control Rooms, it really helped the students get a strong understanding of the types of technology used at the mine operation.

“Additionally, access to an isolated plant and the respective drawings enabled the students the opportunity to identify instruments and equipment to understand plant operational characteristics,” said Russell.

South Regional TAFE Collie is delivering the qualification to its Vocational Education Training secondary students for the purpose of enhancing learning into future industries and employment opportunities in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. The students are also studying elements of mechatronics and robotics.

Premier Coal Operations Manager Braedon Gaske was happy to have the students onsite.

“We always welcome the opportunity to showcase our operation to students and open their eyes to a possible career in mining. It will only help us educate the future leaders into our industry,” said Braedon.

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