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NEWS RELEASE

Wilmar showcases trade options to young women

Wilmar Sugar Australia's inaugural Young Women in Trades event has given high school students a first-hand look at what it is like to work for the country's biggest sugar manufacturer.

Thirteen Ayr State High School students from years 10 to 12 attended the event at Pioneer Mill earlier this month.

Wilmar Training and Development Manager Scott Young said it was organised for young women with an interest in becoming a tradesperson to find out about what Wilmar offered and the type of work that apprentices and tradespeople do in sugar mills.

"It was a really great experience for the girls to see exactly what the different trades do on a daily basis and to see other apprentices completing projects in the workshops," Mr Young said.

"The girls got an insight into the boilermaking and fitting and turning trades, as well as the lab processes.

"They also heard from one of our female tradespeople who previously attended Ayr State High School, and had a full tour of Pioneer Mill."

Year 10 students Kahlee Lennox and Lauren Kmet came to the event to learn more about being a Wilmar apprentice.

"I've attended the day to keep my career options open after high school because at the moment I'm seriously considering what career paths are available," Kahlee said.

"I'm currently thinking of doing an apprenticeship or studying nursing.

"I also have a few family members who work at the mill and they all love working there.

“The day has given me great insight into what they do for a living.”

Lauren said she was seriously considering a career as a boilermaker.

“I think it would be a really interesting career choice that could take me to a lot of different places,” she said.

Mr Young said he hoped some of the students who attended the Young Women in Trades event would apply for an apprenticeship with Wilmar when they left school.

Wilmar is currently recruiting for next year’s intake of apprentices, with 33 positions up for grabs across its eight raw sugar mills and Sarina BioEthanol Distillery.

Applications close this Sunday (4 August). Apply online at www.wilmarsugarmills.com.au

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Media contact: Leanne Oliveri 0447 791 226



Year 10 students Lauren Kmet (left) and Kahlee Lennox (centre) in Pioneer Mill’s cogeneration room with Wilmar Training and Development Manager Scott Young.



Year 10 student Kahlee Lennox learns about the sugar making process.



Ayr State High School girls watch raw sugar go up the belt at Pioneer Mill.



Wilmar Training and Development Manager Scott Young (left) with Ayr State High School students Jesse Alexander, Lauren Kmet, Kahlee Lennox, Hannah Smith and Manual Arts Teacher Andrew Prideaux in Pioneer Mill's fitting and turning workshop.