

Teaching Surveying in the Digital World

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SUMMARY

TEACHING SURVEYING IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

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SUMMARY

The evolution of the electronic age sees volumes of people, from young to old, watching their phones for anything from the latest information updates to telephone conversations. It is not uncommon to be on public transport and observe most people travelling somewhere engaged on their phones: talking, texting, playing games or listening to music. We are rapidly training our minds to accept electronic information in its many different forms.

Thus what about on line educational training in its purest sense. We are not talking about texting or playing games or listening to music. We are talking about learning our next qualification on line and not have to go to university or TAFE (Technical and Further Education) and building this qualification around our day to day lives. For those who have attended university, it may mean missing out on flying paper planes in our first year or having fun at the university “pub”. But remember “times they are a changing”.

This paper is about the changing

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s, employer reactions and provide some statistical analysis of those coming into the courses and completing the courses in a scheduled timeframe.

Surveying is one of the many courses being offered online and is also a very practical course, as technology has played and continues to play a significant role in the changing environment. Thus one of the main issues in the digital age of teaching is how educational institutions manage the necessary hands on training required to complete the qualification. Imagine medical students learning everything on line and then getting the practical experience once they have completed the degree. Practical training during the teaching period is fundamental to complete learning.

However, the most significant advantage of online training is that it allows students to work on a full time basis whilst studying, thus maintaining an acceptable quality of life whilst learning on the job and academically. This is a winner with various employers who want to maintain high levels of work but at the same time have their employees qualified in surveying at the certificate, diploma or degree level. These days in Australia it is important for employees to have a qualification for insurance purposes and for gaining work in various sectors of the industry.

This paper is the view of the writer who has been involved in the surveying industry for over forty years and involved in teaching surveying since early 2000. It all started as a result of those involved in the surveying industry not having “formal” qualifications, but had hundreds of years in experience which needed to be recognised and passed onto others wanting to become part of the industry.