

Towngas recruits 100 graduates in support of youth employment

(16 March 2009) In view of the impact of the financial tsunami on the job market for university graduates and secondary school leavers, Towngas expands its trainee and apprentice quota to about 100 this summer to help young people better equip themselves and build solid foundations for their careers.

In support of the Government's newly announced "Internship Programme for University Graduates", Towngas will recruit 20 interns on a six-month tenure at a salary of \$8,000 per month. The interns will be assigned to various departments of the Company, including Customer Service, Retail Marketing, Information Technology, Commercial and Industrial Marketing, Corporate Communications, and Corporate Health, Safety and the Environment.

Towngas will provide the interns with training and hands-on opportunities to build up their product knowledge, customer service and marketing skills, and understanding of a corporation's organisational structure and workflow. The graduate interns will also be introduced to issues related to gas safety, environmental protection, and corporate social responsibilities because Towngas believes they are capable of spreading these important messages to the community while they themselves can benefit from such additional exposure.

Attaching great importance to employee training and development, Towngas visits Hong Kong's tertiary institutions every year to explain its graduate trainee programmes to prospective graduates and provides comprehensive training to develop talented young people as its future leaders. In addition, Towngas operates a gas fitter apprentice training scheme for young school leavers who wish to develop a career in the gas industry. Towngas also supports various other employment and internship programmes, such as the Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, Trial Work Placement, the Cooperative Education Scheme, as well as various summer and winter internship programmes. Towngas will recruit about 80 young people under these various programmes in the course of this year.

Overall, Towngas expects to provide about 100 trainee positions for university graduates and other young people through the above programmes in 2009.

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