

# IBL – Roles, Responsibilities, Relationships, and Results

Shiu Ram  
School of Computing and Information Technology  
UNITEC  
Auckland, NZ  
sram@unitec.ac.nz

Industry Based Learning (IBL) has a vital role to play in bringing into focus the responsibilities of the stakeholders (the student, the provider of education and training, and the industry), their relationships, and the results that can be achieved.

IBL is taken by a student during the final year of an undergraduate programme of study. As a course, IBL demands careful planning and organised teamwork from the stakeholders.

For most of the students taking this course a first-time opportunity to experience the real world work environment is afforded. The student, a potential member of the workforce, needs to get groomed into becoming an efficient and effective professional.

The provider of education and training equips the student with essential knowledge and skills to enter the workforce.

The industry provides the ground where the student can apply whatever knowledge and skills he or she has acquired from the provider of education and training.

As such each stakeholder has definite responsibilities while all of them work together as a team for inevitable mutual benefits. Each depends on the other two and all the three put together make the “real world” experience bear fruit.

It is imperative that the relationship between the stakeholders is nurtured so that not only the existing organisations are sustained, but also the knowledge wave is amplified and the knowledge economy enhanced.