

# Retraining for new role

AIRCRAFT engineer Craig Allen is a recent casualty of the aviation industry which has taken one of the biggest hits among the financial turmoil this year.

Having worked in aviation for the majority of the past 29 years, Allen said it came as a shock to be made redundant.

“The aviation industry is usually the first one that gets affected as soon as there’s a downturn and the first one that picks up when there’s an upturn,” Allen said.

“I’ve always had a job though so it was a bit of a culture shock that way.”

Having moved from Sydney to take up the job with a start-up airline in November 2007, Allen said there were signs the company was in financial trouble.

“I was made redundant on February 27 and the next Friday they went into receivership. They were struggling but we didn’t know it was that bad,” he says.

With a lot more time on his hands, Allen said his initial strategy was to apply for other jobs but is now looking into retraining.

“I’m looking at training courses through Sarina Russo to see if I can train myself up for something else and stay in Brisbane,” he says.

“I’ve been involved in occupational health and safety (OH&S) training with work so I was thinking of doing some more training in that. I might even go down the path of getting a franchise. It depends on what else comes up. I’m just still a bit unsure what I’m going to do.”

