

## **Instructors' Perception on the Implementation of Work-Based Learning Program in Automotive Industry**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Work-based learning (WBL) is a learning approach that is growing popularity in Malaysia. Its formal implementation at Malaysian public higher technical education institutions began with programs offered at community colleges and followed by polytechnics. This study was carried out at one of the automotive companies that implemented a WBL program with polytechnics. This study was designed to examine the strengths and weaknesses of the WBL program implementation and to identify the characteristics of competencies the instructors should have. This study utilised a qualitative approach by using a structured interview. The strength of the program was in terms of providing facilities that support the implementation of WBL. The weaknesses identified were related to the training implementation and monitoring of instructor's competency in teaching and learning which were less systematic. The study suggests the characteristics for instructors which include academically qualified, extensive experience in the automotive industry, interest on teaching and learning and deep understanding of their responsibility in implementing of WBL.

**Keywords:** Work-based learning, automotive industry, instructors' competency, polytechnics, Malaysia