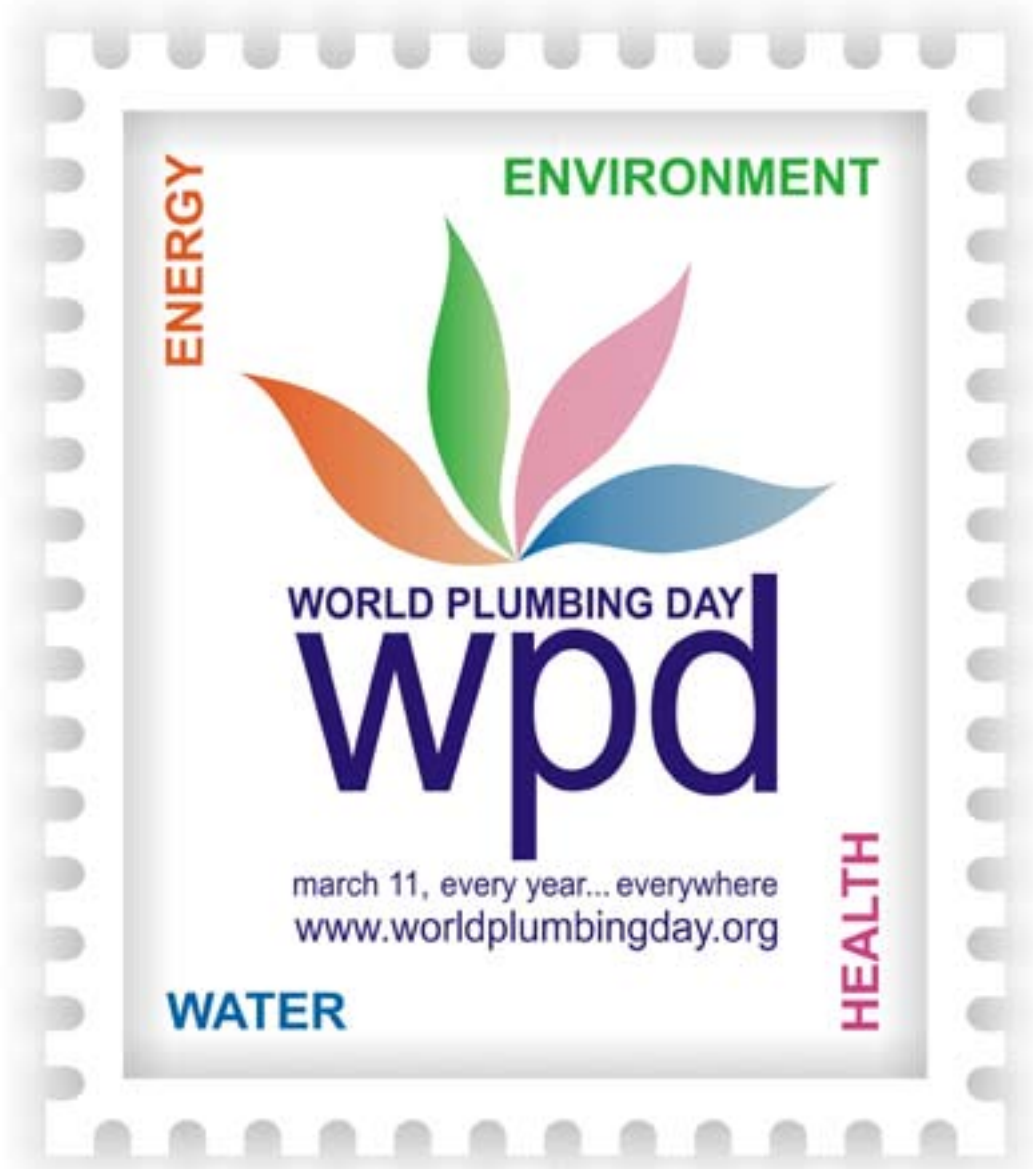


# CONSTRUCTION & PLUMBING

The Official  
Magazine of the  
Master Plumbers  
& Gasfitters  
Association of WA



## Goodwill Flows Its World Plumbing Day

Volume 55 - Issue 1. March 2011



# EMPLOYING A SCHOOL BASED PLUMBING APPRENTICE

## School Based Apprenticeships

School based apprenticeships allow students in Years 11 or 12 to start an apprenticeship while also completing the Western Australian Certificate of Education. Under these arrangements the student is both a full-time student and a part-time employee, with the same employment and training privileges and responsibilities as other apprentices.

School based apprentices must undertake an average of eight hours of work per week. The work pattern may be varied by agreement.

## Benefits

- Opportunity to trial a school based apprentice
- The apprentices are available for work experience in two, ten day blocks (July and October)
- The apprentice is insured while at work, has workers' compensation and is registered with the Department of Training Workforce
- Apprentices are trained by MPA Skills Trainers in state of the art Trade Centers
- Apprentices have work experience support and mentoring from Apprentice Employment Field Officers

**For further information please contact Malcolm MacBride 0424 162 862**





# MPGA Industry Partners 2011

## GOLD INDUSTRY PARTNERS



## SILVER INDUSTRY PARTNERS



## BRONZE INDUSTRY PARTNERS



# MARCH 2011

## 2011 Executive Committee



**BILL BUSBY**  
PRESIDENT



**TIM SWIFT**  
VICE PRESIDENT



**KIM BYRNE**  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



**DEREK ROWE**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**GEOFF COOK**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**SHANE CALEGARI**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**PAUL O'LEARY**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**LEE JOHNSON**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**BOB GOODCHILD**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**RON GRANT**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**PAUL MANIFIS**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**GEOFF KELLY**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER

## Foreword

- 3 Presidents Note and CEO Report

## Features

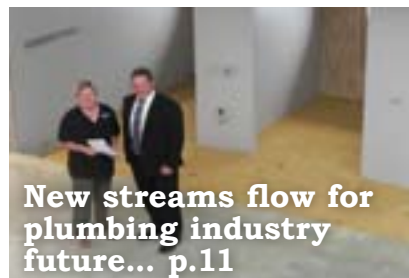
- 5 Plumbers Licensing Board
- 6 Energy Safety
- 8 Water Corporation
- 9 Energy Safety
- 11 New streams flow for plumbing industry future
- 12 MPGA celebrates World Plumbing Day 2011

## Events

- 14 What's new in the Great Southern
- 15 Mark your diary

## Regular Features

- 17 Your Business In Profile - 7 reasons why you MUST have a website
- 23 Occupational Health & Safety
- 24 Sustainability
- 25 Personal Health
- 27 Training
- 28 Association News



New streams flow for plumbing industry future... p.11

**MPGA celebrates World Plumbing Day p.12**



The Fair Tradie Project. p.24

### Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association

#### Postal address:

PO Box 126, Maylands, WA 6931

#### Street address:

108 Caledonian Ave, Maylands, WA 6051  
Ph: + 61 8 9471 6662 Fax: + 61 8 9471 6663  
Website: www.masterplumbers.asn.au

#### Publisher:

Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of WA

#### Editor:

Andrea Gilmore  
Ph: (08) 9471 6671 (direct), Fax: (08) 9471 6663  
email: andrea@mpawa.asn.au

#### Design & Printing by:

Maaxx Marketing  
Ph: (08) 9467 0161

### MPGA Office bearers:

President: Bill Busby  
Vice President: Tim Swift  
CEO: Murray Thomas

### Executive Committee:

Kim Byrne, Derek Rowe, Geoff Cook, Shane Calegari, Paul O'leary, Lee Johnson, Bob Goodchild, Ron Grant, Paul Manifis and Geoff Kelly.

Master Plumbers & Gasfitters' Trade Magazine is produced by the Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Australia - WA Association.

Statements and information appearing in the publication must not be interpreted as having the endorsement or being the opinion of the Association, which takes no responsibility for the correctness of statements or comment made in the publication.



**Bill Busby**  
President

# The passion for our Industry is evident

The Executive have all been confirmed with the only change being Ed Fyffe and Matt Johnson who have chosen not to recommit. I thank Ed and Matt for the work they have done on behalf of our Association and our Members.

Any work Ed and Matt volunteered to do

.....

**WE ARE CONFIDENT  
THE INDUSTRY IS IN  
"GOOD HANDS"**

.....

they gave 100% effort and professionalism. With very good people on the Executive it is obvious good work and professionalism will endure.

I congratulate Bob Goodchild our Executive Member and Advance Training Trainer who has successfully gained a World Plumbing Council Scholarship trip to South Africa. More news on this from Bob as it develops, our strategic/operational plans for 2011 have

been adopted, so our forward planning is in place. Murray Thomas our CEO has been appointed to the Australian Building Codes Board for a four year term, well done Murray and further proof of the high regard that the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association has in the building industry, as leaders.

The partnerships with schools continues and the new training facility at John Forrest Senior High School is now up and running, I congratulate Shane Callegari who pioneered this partnership.

The World Plumbing Council has a Conference in September 2011 in Edinburgh, Scotland and I encourage any one who wishes to travel to Scotland to contact our staff at the Master Plumbers and Gasfitter Association.

2011 is going to be a very busy year for the plumbing and gas industry.

Regards,  
Bill Busby  
MPGA President

As President I look back on the Year 2010 and the achievements of the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association of WA and our Executive Committee. The passion for our Industry is evident and growing as is the commitment from our Members and Sponsors. This is evident at our Trade Shows from Albany to Broome and of course, the Gala Event – The Awards for Excellence.

Looking forward to year 2011. We are confident the Industry is in "good hands" (remember the book developed for our Centenary Year, still available from our offices).

The staff at the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association is experienced and professional and with the addition of Technical Officer Andrew Okines this team led by our CEO Murray Thomas are going forward and consolidating our position as the best Association in Australia/New Zealand.



**Murray Thomas**  
CEO

# National Construction Code on its W.A.y

The National Construction Code will be implemented mid 2011 and a number of members are asking why and what the introduction of a National Code will mean for the plumbing industry.

- A performance based standard applicable to plumbing practices

Some states of Australia have already adopted the Plumbing Code of Australia, however in WA it will be phased in throughout 2011, commencing 1 May.

The Australian Building Codes Board is conducting seminars around Australia in March. For those interested in attending, the Perth sessions are on 17 and 18 March at City West Function Centre, 45 Plaistowe Mews, West Centre West Perth. For further information go to [www.abcb.gov.au](http://www.abcb.gov.au).

I am also very proud to announce that my nomination for a position on the Australian Building Codes Board of Australia has been accepted by Senator, the Hon Kim Carr. I look forward to working with the Australian

Building Codes Board as building and plumbing in Australia move in this exciting new direction.

I look forward to hearing your views, concerns or any other input on this matter. You can email me at [murrayt@mpawa.asn.au](mailto:murrayt@mpawa.asn.au) or contact the MPGA office on 9471 6661.

Regards,  
Murray Thomas  
MPA Group CEO

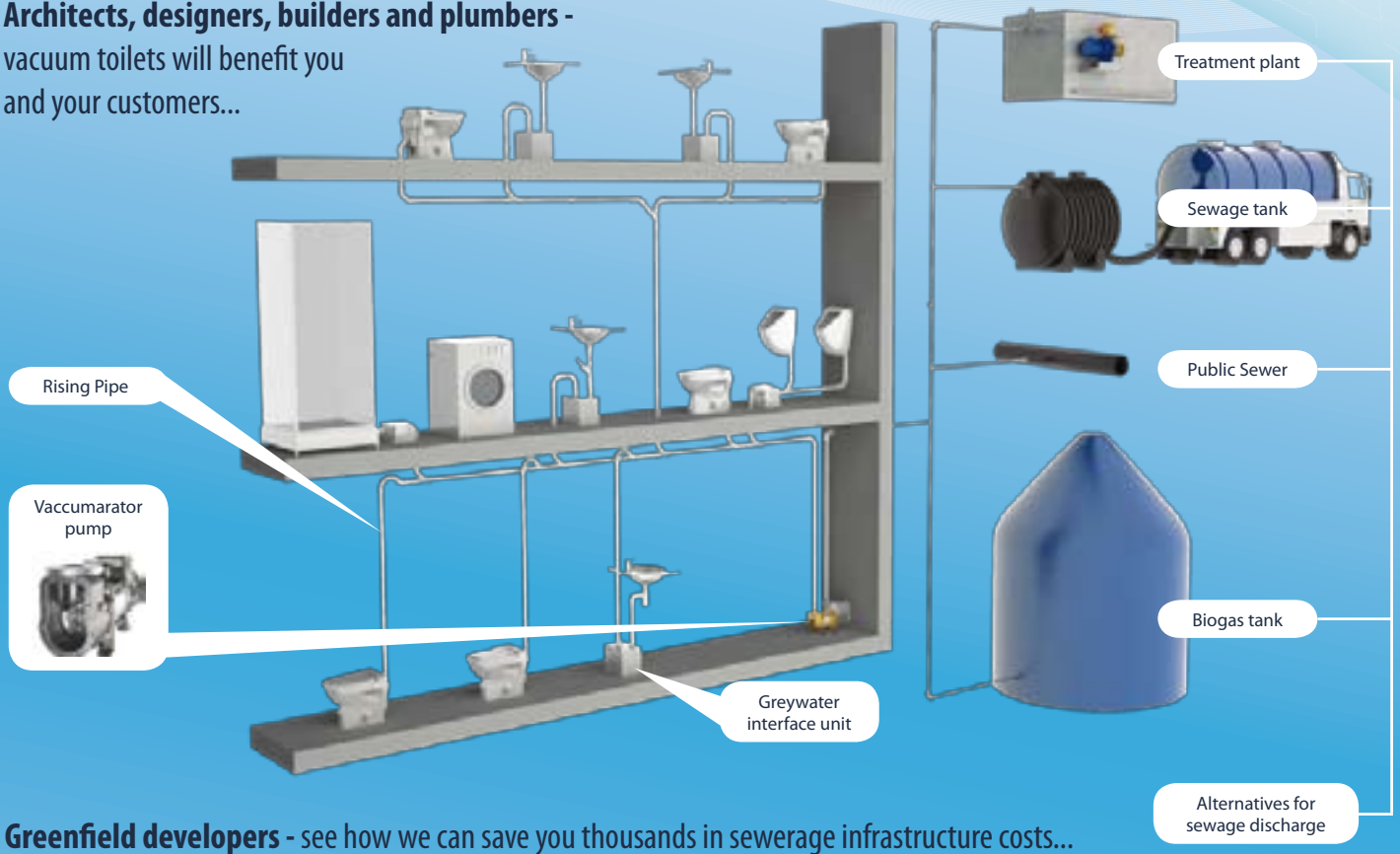
Firstly, the Council of Australian Governments has committed to 'national licensing' and a National Construction Code that will bring together construction regulation in Australia. Building and plumbing are to be implemented in the first phase with electrical and telecommunications to follow.

The thinking behind this important initiative is that the introduction of a National Construction Code will create:






- Greater consistency between building and plumbing practices
- Improved regulatory conditions for national innovations including climate change policies (NOTE: plumbing is at the very forefront of sustainability and water saving initiatives)

*Saving water has never been so easy*

**Architects, designers, builders and plumbers - vacuum toilets will benefit you and your customers...**



Vacuum Toilets Australia

-  Reduce water costs dramatically less than 1 litre / flush
-  The vacuum extracts odours and bacteria from bathroom
-  Freedom to position toilets and bathrooms without gravity limitations
-  No water reservoir required
-  From a large hospital or multi story building to a single domestic residence, vacuum toilets are the future technology for you



www.jetsgroup.com

for more information visit [www.vacuumtoiletsaustralia.com.au](http://www.vacuumtoiletsaustralia.com.au)

# News from the Plumbers Licensing Board



Government of Western Australia  
Plumbers Licensing Board



**Phil Payne**  
Plumbers Licensing Board

Welcome to 2011. The new year promises to be an exciting one for Western Australia's plumbing industry.

The benefits of the Plumbers Licensing Board becoming a part of the Building Commission will begin to be realised. The Building Commission will provide a 'one-stop shop' for industry and consumers for registration and licensing, building and plumbing standards, industry development, technical information and disputes – driving efficiencies in administration and enable improved service delivery, especially in regional and outer metropolitan areas.

Adoption of the Plumbing Code of Australia and implementation of the National Construction Code will make it easier for Western Australian plumbers to develop innovative solutions to plumbing problems.

The development of a national licensing system for plumbers is progressing. This Commonwealth initiative will look to remove licensing inconsistencies across state and territory borders and provide for a more mobile workforce. It is anticipated that national licensing will commence on 1 July 2012.

For updates on the Plumbing Code of Australia, National Construction Code and national licensing as they relate to Western Australia, please visit the Building Commission website: [www.buildingcommission.wa.gov.au](http://www.buildingcommission.wa.gov.au).

### Changes to Australian Standards

Standards Australia published amendments to Parts 1, 2 & 4 of AS/NZS 3500:2003-Plumbing and drainage on 10 December 2010.

These changes now form part of the plumbing standards adopted by the Water Services Licensing (Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards) Regulations 2000 for water supply, sanitary and drainage plumbing work in Western Australia.

At their January 2011 meeting, the Board considered the full impact of the amended plumbing standards. The Board determined that two of the amendments were not relevant to Western Australian conditions and would be immediately deleted, namely the amendment to Clause 11.9 relating

to baths discharging untrapped to a floor waste gully and the amendment to Clause 13.3.2 relating to air pressure testing.

For further information, please visit the Plumbers Licensing Board website: [www.plumbers.wa.gov.au](http://www.plumbers.wa.gov.au).

### Licensed Plumber Numbers Continue Rapid Growth

The health of Western Australia's plumbing industry has once again been highlighted by the rapid growth in the number of licensed plumbers.

As at 9 December 2010, there were 2713 plumbing contractors, 2806 tradespersons and 119 restricted plumbing permit holders with current licences with the Board. This is an increase of almost 6 per cent over the number of permit holders on 30 June 2010.

**The Board's website [www.plumbers.wa.gov.au](http://www.plumbers.wa.gov.au) has been set up as a source of reference for the plumbing industry. It contains links to all of the above matters as well as plumber licensing, plumbing work laws, the Tech Note Series, industry forums, Board policies and activities, compliance matters and prosecutions.**

**Working with the plumbing industry to serve the Western Australian community**





Above: A recent meeting with gas fitters from Alinta Assist attended by EnergySafety and WA Gas Networks Inspectors

# Energy Safety in Your Workplace

by Kevin Hooper

It has become common place for companies to have regular toolbox/safety meetings. EnergySafety is offering to provide attendance at these meetings by gas inspector(s).

A meeting of this type gives EnergySafety the opportunity to meet gas fitters in an informal environment and inform them of EnergySafety's roll as the regulator. These gatherings also give gas fitters in the field, the opportunity to discuss any regulatory issues or queries they may have, directly with the regulator. The feedback provided by the gas fitters can be used to determine future regulatory requirements or changes to current legislation.

- The Infringement system –
  - o What is an Infringement Notice
  - o Why was it introduced
  - o The process
- A general Q&A session
  - o Who to contact if you're unsure or require advice
  - o Regulation clarification or interpretations
  - o Interpretation requests can be made on EnergySafety's website [www.energysafety.wa.gov.au](http://www.energysafety.wa.gov.au)

We all agree, that the regulator (EnergySafety) is to be seen as approachable by gas fitters and for them to feel comfortable contacting EnergySafety or the Gas Supplier's inspectors to ask questions and/or inform of issues where matters are unclear.

EnergySafety welcomes the opportunity to attend any gasfitting/plumbing company to meet with gas fitters. To arrange for EnergySafety attending your workplace, please contact the Gas Inspection Branch email, [catherine.gildersleeve@commerce.wa.gov.au](mailto:catherine.gildersleeve@commerce.wa.gov.au) or telephone 94225297.

.....  
**ENERGYSAFETY'S GAS INSPECTORS HAVE RECENTLY ATTENDED TOOLBOX MEETINGS AT A NUMBER OF LARGER GASFITTING/PLUMBING COMPANIES AND RECEIVED POSITIVE FEEDBACK.**  
.....

EnergySafety's Gas Inspectors have recently attended toolbox meetings at a number of larger gasfitting/plumbing companies and received positive feedback. The meetings were attended by the company's gas fitters, apprentices and company representatives along with inspectors from EnergySafety and WA Gas Networks (formerly WestNet Energy). Some of the items discussed included:

- EnergySafety's roll as the regulator
- WA Gas Networks, their roll as gas supplier inspectors
- Notice of Defect (NOD) –
  - o What is a NOD
  - o The process
  - o Common non-compliances being identified
  - o The right to an appeal of a NOD and the process

### TAKE COMMAND OF YOUR IT NEEDS

We have been the MPA's preferred IT service provider for over 8 years, providing complete IT solutions and specialising in the plumbing and construction industry.

**Command SERVICES I.T.**  
[www.commandit.com.au](http://www.commandit.com.au)



# The Gas Equipment Specialists



At GCA we are committed to providing customers with high quality products and service.

1/11 Panama St Canning Vale, WA 6155  
Phone **(08) 6253 8822**  
[sales@gascomponents.com.au](mailto:sales@gascomponents.com.au)

# Water Corporation's programs benefiting local WA plumbers

The Water Corporation is investing in water efficiency programs to secure water supplies for the State. These programs will not only deliver water saving benefits to the community, but local plumbers will also have to opportunity to become involved in implementing the programs.



## H<sub>2</sub>ome smart

**Households in the Northwest and Great Southern are becoming H<sub>2</sub>ome Smart**

H<sub>2</sub>ome Smart is a FREE 12-month water saving program for residential Water Corporation customers in the Northwest and Great Southern regions.

Once a household registers to participate in H<sub>2</sub>ome Smart, the Water Corporation's eco-coaches will contact them and provide one-to-one advice and coaching on areas where water savings can be made.

Participating households may also be eligible for the free supply and installation of any of the following products:

- One dual flush toilet
- Two water efficient showerheads
- Four tap aerators
- Free repair of visibly leaking taps and toilets inside the house

### Who can participate?

Firstly, there is absolutely no cost for households to participate. All households in the following towns are encouraged to sign up:

#### Great southern

The program will be available from March 2011 in Albany and the surrounding suburbs, as well as the towns of Narrikup, Mt Barker, Kendenup, Cranbrook, Frankland, Denmark and Walpole.

#### Northwest

The program is currently running in Karratha, Onslow, Dampier, Point Samson, Wickham, Port Hedland, South Hedland, Broome and Halls Creek.

Small to medium businesses may also be able to get involved and receive free waterwise products supplied and installed for free by taking part in H<sub>2</sub>o Smart.

### How can plumbers be involved?

The Water Corporation's partner company IA Group is subcontracting the installation work to local plumbers in the region. In all programs, preference will be given to endorsed Waterwise Plumbers. If you would like more information about how your plumbing business can be involved, please contact Keith Child - Project Supervisor Ph 9241 1087 Email kchild@tradenetworkgroup.com.au

Or Visit [www.watercorporation.com.au/h2omesmart](http://www.watercorporation.com.au/h2omesmart) for more information.

### Want to become a Waterwise plumber?

In all programs, preference will be given to endorsed Waterwise Plumbers. To participate in the program interested Plumbers should contact the MPGA on 9471 6600 or visit their website [www.masterplumbers.asn.au](http://www.masterplumbers.asn.au).

## rainwater reward

For more information visit [www.watercorporation.com.au/rainwaterreward](http://www.watercorporation.com.au/rainwaterreward)



Rainwater Reward is a program available to all scheme water users in the Great Southern Region. The Water Corporation is currently offering households a monetary reward for plumbing in a new or existing rainwater tank for **internal** use.

The program is available to residential and non-residential customers in the following towns: Albany, Cranbrook, Denmark, Frankland, Kendenup, Mount Barker, Narrikup and, Walpole.

### How can plumbers be involved?

To apply for the 'reward' a customer must present evidence of the plumbing work being completed by a registered plumber.

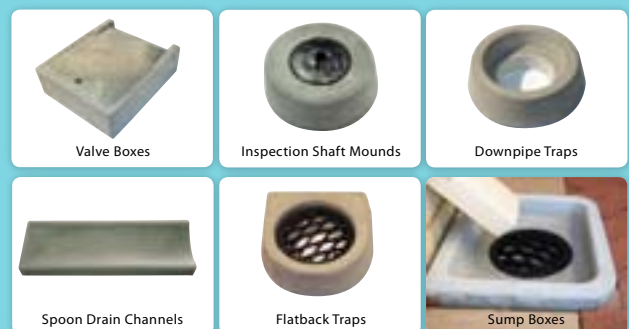
# Plumbcrete

MANUFACTURERS OF CUSTOM PRECAST & CONCRETE PLUMBING PRODUCTS

Plumbcrete products can be purchased at leading plumbing supply stores throughout Western Australia. Plumbcrete concrete products provide the benefits of strength and durability.

Plumbcrete is a Western Australian owned family business that has been supplying concrete plumbing products since 1985.

Email [sales@plumbcrete.com.au](mailto:sales@plumbcrete.com.au)



[www.plumbcrete.com.au](http://www.plumbcrete.com.au)

# Gas Industry Trade EXPO

EnergySafety is partnering with WA Gas Networks to launch the first downstream Gas Industry Trade EXPO in Western Australia.

The EXPO will be held at the Ascot Racecourse 16 March 2011, commencing 10:00am. Much has been said about the huge Natural Gas Reserves and projects off our Northern Coastline considered the upstream portion of the industry. This EXPO will give gas fitters, plumbers and others in the industry a first hand look at the latest advances relating to the consuming (downstream) side of the gas industry.

At the EXPO there will be displays on equipment used for the installation of the distribution systems, gas metering, domestic, commercial and industrial gas appliances, equipment and piping systems. In addition to this, there will be displays and demonstrations by equipment suppliers servicing the industry.

.....  
**THIS EXPO WILL GIVE GAS FITTERS, PLUMBERS AND OTHERS IN THE INDUSTRY A FIRST HAND LOOK AT THE LATEST ADVANCES RELATING TO THE CONSUMING (DOWNSTREAM) SIDE OF THE GAS INDUSTRY.**  
.....

To coincide with the EXPO two presentations for gasfitters will be conducted discussing the much anticipated release of the Australian Standards AS/NZS 5601 gas installations, changes to gas legislation and the latest news on National Licensing issues.

For visitors out of town there will be a presentation at 1:00pm. The second commencing at 6:00pm for those that may wish to finish work early, take in the EXPO and attend the later

presentation. The EXPO and presentations are free to attend. It is highly recommended that gas fitters attend either of these presentations.

If you are unable to attend the EXPO and are located in a regional area, further presentations on AS/NZS 5601 and changes to legislation will be held on the following dates in the below listed locations:

- Narrogin – Tennis Club, 2 March 2011
- Mandurah – Atrium Conference Centre, 30 March 2011
- Albany – Golf Club, 5 April 2011
- Bunbury – Carey Park Football Club, 6 April 2011
- Merredin – Railway Bowling Club, 3 May 2011
- Kalgoorlie – Railway Hotel, 4 May 2011
- Geraldton – Towns Football Club, 18 May 2011
- Esperance – Bay of Isles Motel 25 May 2011
- Dalwallinu – Bowling Club, 1 June 2011

Subject to securing suitable premises and dates at the following locations intended for June/July 2011:

- Karratha TBA
- Pt Hedland TBA
- Broome TBA

There will be display opportunities for trade exhibitors who may wish to showcase their products or services at either the EXPO or locations at the roadshow. To secure your place at the EXPO or book a seat at one of the regional presentations please contact Nadia Balla email: [nadia.balla@commerce.wa.gov.au](mailto:nadia.balla@commerce.wa.gov.au) or telephone 9422 5231.

**2011**

**CONNECT WITH YOUR INDUSTRY**

**THE LATEST FROM TRADE EXPERTS**

The Gas Industry Trade Expo will be held at **Ascot Racecourse** on **Wednesday 16 March 2011** between **10am and 6pm**  
(Food and drinks will be available for purchase)

Register online at [www.energysafety.wa.gov.au/gasindustrytradeexpo](http://www.energysafety.wa.gov.au/gasindustrytradeexpo)

**ADMISSION IS FREE**

**GAS INDUSTRY TRADE EXPO 2011**



Please note this is a trade only exhibition & admission is restricted to individuals in the industry. Admission to the Trade Expo is free. All content is correct at time of publishing and is subject to change without notice. Please check the website for updates.



## Inside it's temperature-controlled.

Not all Continuous Flow units are the same.

Rheem 12 & 16 are electronically controlled, not mechanical.

So they can deliver hot water more consistently for increased safety.

Rheem 12 is 5.9 star energy-efficient<sup>1</sup>.

50°C and 60°C models available.

Compact for easy installation.


Rheem reliability.

The Rheem 12 & 16. Steady, hot and strong.

### INSTALL A RHEEM

<sup>1</sup>Rheem 12 – 5.9 star energy-efficiency, Rheem 16 – 5.3 star energy-efficiency.  
Rheem Australia Pty Ltd ABN 21 098 823 511.

# Rheem 12

Continuous Hot Water 



# New streams flow for plumbing industry future...

The new 'state-of-the-art', purpose built, trade training facility at John Forrest Senior High School is NOW up and running.....

John Forrest Senior High School, a government school based in Morley, has partnered with the MPA Skills (the principal training arm of the Master Plumbers and Gas Fitters Association of WA) to offer Year 11 and 12 students the opportunity of participating in a school based apprenticeship training program in Plumbing.

The partnership between John Forrest SHS and MPA Skills began in 2007. A government initiative to train local youth in the trades sector, while still at school, with a view to progress them as employees through to the 'MPA Skills Group Training Scheme'. Under the partnership arrangement MPA Skills delivers the training on site at the school in a new federal government funded \$2.5 million purpose built facility. MPA Skills is a unique industry-driven, industry-focused training organisation with major links to the industry.

average annual growth rate of 1.8 per cent for all occupations over the same period.

Employment of Plumbers is projected to have the strongest growth within the Construction Trades cluster, with an increase of 9100 jobs by 2014-15 or 2.5 per cent per annum.

The ongoing nature of the mining boom is creating severe labour shortages. This could trigger a potential crisis for employers in the plumbing sector seeking people with the blend of

.....

**MPA SKILLS  
DELIVERS THE  
TRAINING ON SITE  
AT THE SCHOOL IN  
A NEW FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT  
FUNDED \$2.5 MILLION  
PURPOSE BUILT  
FACILITY.**

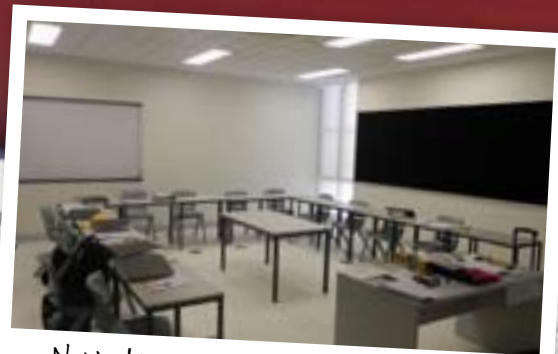
.....

qualifications and experience to meet projected demands. The rate at which the industry can grow is likely to be limited by constraints on the availability of labour.

The innovative partnership between John Forrest Senior High School and MPA Skills has begun to proactively address the issues that the industry could possibly face in the future.

With the changes to the school leaving age students who would have normally left school at the age of 15 or 16 are now retained in the school system and offered a variety of purposeful and targeted learning pathways.

The shortage of young people electing to take up trade training, especially in the plumbing



New classrooms at John Forrest Senior High School

sector, are now presented with the option that allows senior students to participate in a part-time school-based apprenticeship in plumbing conducted concurrently with their completion of Year 11 and 12 studies.

After students complete a Pre-Apprenticeship qualification in Year 11 they are then eligible to become indentured as part time apprentices for two days each week whilst completing their school based Year 12 program on the remaining three days. This pathway allows students to also qualify for a West Australian Certificate of Education. At the completion of Year 12, students continue their pathway as full time apprentices and will be employed by the MPA Skills Group Training Organisation to complete a Certificate III level qualification.



Drainage Sandpit

There were several factors that gave impetus to this partnership. Among them was the fact that the school leaving age in WA was raised to 17 in 2006. Another factor was the general shortage of young people electing to take up trade training, especially plumbing.

Employment for Construction Trades is projected to grow at an average rate of 1.3 per cent per annum, which equates to around 21 500 new jobs in the five years to 2014-15. This compares with an



Principal Di Turner with MPA Group CEO Murray Thomas

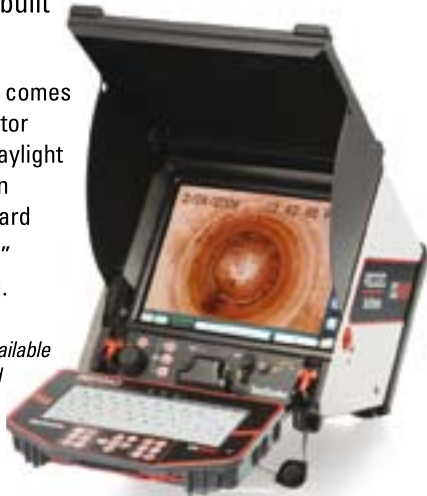
# RIDGID®

## CS1000 Digital Recording Monitor **NEW**

The CS1000 gives you Digital Recording and Field Reporting in a dedicated RIDGID Monitor that's built jobsite tough.

The LCDPak now comes with a 12.1" monitor with enhanced daylight readability and an integrated keyboard  
It's "Grab and Go" Digital Recording.

*12.1" Monitor also available without the keyboard*



**Features:**

- **Deliver Digitally** - deliver images video and multi media reports on a flash drive that can be viewed on any computer interface with any SeeSnake® Reel.
- **Built in Flash Storage** - allows you to record hundreds of inspections and transfer them to a USB stick when finished
- **Report Writer** - gives you the ability to generate a full report on-site with integrated inspection footage and descriptions
- **Integrated Keyboard** - used for taking notes, book-marking your videos, and storing information about your customers
- **Three Mode Recording** - Digital Stills, Full Frame Video, and Auto Log recording
- **Power** - 18V Li-Ion battery (optional) or AC plug

Who else but RIDGID gives you the confidence, service and product reliability. **No one but RIDGID.**

**We Build Reputations™** | **RIDGID®**

**Call for a free demonstration, literature or the name of your nearest stockist**

Ridge Tool (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 96 008 446 482  
127 Metrolink Circuit Campbellfield Victoria 3061

phone **03 9930 7000** fax **03 8339 2511**  
email **sales.australia@ridgid.com**  
web **www.ridgid.com.au**



RTE/SWA

# CELEBRATE PLUMBING ON WORLD PLUMBING DAY!

Every single person on this planet is affected by the availability of clean drinking water and basic sanitation. Join us in celebrating WORLD PLUMBING DAY on March 11, 2011



Established in 2010, thanks to the efforts of the World Plumbing Council (WPC) World Plumbing Day is dedicated to helping the general public better understand the vital role the plumbing industry plays in protecting public health and safety, the extent to which it helps limit mankind's environmental footprint and other important work performed by contractors, inspectors, installers, engineers, and manufacturers that is often taken for granted.

WPC Chairman, Mr. Robert Burgon stated "Our hope is that on World Plumbing Day, the world will come to realise that plumbing is essential in protecting both the health of our people and the health of our planet. In developing countries, many people have yet to discover the real difference that plumbing can make. Where countries have developed plumbing systems, the role of our industry is often taken for granted."

As a means of promoting World Plumbing Day around the world the World Plumbing Council will be providing content for industry and national news publications, engaging in promotional efforts on a national and regional level and representatives will be approaching the federal and local governments for their support and assistance in promoting World Plumbing Day. On March 11 Join the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association and the World Plumbing Council to bring this vital component of our world to everyone's attention. Any parties interested in promoting the globally important role of plumbing have access to promotional information and fact sheets, available at [www.worldplumbingday.org](http://www.worldplumbingday.org).



# Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association Celebrates World Plumbing Day

The mission of the World Plumbing Council is to unite the World Plumbing Industry and promote the role of plumbing in improving public health and safeguarding the industry.

As a member of the World Plumbing Council, the Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of Western Australia (MPGA) will be celebrating the plumbing industry in Western Australia.

World Plumbing Day is a great opportunity for the Industry to come together and for the people of Western Australia to realise that plumbing is essential in protecting both the health of our people and the health of our planet, the role of our industry is often taken for granted.

To celebrate World Plumbing Day on March 11th The MPGA will be hosting several Breakfast BBQ's throughout the Metropolitan area.



With the recent tragic circumstances of the Perth Hills Fires and Carnarvon floods, on World Plumbing Day the MPGA will be collecting donations to contribute towards the Perth Hills Fires Appeal and The Gascoyne & Mid West Floods Appeal

So on World Plumbing Day Friday March 11th 2011, get along to one of the trade stores listed and donate and receive a **limited edition World Plumbing Day T-Shirt** (while stocks last).

**Check out World Plumbing Day on FACEBOOK**

**The MPGA Breakfast BBQ's will be at the following locations between 7am – 9am on March 11th**

**reece** Mandurah

**GALVIN** Bassendean

**reece** Joondalup

**SAMIOS** Myaree

**reece** City

**Tradelink** Rockingham

**Parkwood Plumbing Centre** Canning Vale

**GALVIN** Osborne Park

**Tradelink** Midvale

**Tradelink** Balcatta



Darryl Van der Schaaf receiving his door prize from Brad Cheesman of Rheem



Lee Cooksy, Les Paxton, Paul Preston and Kim Ruston



MPGA Apprentice of the Year Shaun Roddy with David Moore of Gas Components Australia



Des Day of Tradelink Albany



Ian Goodchild talks with Mike Wren of MPA Skills

**MARK YOUR DIARY**



*A great turnout at Albany*



**Ashlee Phur**  
Events Manager

**Local plumbers find out what's new in the Great Southern**

A trip to the Great Southern paid off for organisers and exhibitors as over 90 local plumbers attended the Albany Trade Show in February in the first of many that MPGA will be holding around the state in 2011. Held at the Dog Rock Motel, the blokes from the south revelled at the opportunity to catch up, enjoy a Corona and see the latest and greatest that their industry has to offer. Spotted in the crowd was reigning 2010 Tradelink Apprentice of the Year winner Shaun Roddy, long time MPGA Member Ian Goodchild and local MPGA Executive Committee Member Derek Rowe.

**Rivalry at Rottnest!**

Thank you to our devoted sponsors who the MPGA thanked on a boat trip to Rottnest in January. Our events program relies heavily on the support of our sponsors and it was our turn to return the favour and give something back. The highlight of the day was the heated competition in the annual beach volleyball game. Winning team, "The Australians" captained by Murray Thomas, took out the cup in a tough grand final match!



*The winning volley-ball team (Noel Abercromby, Kim Byrne, Brad Wells, Murray Thomas (captain), Gerry Richardson, Tim Swift, Rob Dimond, Wayde Hammer and Chris Avery)*

**MAR**

Friday 11 Mar  
World Plumbing Day Breakfast

Thursday 17 Mar  
MPGA Executive Meeting + AGM  
Bunbury Cup

Tuesday 22 Mar  
Industry Trade Show - Bunbury

Wednesday 23 Mar  
Industry Trade Show - Busselton

**APR**

Friday 8 Apr  
MPGA Autumn Golf Day

Wednesday 20 Apr  
MPGA Executive Meeting and  
Plumbing Industry Forum

Thursday 26 Apr  
World Day for Safety and  
Health at work

**MAY**

Wednesday 18 May  
MPGA Executive Meeting

Tuesday 24 May  
Industry Trade Show - Karratha

Wednesday 26 May  
Industry Trade Show - Broome



*The boat crew*



Training & Apprentice Employment  
DIVISION OF MPA GROUP

# ENROLMENT DAY

## For 2011 Advanced Training Plumbing & Gas Courses

### COURSES

- **Plumbing Contractors' Licence - 52291**
  - Business
  - Drainage
  - Water supply
  - Sanitary
- **Service Type 'A' Gas Appliances - CPCPGS4002A**
- **Certificate III in Gasfitting (Non Apprenticeship Pathway)**
  - (Meets Energy Safety requirements)



### AVAILABLE

Full time and part time courses

### WHEN

Wednesday 9 March 2011 at 4pm  
(Please be prompt as places on the courses are limited)

### WHERE

MPA Skills, 106 Caledonian Avenue, Maylands



**THIS IS A MUST ATTEND EVENT**

Contact MPA Skills on (08) 9471 6600 or visit [www.mpaskills.com.au](http://www.mpaskills.com.au)



Training & Apprentice Employment  
DIVISION OF MPA GROUP



DIVISION OF MPA GROUP

# 7 reasons why you MUST have a website

In this digital day and age, it's amazing to find out that 35% of small businesses still don't have a website. And for those small businesses providing a trade service, the number is actually greater.

You can choose to approach this statistic in one of two ways:

1. You can think "hey, none of my competitors have a website so I don't really need one" OR
2. You can think "wow, this is my chance to stand head and shoulders above the crowd."

Do you know how most people look for a service provider today? If you think they go straight to the Yellow Pages, think again. First, they do a Google search and it's only when they don't find what they're looking for on Google that they turn to the Yellow Pages.

Do you know what searchers find when they do a Google search for "Plumber + Their Suburb"? Not much! I typed in "Plumber + Innaloo" and of the top ten search results, only two were the websites of an actual plumbing business. All the rest were aggregate sites like truelocal.com.au.

.....  
**FIRST, PEOPLE DO A  
 GOOGLE SEARCH AND  
 IT'S ONLY WHEN THEY  
 DON'T FIND WHAT  
 THEY'RE LOOKING  
 FOR ON GOOGLE  
 THAT THEY TURN TO  
 THE YELLOW PAGES.**  
 .....

While it's nice for your business to appear in a listing of 3-4 "Innaloo plumbers" on truelocal.com.au or a similar site, it would be heaps nicer if your actual website appeared in Google's top ten results and potential customers came straight to a site that was all about you. This also means the customer never has to go to the Yellow Pages where your competitors' ads may be bigger and more eye-catching than yours!

So other than getting the jump on your competitors who have bigger and better Yellow Pages ads, what are the seven reasons why you should have a website?

## 1. People expect you to have one

The web is pretty much the first option today when someone is searching for a service provider. If you're not on the web, people won't find you – but they might find somebody else. Your potential customers might be going elsewhere just because you don't have a website!



## 2. It makes it easy for potential clients to find out about you

A website provides your organisation with a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week "shopfront". Your website will work for you when your business is closed, while you are sleeping, or away on holiday. Most importantly, customers can visit your website to find information about you at their own convenience.

## 3. It gives you instant credibility with potential clients

Your website has a powerful impact on a potential customer's confidence in you. A professional design, well-presented information and easy to find contact details will create a great first impression and decrease the chances that they will go any further in their search for a plumber.

## 4. It is the ultimate sales brochure

A website can play the role of a high-quality, interactive, full-colour brochure listing all the services you offer. It is easily updated, meaning the information you are presenting is always accurate. Websites can also display large amounts of information – much more than a newspaper ad or even a brochure – and this information is available anytime to anyone with internet access.

## 5. It saves you time

You know how much time is spent answering the same questions and repeating the same information about the services you offer! By putting those answers and messages on your website, you can direct those with enquiries to your website allowing them to absorb the relevant information at their own pace.

## 6. A website makes it easy for people to refer new customers to you

For many businesses, referrals are a crucial source of new customers. Having a website makes it easy to encourage referrals, because customers can simply send friends and business contacts to your site.

## 7. A website increases the value of your advertising

Adding your website address to all your advertisements, business cards, and company literature is a great way to introduce potential customers to your company. Providing a website gives people a way to act on your message as going to a website is much easier than finding the time to pick up the phone! Customers can get information about you at their convenience and it's often more comfortable to visit a website, because there is no obligation or hard-sell involved.

So there you have it – a website has immense benefits for your business that go well beyond ensuring you stand out from the crowd. The best thing about it is that it presents an opportunity to reduce the size of your Yellow Pages listing or not have one at all as potential customers won't be using anything other than Google to find you in the future.

**Kelly Exeter** is the Creative Director at Swish Design, the small business design superheroes. Swish Design has created websites for over 100 Perth small businesses and can advise you on the best and most cost effective solution for YOUR business. Check them out at [swishdesign.com.au](http://swishdesign.com.au) or give Kelly a call on 9467 2903.

# On the Move...

PPI Corporation has added a new member to its management team, recruiting John Quinn as its State Sales Manager.



John Quinn - PPI Sales Manager

John will be tasked with managing the sales and operations for PPI's Western Australian Division based in Welshpool. John joined PPI Corporation from Tradelink, where he spent twenty-eight years, the last fifteen as its General Manager of its businesses in WA and SA.

PPI Corporation is an Australian owned, private company and has been operating for over 25 years. They have manufacturing and warehouse facilities geographically spread across Australia and New Zealand.

PPI Corporation is a leading manufacturer and supplier of products for irrigation, drainage, water supply and domestic watering. Their principal brand names include PPI, Neta and Dix. PPI are the industry specialists for high-density poly used in the mining and plumbing sectors.

Their success is primarily attributable to a core focus on customer service and ensuring the prompt supply of their proprietary lines to their customers and a consistent focus on continual improvement of their products, supply and service.

John can be contacted on 9212 3200 or email [johnq@ppi.com.au](mailto:johnq@ppi.com.au)



## Free Confidential Counselling and Support Service

This WACIRF initiative provides Converge International Counselling and Support Services to WACIRF members and building workers on commercial building sites and immediate family in times of need.

The on-site Converge International counsellor offers support, advice, information and referrals for any personal or work issues you or your family may be experiencing, including:

### Work Issues

- Critical Incident Response
- Work Fluctuations
- Work Stress
- Bullying
- Redundancy / Retirement
- Work Motivation
- Financial

### Personal Issues

- Grief and Loss
- Depression
- Suicidal Thoughts
- Drugs / Alcohol / Gambling
- Stress / Anxiety
- Relationships
- Family Issues / Parenting

WACIRF members and building workers on commercial building sites can access this service for free. The Fund pays for the service for you.

Speak with your on-site counsellor when he visits your work site or arrange an appointment at one of our many offices by calling our confidential toll free 1800 number below:

Freecall **1800 337 068**  
[www.convergeinternational.com.au](http://www.convergeinternational.com.au)



For further information on WACIRF and its member services please contact below:  
**9481 0259**  
[www.wacirf.com.au](http://www.wacirf.com.au)



# We've got all the tools of the trade in the bag!

## Parkwood Hardware

Parkwood Hardware is where you'll find all your plumbing and building supplies for your business. From plumbing supplies, hardware and building supplies including hot water units, pvc pipes, copper pipes, plus power and hand tools, building materials, paint, we have the lot! All your plumbing needs are right at your fingertips. **Independently owned** and operated for thirty-one years, we not only have all the tools in the bag, but trusted **advice** only a true professional can give. With **two locations** in Canning Vale you get the benefits of our **bulk buying power** on all the top brands. And don't forget, if you can't take it with you, we can deliver.



## Parkwood Plumbing Centre

### YOUR ONE STOP PLUMBING SHOP

Parkwood Plumbing Centre has everything you need for your bathroom, kitchen and laundry. Parkwood Plumbing Centre carries a range of the latest European styles, from classic to traditional through to modern and contemporary. Parkwood Plumbing Centre has **everything you need**

including affordable prices. With customer service the highest priority, the staff at Parkwood Plumbing Centre enjoy meeting the people who come into the store and are dedicated to assisting them to find the perfect solution to their needs. In fact, repeat customers often remark that it's as much the service and the advice as well as the **fantastic product range** that has them returning time after time. Parkwood Plumbing Centre stock in their large warehouse all the big brands such as Caroma, Fowler, Clark, Dorf, Abey, Marbletend, Hansa, Decina, KWC, Bathe, Duravit, Oliveri, Paco Jaanson, Franke and many, many more.

Put simply, Parkwood Plumbing Centre and Parkwood Hardware offer a solution that is made up of four simple parts: **quality service, quality advice, quality product** and **quality price**. It's a simple approach that has worked for a long time and the team at Parkwood are positive it will work for you too.

### Parkwood Hardware

4 Vulcan Rd, Canning Vale  
Ph: 9455 1444 Fax: 9455 2326  
E: parkwood@iexpress.net.au



### Parkwood Plumbing Centre

168 Bannister Road, Canning Vale  
Ph: 9455 6433 Fax: 9455 7604  
E: parkwoodplumbtec@iexpress.net.au



# BEAT RISING ENERGY COSTS

**Make big savings on your energy bills with a Solahart solar water heater.**



Getting your hot water free from the sun with a Solahart can reduce your water heating energy use by to 50% to 85%\* and there are **BIG GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES** available to help you make the switch.

**Make the switch to solar, Call your local Solahart Expert today**

**1300 721 946**

[www.solahart.com.au](http://www.solahart.com.au)

 **Solahart**<sup>®</sup>

hot water free from the sun<sup>®</sup>

\* Energy savings of 50% to 85% shown are based on Australian Government approved TRNSYS simulation modelling. Savings and incentives will vary depending upon your location, type of Solahart system installed, orientation and inclination of the solar collectors, type of water heater being replaced, hot water consumption and fuel tariff. Maximum financial savings off your hot water bill are achievable when replacing an electric water heater on continuous tariff.

# Question & Answer



## Have a question?

MPGA WA would like to help you find the answer.

Send your questions to Andrea Gilmore:

[andrea@mpawa.asn.au](mailto:andrea@mpawa.asn.au)

## How do I submit an as-con drawing?

As Constructed Plans (Flimsies) The provision of flimsys detailing plumbing work assists in sewer maintenance and allows the Water Corporation to manage discharge of waste into sewer mains. Plumbers have a legal obligation to provide this information, and while many regulatory responsibilities have been transferred to the Plumbers Licensing Board plumbers are still required to submit sewer flimsy information to the Corporation. The following Water Corporation by-laws require plumbers to submit flimsy drawings of plumbing work to the Corporation within 5 days of completion of any major drainage plumbing work: I By-Law 30.9 of the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage By-Laws 1981 By-Law 29A of the Country Towns Sewerage By-Laws 1952 Within the Perth metropolitan area, flimsies submitted to the Plumbers

Licensing Board will be forwarded to the Water Corporation. Care must be taken when preparing the flimsy plan to ensure the dimensions are accurate and legible. It is the plumber's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of the plan, and it is good practice to provide the land owner with a copy of the plan with their copy of the Completion and Compliance certificate.

Preparation and Interpretation of Property Sewer Plans Three important components required to interpret a flimsy property sewer plan:

- Abbreviations
- Datum points and
- I Inspection openings.

### Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used by the plumbing industry to indicate plumbing fixtures and other important aspects of the drainage system. **WC** Water closet **UVP** Upstream vent pipe **S** Kitchen sink **ORG** Overflow relief gully **B** Lavatory basin **IS** Inspection shaft **Bth** Bath **RS** Rising shaft **Tr(L)** Wash trough **Ur** Urinal **SOB** Square on back.

### Datum Points

Fixed starting points for locating an opening in a property sewer. Although buildings may be used as datum points, it is preferred that the boundary is used and building offsets are shown together with the pipe locations. Datum points are indicated as 001 There are always two datum points Datum points must be taken from a permanent location, that is a main building or boundary fence, but the boundary is preferred.

### Inspection Openings

An opening in the property sewer for maintenance purposes Inspection openings are indicated as IO Rising shafts are indicated as RS Inspection openings can be located by reading the appropriate two measurements from the datum points.

Note: IS, RS, or IS SOB is the connection point to the Water Corporation main sewer. The 'cover' indicates the depth of the property sewer at that point.

## is your EMAIL ADDRESS as PROFESSIONAL as you are?

**Joe's Plumbing**  
*Everyone says we're the best in town!*  
 Contact us now to find out more.  
 Phone: 0411 655 466  
 Email: [joe@joesplumbing.com](mailto:joe@joesplumbing.com)

Do you have a hotmail address?  
 Or is your email linked to your ISP (ie [joesplumbing@bigpond.com](mailto:joesplumbing@bigpond.com))?  
**then the answer is NO**

## SPECIAL PROFESSIONAL EMAIL OFFER FOR MPGA MEMBERS

- ✓ Never change your email address again - no matter who your internet service provider (ISP) is
- ✓ Don't limit yourself to just one email address, you can have one for yourself, reception, sales ... and so on
- ✓ We set everything up for you

Over \$250 of value for

# \$120

PER YEAR!

**CALL NOW! 08 9467 2935**  
 Or visit [xmanonline.com.au/mpa](http://xmanonline.com.au/mpa)

# What the?



REALLY?!?

## AVG tempering valves now come insulated and comply with AS 3500 at no extra cost

**Suitable for storage hot water systems**



**TVA 15mm & 20mm** suitable for storage and standard applications.

**Features:**

- Available in 15mm & 20mm
- Premium design and manufacturing specifications
- Designed for easy installation and removal
- Designed to cope with supply pressure variations
- More accurate control of outlet temperature - safer installations
- Filters fitted to protect the valve from impurities in the water supply
- Tamper-proof adjustment
- Insulation and cable ties included
- Copper olives and nuts supplied



**Suitable for solar hot water systems**



**High performance tempering valve (TVA-HP).** Essential for **instantaneous, continuous flow** and **solar** hot water systems.



**AVG tempering valves** provide optimum performance for hot and cold water supplies of equal dynamic pressure.

FULL DETAILS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.AVG.NET.AU](http://WWW.AVG.NET.AU)

Unit 3/25 Frederick St, Belmont, WA, 6104  
Tel: (08) 9277 5514 Fax: (08) 9277 9418

**AVG**  
Australian Valve Group  
[www.avg.net.au](http://www.avg.net.au)

# An overview of the National OHS Strategy 2002 – 2012

The National OHS Strategy 2002-2012 provides the basis for achieving the vision of Australian workplaces free from death, injury and disease.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) is an important consideration for all Australians, but particularly for business. Good OHS practices not only provide a safer working

.....  
**GOOD OHS PRACTICES NOT ONLY PROVIDE A SAFER WORKING ENVIRONMENT BUT IMPROVE WORKER MORALE AND PRODUCTIVITY.**  
.....

environment but improve worker morale and productivity. By pursuing good OHS practices, businesses face fewer workplace injuries and benefit from higher employee

retention rates and enhanced corporate image. This reduces the costs associated with production delays, recruiting new staff and replacing equipment and avoids the resulting uncertainty and workload pressure placed on co-workers. Businesses who strive to improve their OHS performance create safer workplaces which benefits not only employers and employees, but their families, their communities and the Australian economy.

*Australian Government, Australian Safety and Compensation Council*

The National OHS Strategy 2002-2012 has five national priorities which are to:

- Reduce high incidence/severity risks;
- Develop the capacity of business operators and workers to manage OHS effectively;
- Prevent occupational disease more effectively;
- Eliminate hazards at the design stage; and

- Strengthen the capacity of government to influence OHS outcomes.

Everybody who works in the building and construction industry can make it a priority to achieve the above goals by being safety aware all the time, not just part of the time. Safety thinking should begin the minute you walk onto the work site. It should not stop until the minute you step off the work site. Watching out for yourself and others will go a long way to preventing accidents and incidents occurring.

Further information on the OHS strategy can be found at:

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/aboutsafeworkaustralia/WhatWeDo/NationalOHSStrategy/Pages/NationalOHSStrategy.aspx>

## We have all the insurance solutions for plumbers and gasfitters.

**EBM TradesPlus is the competitively-priced insurance cover designed specially for you and your business.**

### Comprehensive cover

Tailored insurance designed specifically to suit your business needs, with options for a package or just the cover you require.

### Broadform liability cover

Choose the level of cover you need, from \$5 million to \$10 million of liability, with more on request.

### Competitive premiums

From \$690pa\* based on annual turnover, with included extras such as Faulty Workmanship, Contractor and Sub-Contractor cover.

### Tools & records cover

No more down time or loss of business to competitors when tools or records are lost, stolen or accidentally damaged.

### Professional service

Personal attention from a team of qualified practising insurance brokers conveniently located in cities and regional centres.

### Top insurer

Enjoy total confidence in an Australian-owned and licensed insurer who carries a Standard & Poors A+ rating.

### Full insurance services

Competitive rates for your Motor Vehicle, Worker's Compensation, Property cover and Income Protection insurance and others.

### Evidence of cover

Secure new business and put your customers' minds at rest with all the documentation you'll need to prove your liability insurance.

### Preferred MPA broker

Deal with the insurance brokers preferred by the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association (MPA) for over 15 years.

### Support your Association

MPA receives 25% of the commission earned by EBM on every TradesPlus insurance policy taken by an MPA member.



**Call EBM now for an obligation-free quote.**

**1300 INSURE  
(1300 467 873)**

### Western Australian Offices

Perth, Bunbury, Geraldton  
Kalgoorlie, Margaret River

### National Offices

Sydney, Melbourne  
Brisbane, Gold Coast

[www.ebminsurance.com.au](http://www.ebminsurance.com.au)  
[ebm@ebminsurance.com.au](mailto:ebm@ebminsurance.com.au)



**EBM**  
INSURANCE BROKERS

\*This is an indicative pricing for Western Australian based plumbers and gasfitters, based on an annual turnover of \$250,000, 3-4 employees and liability cover of \$5million. These terms may vary due to such things as claims and criminal conviction histories. ABN: 31 009 179 640 AFSL No: 246986

# Fair Tradie Project

At the age of 22 Luke Ray a plumber from WA, and his wife visited Uganda. They wanted to make a difference and 'The Fair Tradie Project' was established on the 29th of July 2010.



A further 33 passionate Trades people were inspired to be involved and dedicate their lives towards the same.

FTP is a non-profit organisation that works to suppress the distress of homelessness and aid impoverished communities. FTP is an association of ecological builders, providing advocacy and aid to those with housing needs and campaigning for lasting political change to end the economic crisis for good. They believe, a fair solution to homelessness is not merely housing, but individuals and communities trained to house for themselves.

Annually, a team of 10 trades people will be sent on a mission to help build impoverished communities

The aim is to develop practical solutions to address the housing crisis, in conjunction

with the housing sector to promote good practice, publish reports of projects, and deliver professional training. Annually, a team of 10 trades people will be sent on a mission to help build impoverished communities towards better sustainable living. This challenge is believed to be a rewarding experience for the building industry and the hope is to gain mutual support from trade business and people.

If you would like to learn more, get involved or donate to the Fair Tradie Project go to [www.fairtradieproject.webs.com](http://www.fairtradieproject.webs.com)





**Dr. Joe Kosterich**  
www.drjoe.net.au

# Water Needs To Flow

A university has become the latest place that wants to ban the sale of bottled water. This was done on the basis that water comes in plastic containers that “pollute” the environment.

Soft drinks first appeared on the scene a bit over a century ago. Humans survived for thousands of years without them. They serve no useful purpose in the body with the exception of temporarily pleasing the taste buds.

From a standing start in the late 1800's the consumption figures are now:

- Americans consume 50 billion ltrs a year. This equates to 216 ltrs per person each year.
- Australians consume 100 ltrs per person each year.
- The Irish consumes 126 ltrs per person per year
- The Japanese are more restrained at only 21 ltrs a year.
- Average world consumption is 89 ltrs per person per year

This is staggering. Apart from being amazing statistics it is highly relevant in the arguments over health. Chronic diseases such as arthritis, heart disease diabetes and obesity are responsible for 75% of the disease burden in Australia. In turn excessive intake of calories is the main contributor to these diseases.

**IF YOU ARE DOING ANY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, THEN YOU NEED MORE WATER. PEOPLE WHO WORK OUTDOORS ON HOT DAYS MAY REQUIRE FOUR, FIVE OR SIX LITRES OF WATER PER DAY.**

Soft drinks have high sugar content. A can has on average 10 teaspoons of sugar. There is also caffeine in many of them. One estimate has put sugars from soft drinks as contributing 21% of the total average sugar intake for Americans. We are not doing that bad but it could be close to 10%.

If we think about this for a moment, it means that the average American could reduce their sugar intake by over one fifth by cutting out soft drinks! The figures will vary but will still be significant in many countries including Australia.

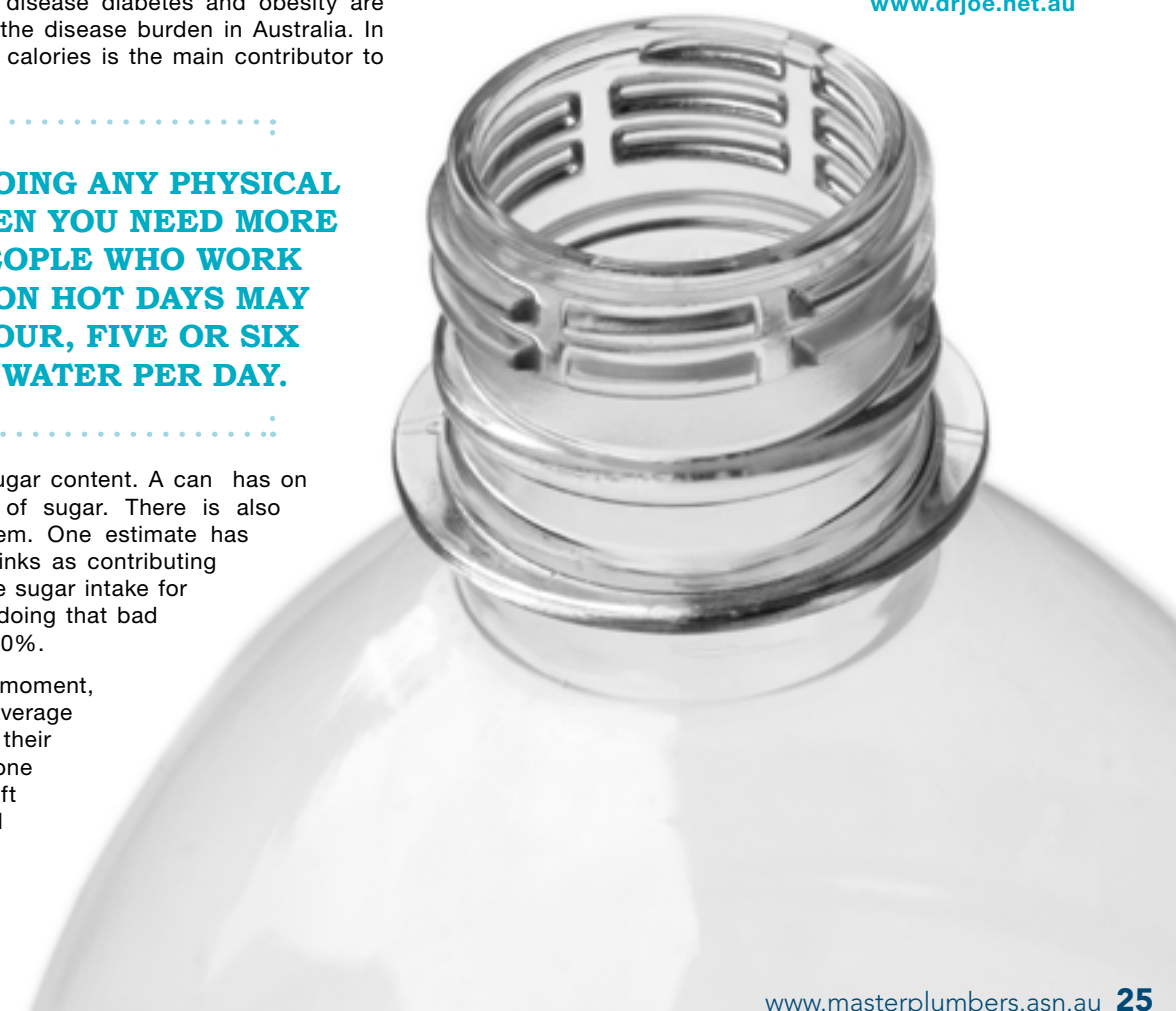
This is not about demonising those who drink soft drinks or manufacturers. The makers have legal businesses and a legitimate interest in promoting and selling their products. If people choose to drink them, that is a choice they make.

Health is often made complex. This complexity adds to the cost and makes people feel powerless to do much to alter their situation. Here is a classic example of where simple action can and will make a huge difference.

Just stop drinking soft drinks or at least slash consumption to one can a week as a treat if you really enjoy it. This is neither difficult nor costly. It does not require whole of government action or complex programs. All that is needed is for the individual to drink water instead.

The benefits to your body will be enormous. You will in one decision slash your sugar intake. This will help your heart, liver, kidneys and brain to name but four vital organs. As a bonus you will also save money. You will also be surprised at how much better you will look and feel.

Visit Dr. Joe at [www.drjoe.net.au](http://www.drjoe.net.au)



# LAND A \$10,000 FISHING ADVENTURE WITH TRADELINK AND VIEGA!

We want to put you in  
this picture. See your local  
Branch for details.

Catch it at  
a Tradelink  
near you!

**viega**

**Tradelink**

Participating WA & SA Tradelink Branches only. See instore for terms and conditions.

# MPA Skills extends class G training

Certificate III in Gasfitting – CPC32708



**Sharren Holt**  
Manager Training & QA

MPASkills is now offering the Certificate III in Gasfitting – CPC32708. This course is the non-apprenticeship pathway to obtain a Class G Gasfitting Permit from Energy Safety. The non-apprenticeship pathway means this course is available to mature age participants and does not require participants to enter into an apprenticeship.

On completion of the course, participants will be trade qualified gas fitters, will receive a Certificate III in Gasfitting and will be able to work in the gas industry with the skills and knowledge required for:

- planning, installation and commissioning of gas installations, complete forms, attend to notices and perform record keeping as require by gasfitters;

- install gas equipment and gas appliances to the standard required by the relevant Acts, Standards, Regulations and Codes of the Gas Industry;

.....  
**THE NON-  
APPRENTICESHIP  
PATHWAY MEANS THIS  
COURSE IS AVAILABLE  
TO MATURE AGE  
PARTICIPANTS AND  
DOES NOT REQUIRE  
PARTICIPANTS TO  
ENTER INTO AN  
APPRENTICESHIP.**  
.....

- size, install, test and purge gas pipe work to safe working conditions, install, test and commission gas appliances to provide safe operating conditions;
- size, install and test the flue systems components to provide safe operating conditions.

MPA Skills can provide Recognition of Prior Learning (“RPL”) to course participants.

MPA Skills is also offering other courses such as the Plumbing Contractors Licence, Service Type A Gas Appliances, Backflow Prevention, Migrant Gap Training Course and the Certificate IV in Plumbing & Services.

Please telephone Constance or Kirsty in our Advanced Training Department on 9471 6616.

We look forward to seeing you at training.



Training & Apprentice Employment  
DIVISION OF MPA GROUP



MPA Skills trainer Mike Broomhead demonstrating a gas test



**BRYCE STEELE**  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
MANAGER

## Welcome to the first issue of the Construction & Plumbing Magazine for 2011.

I trust you have found the World Plumbing Day Special Edition full of useful & relevant information. With the great support of our Industry Partners we have commenced our industry trade shows throughout the state, Albany, Geraldton. Next stop will be Bunbury & Busselton followed by Karratha, Broome, Mandurah & finally Perth. For your chance to win a trip for 2 to the World Plumbing Conference in Scotland in September I encourage you to come along and see some of the new products on show from our exhibitors.

At the Master Plumber & Gasfitters Association we strive to find new and useful benefits for our members. Additional membership benefits in 2011 include the following:

**Fuel Advantage Fuel Card** - offers a 4.4 cent discount on Unleaded/Diesel and 15 cents discount on LPG at Shell Service Stations.

**SmartClub VIP Membership** - SmartClub is the complete lifestyle program as it provides members with an extensive range of offers, whether you're going on holidays, wanting to plan a day out with the kids or simply doing some day to day shopping, you can always save more and spend less with SmartClub.

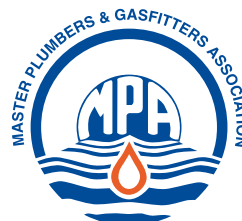
**MPGA Technical Information/Support/Advice** - Andrew Okines is the MPGA Industry Technical Liaison Officer, Andrew is here for members to contact and discuss issues and provide technical assistance.

In addition to these new member benefits in 2011, members of the MPGA can still access the benefits that were offered in 2010:

- Insurance Advice from EBM Insurance Brokers
- Industrial relations advice from Workplace Relationship Management Consultants(WRMC)
- OH&S advice from Safety Solutions WA
- Discount Apprentice Hire through MPA Skills
- Legal Support & Advice from Doyles Construction Lawyers
- Members discount on Flimsy Requests
- Banking Advice/Support/Products from Commonwealth Bank
- IT Support & products from Command IT
- Use of the MPGA Logo for Stationary & Vehicle Signage

Further information relating to these and other benefits are in the 2011 MPGA Members Benefits Booklet that is included in your membership pack.

If you have any questions regarding any of the benefits listed, don't hesitate to contact membership services on 9471 6661 to find out more.



DIVISION OF MPA GROUP

## BW PLASTICS



*"You name it, we can make it"*

BW Plastics is a **custom plastics fabricator** specialising in sheet and pipe products fabricated from PVC, PE/HDPE and PP.

BW Plastics provides custom fabrication and on-site installation, repair and services.



76 Wilkins St, Bellevue WA 6056

Ph: (08) 9274 6477

Fax: (08) 9274 2369

workshop@bwplastics.com.au

www.bwplastics.com.au

**CUSTOM PLASTICS FABRICATION & INSTALLATION  
SINCE 1972**



Training & Apprentice Employment  
DIVISION OF MPA GROUP

# WORKING WITH INDUSTRY TO TRAIN APPRENTICE PLUMBERS

MPA Skills is the largest provider of specialist apprentice training for the Western Australian plumbing industry. Ensure your apprentice receives the highest quality training and development.

- ✓ State of the art training facility in Bayswater and Maylands
- ✓ Workplace assessment and Skills Tracker
- ✓ Reduction of practical skills training duplication
- ✓ Report card for an apprentice and employer at each training stage
- ✓ AQTF compliance
- ✓ All trainers and assessors Cert IV qualified

**If you want the  
best apprentice,  
use MPA Skills  
for their technical  
training.**



Contact MPA Skills on (08) 9471 6600 or visit [www.mpaskills.com.au](http://www.mpaskills.com.au)



Training & Apprentice Employment  
DIVISION OF MPA GROUP



MEMBER OF MPA GROUP

# simPRO

## Efficient, Accurate and Profitable Plumbing Contracting

simPRO is a trade service management system created by, and for the plumbing industry.

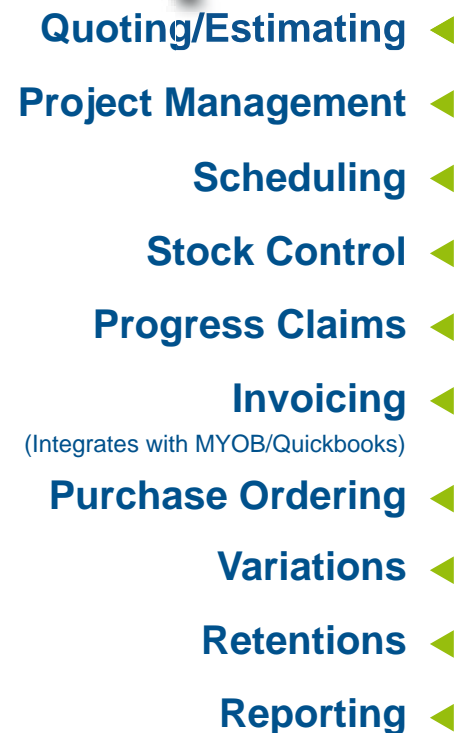
Every aspect of running a plumbing contracting business has been built into one system - simPRO. Developed from the knowledge of hundreds of plumbers over 10 years, simPRO will allow you to operate with seamless efficiency and control.

For an obligation free demonstration

**Call 1300 139 467**

or visit [simpro.com.au](http://simpro.com.au)

**NEW module for on  
screen take-offs**

- 
- Quoting/Estimating ◀
  - Project Management ◀
  - Scheduling ◀
  - Stock Control ◀
  - Progress Claims ◀
  - Invoicing ◀  
(Integrates with MYOB/Quickbooks)
  - Purchase Ordering ◀
  - Variations ◀
  - Retentions ◀
  - Reporting ◀

*One simplified process*

