

CONSTRUCTION & PLUMBING

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



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at the 2011 Master Plumbers & Gasfitters
Association of WA & Plumbers' Licensing
Board Awards for Excellence



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DECEMBER 2011

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COVER STORY

Quality Plumbing & Gas and Altona Plumbing & Civil win major awards



ARIA regulars rock the 2011 Awards for Excellence! p18

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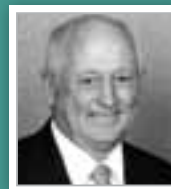
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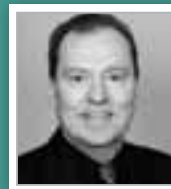
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The MPGA continues to grow at an astounding rate



BILL BUSBY
PRESIDENT

I would like to congratulate all the winners and participants at our 2011 Awards for Excellence, and also thank the MPGA team in co-ordinating what I deem, the best Master Plumbers awards night in the country!

This year's competitions attracted the highest entries for all categories which is a great effort and achievement from our members. To all entrants, well done! You all contribute to a better and more professional plumbing & gasfitting industry.

In the past year the Executive Committee and the MPGA have invested in a new building located in East Victoria Park. The existing Maylands facility will continue to be used as a training centre, utilising

the areas previously vacated by the administration staff, to expand their own training departments. The official opening will be in February/ March next year.

Another goal has been to establish a training facility in the southern sector and I can advise our members that we will achieve this by early 2012. Watch out for further details to feature in our e-newsletter and magazine outlining this new plumbing centre in the Jandakot/ Cockburn region.

It is clear as this year comes to a close that we, as an Association have grown and developed from our first 3 apprentices in 1984 to over 200 in 2011! We lead the other states in providing first class apprentices and post trade training which can

be attributed to a lot of hard work, effective asset management and some prudent financial savings. 2011 has seen a number of great results for the plumbing and gas fitting industry and I look forward to what the new year will have in store for our industry.

Regards,
Bill Busby
President

Master Plumber &
Gasfitters Association,
WA

"We lead the other states in providing first class apprentices and post trade training"

Is the industry prepared for what lies ahead?

With WA Mining Projects such as Gorgon (\$40 billion), Wheatstone (\$25 Billion) and more to come – our industry's demands are growing rapidly!



MURRAY THOMAS
CEO

2012 is shaping to be a year to prepare for major projects planned within the mining and resources sector. There are approximately 225 major projects estimated to commence within the next five years with a total projected value in Western Australia alone of \$215.76 billion.

Currently, projections within the plumbing sector estimate that there are approximately 73,400 plumbers in the Australian workforce, with 82,508 trades people necessary to meet labour demands up until 2015. This is an increase of close to 9,000 plumbers required as a minimum over the next 4 years.

The MPGA is focusing on these employment demands by introducing innovative school based programs to increase apprentice intake numbers in the state. The industry as a whole is preparing for a greater influx of migrants with the challenge being to ensure that the skills gap is minimal and that all migrants entering our industry are of high quality and job ready to meet the demands of employers and fulfill the skill shortages as required.

Again the MPGA's continued focus is not to break down the trade in anyway and ensure that the newly formed Building Commission of

Value of Major Projects

Total Value of Major Projects for WA, QLD and NT - by Status
(Unit billion):

| | TOTAL | WA | QLD | NT |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Total Capital Value | \$402.16 | \$215.76 | \$144.16 | \$42.24 |
| Approved Projects | \$202.64 | \$133.45 | \$66.25 | \$2.94 |
| Not Yet Approved Projects | \$199.52 | \$82.31 | \$77.91 | \$39.30 |

WA understands and works with the industry in supporting positive, holistic plumbing skills for our industry into the future.

I would like to express how proud and impressed I was with the quality of this year's entrants into the MPGA Awards for Excellence Competition in all categories. In particular, the Apprentice of the Year Awards as this year's competitors stood out, not only by displaying their skill level but also in the way they presented themselves as future ambassadors of our industry. Well done to all involved!

The MPGA is looking forward to serving its membership from new headquarters at 353 Shepperton Road, East Victoria Park commencing from 3 January 2012. We encourage you all to drop on in and say hello to discuss any requirements you may

have for your business, be it the supply of an apprentice, business or license training, advanced training or up-skilling, IR advice and more.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the MPGA I would like to wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We are ready for what lies ahead of us in 2012 and are looking forward to continuing to support you and your business.

Merry Christmas!

Murray Thomas
CEO MPA Group

Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association, WA

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Western Australia's building & plumbing industries - the future is now



HON. SIMON O'BRIEN
MLC, MINISTER FOR
COMMERCE

The State Government's building legislation reforms will improve an industry that has been burdened with delays, outdated laws and cumbersome dispute resolution for over 50 years.

New building laws that commenced in August 2011 have established the Building Commission, a division of the Department of Commerce and mark the end of the Builders' Registration Board and Painters' Registration Board. The Plumbers Licensing Board (PLB) continues as part of the Building Commission's structure.

Led by the Building Commissioner and assisted by the Building Services Board, the Building Commission will regulate the building industry and register building service providers. Key components of the new laws aim to streamline the dispute process and reduce building delays, providing easily accessible services for consumers, builders, painters and building surveyors.

A streamlined building approvals process will be implemented in 2012 under the Building Act. The new process includes the introduction of private certifiers to fast track applications. Registered building surveyors, employed privately or by a local government authority,

will be able to certify that plans and specifications comply with the relevant building standards, issuing a certificate of design compliance.

Local governments will continue to process applications, issue building permits (licences) and enforce compliance with all relevant standards and regulations. After a completed building permit application and associated certificate of design compliance is lodged, the local government will have 10 business days to issue a permit or explain why approval was not granted.

Along with the commencement of the Building Act in 2012, industry will also see the introduction of a Building Services Levy of 0.09 per cent of the total building cost. The levy will be offset by reductions in building permit fees for privately certified applications, as local governments will no longer have to check such applications against building standards.

Western Australia's plumbing industry is going through a period of significant change. The traditional role of plumbers, so important to our public health, of providing water services, sanitary and drainage plumbing will continue. However, plumbers are also being asked to take

on additional responsibilities through water and energy conservation measures and moves toward a more streamlined national economy, for example, the National Construction Code and national licensing.

Modernising Western Australia's plumbing legislation to support the industry as it takes on these additional roles will be a focus of the Building Commission in 2012 and beyond. Achieving this in an effective and efficient manner will require a high level of dialogue and cooperation between the Building Commission and the plumbing industry.

**Building
Commission**

Government of Western Australia
Department of Commerce
Plumbers Licensing Board

Want to know more...?
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The Building Commission will continue to liaise with consumer and industry bodies including plumbers, to make sure achievement of the new arrangements is meaningful.

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Gasfitter fails to purge causes injuries to the consumer

By Kevin Hooper



KEVIN HOOPER
ENERGYSAFETY
CHIEF GAS INSPECTOR



EnergySafety gas inspectors recently investigated an incident where a consumer had received burns whilst attempting to light an oven. The incident is believed to have happened as a direct result of a gasfitter failing to purge a domestic gas installation of all air after reconnecting a gas cooker.

The gasfitter was completing the work associated with repositioning LPGas cylinders, a regulator and installing new consumer piping. The house had a raised floor and the new consumer piping was run to where the existing piping supplying the cooker had been cut.

The gasfitter did not have access to the inside of the house as the consumer was at work. Unable to get inside the house the gasfitter purged to a point where the new piping connected to the existing. He purged to this point, made the connection then carried out a soundness test, then left the job. **Had he fulfilled his responsibilities as a gasfitter? NO**

Arriving home the consumer was unaware any gasfitting work had

been undertaken earlier in the day, lit the oven in the usual way and went to get the prepared roast from the refrigerator. Returning to the oven noticed that the oven burner had gone out. Whilst attempting to light the oven for a second time an explosion occurred resulting in burns to the consumer's arms and hair.

The consumer piping had a pocket of air trapped between the new piping and the existing. Initially the oven burner lit off the gas trapped in the existing piping and then extinguished when the air came through. The pocket of air then passed and the flame failure valve had not operated. (It can take up to 90 seconds for a flame failure device to operate). Unburnt gas was filling the oven in this time. The ignition source was the consumer attempting to re-light.

What is required of the gasfitter? A gasfitter is required to commission any appliance he/she installs or in this case re-installs.

Not having access to the inside of premises does not resolve the gasfitter of the associated responsibilities. If you can't leave the gas installation in a safe operating condition then do not leave it operational. Section 6.11 of the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5601:2010 Gas Installations sets out the requirements for commissioning Type A gas appliances, this includes appropriate purging.

EnergySafety will not tolerate non-compliances that compromise safety. Fortunately in this case the injuries were not serious, it may not be the case should this situation arise again. The consumer relies on you as the gasfitter to ensure your work and the gas installation is left safe and compliant.

"If you can't leave the gas installation in a safe operating condition then do not leave it operational...
EnergySafety will not tolerate non-compliances that compromise safety."

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Get Wise, Get Waterwise!

The Water Corporation recently launched its enhanced Waterwise Specialist Program to raise the profile of endorsed Waterwise services available to help save water inside and outside the home.

The current water situation in Western Australia has meant that the need to reduce water is more important than ever. Promotion of the Waterwise Programs is one component of a larger effort by the Water Corporation to help the Western Australian community reduce their water use.

Are you a Waterwise Specialist? If not, sign up today!

Upon successful completion of the EnviroWest Plumbing Course, a plumber is endorsed by the Water Corporation as a Waterwise Plumber.

Benefits of being a Waterwise Plumber are:

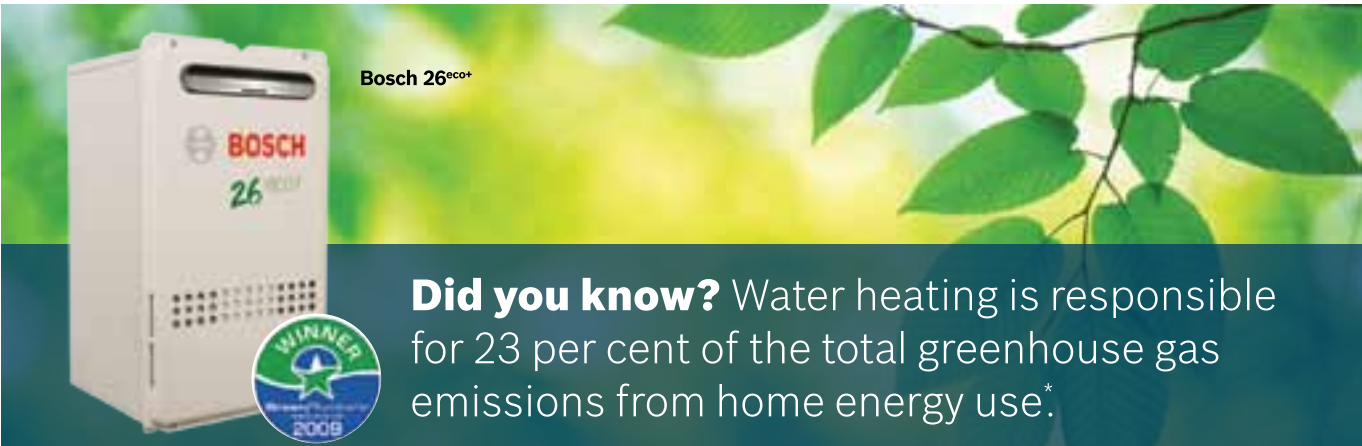
- Access to Waterwise branding to promote yourself as a Waterwise Specialist.

- Promotion by the Water Corporation in Waterwise Specialist advertising campaigns appearing on billboards, bus shelters, radio, television, print and online.
- Access to a range of Waterwise promotional materials for your business.
- The Corporation will engage a Waterwise Specialist wherever possible for services it requires (e.g. plumbing).
- The Corporation will recommend the use of Waterwise Specialists to customers in the roll out of community projects and initiatives (eg. Rainwater Reward; H2ome Smart).

To find out more about Waterwise Specialists or how to become one, visit www.watercorporation.com.au and follow the 'Being waterwise' links.



"To find out more about Waterwise Specialists or how to become one, visit www.watercorporation.com.au and follow the 'Being waterwise' links."



Bosch 26^{eco+}

Did you know? Water heating is responsible for 23 per cent of the total greenhouse gas emissions from home energy use.*

Water heating accounts for 25 per cent of the energy used in an average Australian home*. By simply installing a more energy efficient hot water system for your home, taking in to account your household size and water use patterns, it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and can save you money on energy bills.

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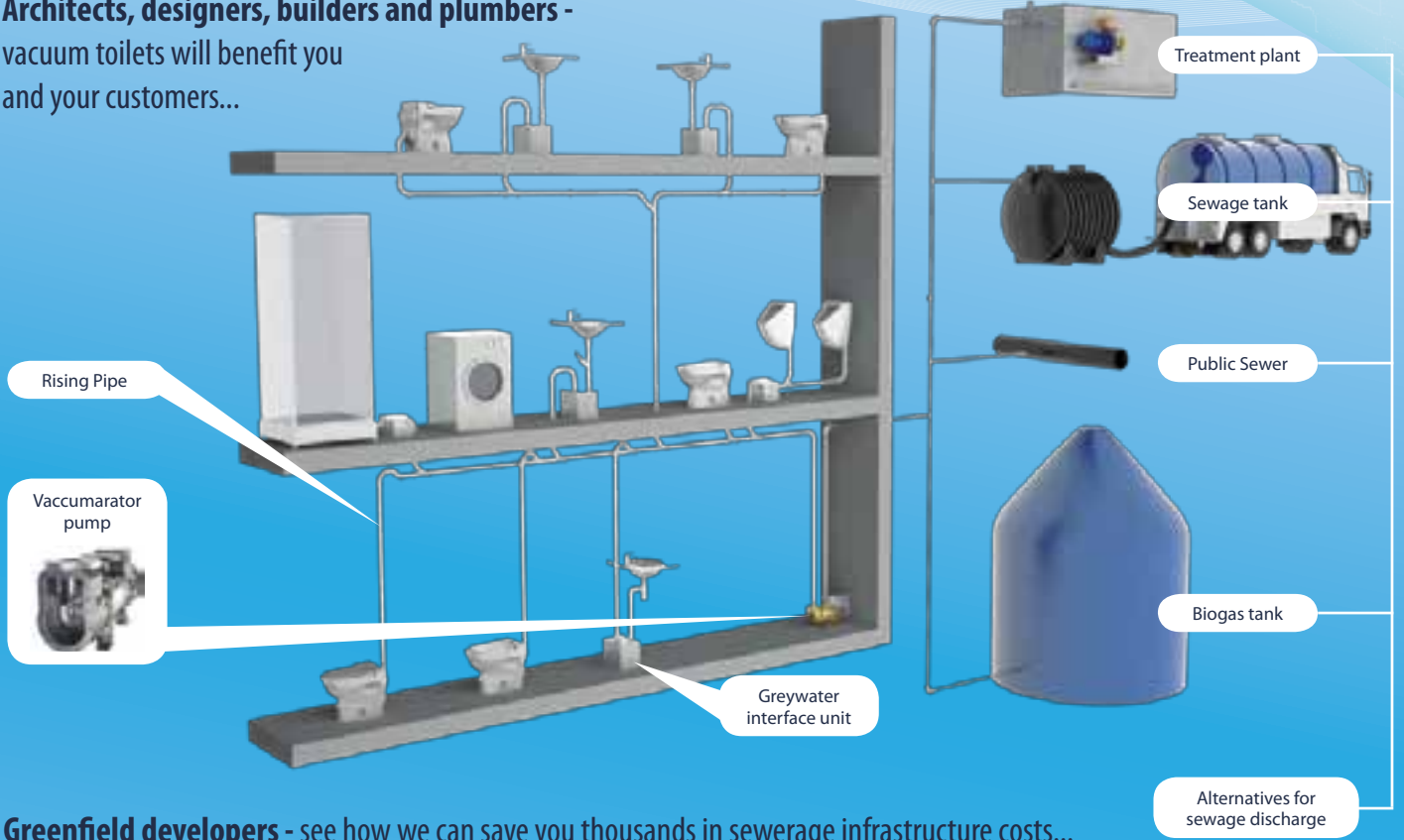


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* Information obtained from www.yourhome.gov.au accessed in May 2011.

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Rautitan Px – The connection of the future



The team at Rehau Perth

Rehau is a name that is well entrenched in the Australian plumbing industry. They have recently undertaken a major investment in the development of their factory in Brichtach, Germany. Investing in the future of the Rautitan PX product with a 6 Million Euro R+D development budget and the installation of a 34 million Euro production plant they now have a production output of over 40 million compression sleeves and fittings per year whilst ensuring that every product is measured 100% in the production line to meet the high quality expectations.

The Rautitan PX is protected worldwide by patents and via the "finger print" concept and a comprehensive forgery-proof laser coding to prevent product piracy. The new Rautitan PX fitting range specifically exploits the advantageous material properties of selected high-performance polymers in order to keep drinking water clean and already exceeds the future hygiene requirements today. The product was first introduced into the market

in 2009 and since then there have been over 60 million parts installed in over 40 countries.

The Rautitan PX product is available through your local plumbing distributor and the team at your Rehau in WA want to ensure that you are fully aware of how the product works best. Rehau have a strong focus ensuring all installers of the product are fully trained to ensure every job whether big or small runs smoothly. For more information regarding the Rehau Rautitan PX product call the Perth office on 9456 4311.



"The product was first introduced into the market in 2009, since then there has been over 60 million part installed in over 40 countries."

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Out and About

2011 Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association & WACIRF Spring Golf Day



WA Contingent at The 2011 World Plumbing Conference

2011 MPA Group Sham Contracting Forum



Did You Know?

HAVE A QUESTION?

MPGA would like to help you find the answer.

Send your questions to Sarah Forrest:

sarahf@mpawa.asn.au

Did you know that the minimum depth of the water service has now changed?

Latest amendments to AS/NZS 3500 released in Dec 2010 now indicate Table 5.3 Minimum cover in public and private areas for buried pipes. Not subject to vehicular loading (excluding fire services) 300mm



Can a water service above ground be secured to another service?

Water services installed above ground shall be retained in position by brackets, clips or hangers and be securely attached to the building structure and not to any other service.

Did you know that only drinking water shall be supplied to plumbing fixtures or outlets for human consumption, food preparation, utensil cleaning, or personal hygiene.

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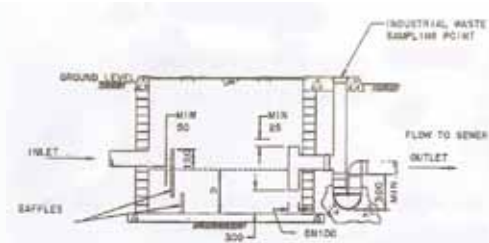
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Business Corner



PAUL FUNNELL

In an earlier article it was suggested that June and July are the months to plan company expansion and consider financial matters. Cash flow, amount of turnover and target profits. December and January are the months to consider new ideas, marketing strategies and fresh direction for the company.

December is about winding up the years activities and looking forward to a well earned break. There is little or nothing that can be done toward fixing or saving disasters that happened in the past. We can however guide and control what happens in the future, it is very easy to make changes that will result in a positive difference for the profitability of the company. January is a time to be motivated, to put the past behind us and see that there is a fresh year ahead, and with it comes an opportunity for a fresh start.

Of course, the projects which are currently under way need to be brought to a successful conclusion. Business managers should look beyond current projects and bring forward any ideas that have been sitting in the 'must get around to basket'. Revisiting and assessing such ideas maybe the fresh start the company needs. Tradespeople often

see problems within the building and construction industry, they even have the solution to the perceived problem, but they don't act on the idea or what is commonly called their invention. For some reason the word invention scares them and a good idea is lost or worse still, it is picked up by another person years later.

Providing the companies with a fresh start may include rethinking the marketing plan. Targeting builders, developers and customers who focus only on the lowest price may not be the best strategy. A more profitable approach is to focus on the level of service and quality of work you company provides. Builders who look only at the price are often short term customers. Unfortunately, there is a never ending line of contractors accommodating the customer with the lowest price theory. With your fresh start, review your marketing

and look for good reasons why customers will want your services aside from price.

December is also the half way point for your financial year review, a great time to check if your targets are being met, if not, appropriate action can be taken to rectify the situation. Small adjustments are easier to carryout, large adjustments may not be possible at the end of the financial year. Too often managers leave financial reporting up to their accountant. This is something I have always had difficulty with. Trade contractors are generally intelligent people who efficiently price work, construct the projects and manage to make a profit. It follows that as a business manager they take their time to learn how to read a profit and loss statement as well as a financial balance sheet. With this information the direction of the company will be evident. The exception to this statement is taxation reporting; where an accountant is essential.

"The general rule is, 'increase turnover and lower costs'. The result should be increased profits."

The general rule is, 'increase turnover and lower costs'. The result should be increased profits.

It is easy to be motivated during the New Year period, just look at how many people make resolutions, and in this case it can be our motivator for our business, particularly with new innovative ideas, inventions that resolve problems, or ways to reinvent the current business. Take the time to visit your ideas that have sat in the 'too hard basket', or the 'I am not sure folder'.

Whatever it is, do it now! Otherwise another year will pass by.

For what it is worth!

I'm Paul Funnell

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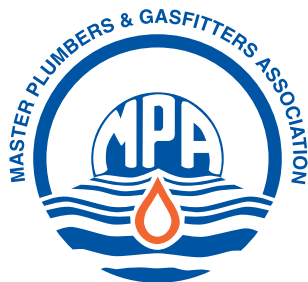
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Why directors and offices need expert help

These days is not just directors of large public companies who are exposed to personal liability for breaches of the duties they owe. Directors and officers of private companies are also at risk. A simple act, error or omission can be enough to spark a claim against you or your company.

You can be exposed to:

- The cost of defending a claim and any damages and costs awarded. These can be based upon an allegation of you breaching your duty as a director or officer.
- The cost of preparing for and being represented at an inquiry that you are required to attend because you serve as a director or officer.
- Pecuniary penalties that arise from you being a director or officer.
- A claim against you by another director, officer or employee arising from an employment related complaint.
- Liability whilst serving as an outside director.
- Liability whilst acting as a trustee of a corporate superannuation fund.

The risks faced by your company

The assets of the company are also exposed to:

- The cost of defending a claim and any damages and costs awarded as a result of a wrongful act.
- Theft of fraud by employees.
- Pecuniary penalties imposed on the company.

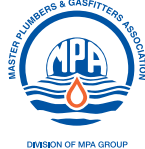
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www.tradespluscover.com.au



*This is an indicative pricing for Western Australian based plumbers and gasfitters, based on 1-2 employees and liability cover of \$5 million. These terms may vary due to such things as claims and criminal conviction histories.
ABN: 31 009 179 640 AFSL No: 246986

Type of claims you or your company could face:

- Breach of directors or officers duties
- Breach of fiduciary duty
- Defamation
- Breach of Trade Practices Act and other statutes.
- Occupational health and safety proceedings
- Infringement of intellectual property rights
- Breach of confidentiality
- Allegations of illegal or improper conduct.

Management liability insurance will provide cover to directors and officers as well as the company for these exposures subject to the terms and conditions of the policy.

One of the main areas of claims is occupational health and safety issues and the following are real life studies:

A timber mill

A supervisor showed an employee supplied by a hire company how to clear blockages from the timber conveyers. To do this it was necessary to lean forward over the yellow guardrail to clear the blockage by hand.

The employee's foot slipped on some woodchips and he fell forward. His hand and arm became trapped in the conveyor belt resulting in serious injuries.

WorkSafe prosecuted the employer, which was found to have failed to ensure his employees were trained in and followed the correct safety procedures.

Verdict: The Magistrates Court imposed a fine of \$25,000.

The meat processor

A worker at a meat processing business suffered extensive burns while operating a pressured batch cooking vessel used to render down by-product from meat.

Prosecuted by SafeWork SA, the company was found to have failed to:

- Identity hazard and/or risk assessment
- Ensure adequate safe operating procedures
- Provide adequate instruction and training.

Verdict: The company was fined \$28,800.

The crane driver

A crane and its driver fell five metres from a building resulting in a injury to the driver.

WorkCover investigated and a prosecution followed.

The employer and a company director were to found to have failed to provide a safe system of work.

Verdict: The company was fined \$140,000 and the director \$14,000.

For an obligation free Management Liability insurance quotation please phone Wayne Lewis at EBM Insurance Brokers on 9213 4567.

The Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association & Plumbers' Licensing Board Awards for Excellence

2011 Honour Roll

Award Winners



Tradelink Apprentice of the Year
Timothy Humble



Plumbers' Licensing Board Construction Plumbing Business of the year - Altona Plumbing & Civil



Plumbers' Licensing Board Maintenance Plumbing Business of the Year - Quality Plumbing & Gas



WACIRF Environmental Business of the Year
Kelly's Hot Water, Gas & Air



ATCO Gas Australia Gasfitter of the Year
David Gray



Best Workplace Health & Safety Practice in a Business - Kelly's Hot Water, Gas & Air



Water Saving Product of the Year
Methven Australia



Energy Saving Product of the Year
Rheem Australia Pty Ltd



Plumbers' Licensing Board Plumber of the Year
Justin Drifill

The Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of WA would like to thank their platinum partner, The Plumbers' Licensing Board and all their sponsors for the night, as without their support such nights could not happen!





ASHLEE PHUR
EVENTS MANAGER

ARIA regulars rock the 2011 Awards for Excellence!

Each year the MPGA Awards for Excellence is a top priority on the plumbing and gasfitting social calendar. After years of successful gala events, 2011 required something special to take place.

Sipping bubbles and celebrating our industry's finest, guests partied into the night to one of Australia's premier dance acts, The Potbelleez! The dance floor was filled with energy as the speakers blasted music anthems like "don't hold back", "hello" and "are you with me!"

The Potbelleez are one of those bands; the word inescapable quickly comes to mind. You can't watch an episode of Hawaii Five-0 or witness the AFL Grand Final or the Formula 1 Grand Prix without hearing one of their signature dance-pop tunes.

Earlier in the evening, guests were treated to another celebrity act, one of Australia's funniest men Peter Rowsthorn. He has been performing his slick & blistering stand up for almost two decades and did not disappoint our industry, leaving everyone in stitches of laughter! Best known as the long-suffering husband and pants-man Brett Craig on "Kath & Kim", Rowsthorn is a high energy, fast paced stand up comedian one minute and a measured character actor the next.

The ladies showed off a stunning selection of glamour and style, whilst the men looked truly dapper at this entertaining affair. Congratulations to all award winners on the night!

A host of industry events fill our calendar in 2012 and I look forward

to seeing you all there. I'm most excited about our host of World Plumbing Day breakfasts scheduled for Monday 12th March. Also make a note to secure your teams at our 2 annual golf days (Autumn and Spring) as places are limited at this sell out event.

As we prepare to hang up the mistletoe, crack out the Christmas decorations and let the festivities begin for the brightest time of the year, I'd like to wish the plumbing fraternity a great and prosperous 2012. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of WA this year and I hope we can continue to deliver the products and services the industry and members require, maintaining our standing within the community.

"I'd like to wish the plumbing fraternity a great and prosperous 2012"



ABOVE: Ilan & Blu from The Potbelleez

BELOW: The Potbelleez perform live at the 2011 Awards for Excellence!



BELOW: Potbelleez DJ Dave



LEFT: 2011 Apprentice of the Year Awards for Excellence Entrants - Standing left to right: Robert Rout, Peter Hulshoff and Steven Edwards | Middle row left to right: Ashley Smith, Felix Ellis, Chris Karsten and Hamish Wilson | Seating left to right: Steven Schubert, Chad Morache, Timothy Humble and Brentt Tawhai



ABOVE: Hall of Fame inductees, Graham Raynor, Ian Cook & John Clark



ABOVE: Honourable Minister Peter Collier, MLC & Lisa Baker, MLA Member for Maylands

BELOW: Comedian, Peter Rowsthorn



ABOVE: Vic Markou, Jacqui Markou, Nina Bellini & Ray Bellini



ABOVE: Peter Keenan, Angela Kitching, Steve Doubell, Stephanie Daniell



LEFT: Joanne Bennell, Vanessa Galvin, Dave Galvin & Reyn Bennell

35 years, and one company's success

Altona Plumbing and Civil in their 35th year took home the Construction Plumbing Business of the Year Award at this year's awards for excellence.



left to right back row: Steve Smith & Trevor Byrne
left to right front row: Darren Byrne, Kim Byrne & Colin Byrne

Specialising in everything from leaky taps to large scale construction and infrastructure works, Altona, is enjoying the successes of many years of hard work by taking home the coveted prize. Formed in 1976 by Kim and Maureen Byrne, Altona has grown to be one of WA's market leaders in the hydraulics and civil infrastructure fields. "35 years on, I am proud of our achievements and am fortunate to have three sons that have now taken the business to the next level" Kim Byrne said.

Based in Canning Vale and with a team of 40, Altona have expanded over the years to service all segment of the WA Market. "Our ability to combine our resources to tackle difficult and complex projects is what sets us apart", Co-owner and Director of Altona, Trevor Byrne. "Taking on many high profile projects throughout WA over the past 35 years, we are moving forward and are committed to the future of the industry, having trained over 60 apprentices" he added. "Each one of our team members can be proud of their contribution to winning the award".

The success of the night has clearly meant something to the close team at Altona but they still maintain focus on the future to ensure they keep up the high standards to which

they strive. "We agreed to submit for this year's award for industry recognition, especially for Kim considering its Altona's 35th year. We are pleased to take home the award and congratulate all of the 2011 award winners." stated Trevor Byrne.

And for Kim whilst still involved in the business, his time on the MPGA Executive Committee and other plumbing related committees keeps him busy. "I joined the Executive Committee over 20 years ago because there were several issues that needed addressing within the industry. I have enjoyed many years with the MPGA and believe that it is as important now as it ever has been that the industry is united when faced with the current proposed regulatory and legislative changes.

Congratulations to the Altona team for winning this year's award.

Quality award, Quality company

For Quality Plumbing, a steady beginning and up rise is something that has come easy to the duo, Marcos Gonzalez & John Browne.

Forming their business 11 years ago the pair have had their fair share of criticism along the way as most partnerships do, but their history stands strong and their future is bright as shown by their track record.

"When we first started it was all about whom we knew, not what we knew. For the first 2-3 years of making and creating Quality it was tough, as no one had heard of us. We didn't pay ourselves for 6 months to get through it," recalls Marcos.

Together they first won the Maintenance Plumbing Business of the Year award for the first time in 2009, received a high commendation in 2010, and now once more, they have taken out the title of Maintenance Plumbing Business of the Year for 2011.

"We had so many people saying you won't make it, partnerships are bad

etc and then winning awards like this, it just well puts them in the place and proves how far we have come," says John.

And the boys don't take lightly the achievement of being the receiver of these awards either, making it clear each one has meant a lot to them and their growing company.

"It's good for John and I to see the hard work we have put in all year, it makes it all worthwhile and means a lot. We started 11 years ago and we have always pushed ourselves up and up again through every year," states Marcos.

With a team of 8, both John & Marcos feel content with the level of success and growth they have reached in recent years. When asked if they are seeking more employees, the laid back boys say they are happy with



Marcos Gonzalez & John Browne

what they have been dealt so far and don't see any need to push that to its limits. Both with young families it is clear they are happy to leave their work and family life separate and it seems the pair juggle these two aspects of their lives well.

"We have proven ourselves in the industry. Winning these awards proves to our clients that we are not a backyard company. Next year we are looking at submitting for 3 awards and that's going to be good for us to try and take those out," says Marcos.

It is clear the road of success and satisfaction is straight and sturdy for the team at Quality Plumbing and no doubt it will continue into the New Year.

Humble recipient wins Apprentice of the Year

For Timothy Humble of Ablett Plumbing, 2011 was already shaping out to be a big year.

With his apprenticeship being signed off in November, doors were already opening for him. However the smiley apprentice never expected that his hard work over 4 years and skills learnt were about to be recognised within the WA plumbing industry. To win the 2011 Tradelink Apprentice of the Year was an unplanned honour.

"I didn't expect it, you don't really no after competitions like that, so it was pretty overwhelming on the night but overall I was really pleased with the outcome," says Tim

Although well aware of the award and how to enter Tim was hesitant in actually applying for the award and it was only because of his contacts in the industry that he decided too.

"Chris Proctor, my MPA Skills Field Officer encouraged me to enter; he said I had what it takes. If it wasn't for Chris I wouldn't have applied for it, not because it wasn't well publicised but more because if you

don't think you have the skills then you need that encouragement and confidence to give it a go," states Tim.

After the announcement on Saturday 19th November at the annual awards night and the buzz of being on stage, Tim was able to register and acknowledge the prizes and gifts that he walked away with.

Tim was the proud receiver of A cheque to the value of \$500.00 from the MPGA, another cheque for \$1000 from the Construction Training Fund, A \$1000 insurance voucher from EBM Insurance, A \$500 Tradelink Voucher from Crane Copper Tube, plus a \$3,000 travel voucher donated by Tradelink.

"I was the over the moon with everything that I won. I couldn't believe how much money the sponsors put in for everything, it really blew me away," said Tim.



Timothy Humble & Rob Dimond

Tim has been lucky enough to have constant support and back up from his work team at Ablett Plumbing throughout his 4 years apprenticeship and it is clear he has great respect for the company and team.

"All the guys at Ablett have been great to me during my apprenticeship always supporting me with anything I need help with. It's really been great to have had that throughout my apprenticeship with them" states Timothy.

Tim has a bright future ahead of him, and with the confidence that this award has given him and the support from the people around him he will continue to succeed in his career.

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Tradelink

Plumber plunges into first place



Justin Driffil & Judy Seif, Plumbers Licensing Board

"It feels great to win, embarrassing though with all the attention I have received from the award! Walking up onto the stage to receive the award I don't think I had realised just how many people were there," recalls Justin Driffil of Vivian Plumbing, the 2011 Plumber of the Year recipient.

Encouraged to enter by the supporting people in his life, for Justin his plumbing career has never been about the spotlight rather it has been more about the smaller everyday achievements.

"I would have never nominated myself for something like that. My boss Ryan Vivian encouraged me to enter, with my first reaction being no I don't want to do that. But he told me to think about it. And I spoke to my wife and she said if he thinks you're a suitable candidate then go for it. But to me to know he thought of that of me that alone was enough," says Justin.

Knowing the history of the award and previous winners, Justin said he was gob smacked that he was able to take out such a prestigious award. The number of people that have in the past applied, for the award some more than once, was a figure that Justin found difficult to get his head around. Having been in the plumbing industry for 23 years Justin has more than just plumbing experience under his belt, which he says is a constant help in his everyday work.

"I have had time off from the plumbing industry and got my ticket in the earth moving industry. All those years being out of the plumbing industry has really helped me. I know I'm not the best plumber and I have never said I know everything. But I think the other skills I have picked up along the way have helped me with all my plumbing skills and knowledge," states Justin.

The plumbing industry in the eyes of this experienced plumber still holds many more adventures and experiences for him. All of which it seems he can't wait to experience and enjoy.

"The best thing about my trade is the variety. Because I can operate machines, and the work that Vivian's does isn't repetitive. We are always doing different things, ranging from industrial, civil, maintenance and everything in between. The whole thing is just a variety, I mean I look at other trades and they do the same thing day in day out. There's never a dull moment in the plumbing industry," concludes Justin.

First time entrant wins major award!

For Bunbury winner, David Gray of Bunbury Hot Water & Gas, being the 2011 ATCO Gas Australia Gasfitter of the Year has re-enforced many aspirations he has been working on.

"It's actually quite exciting, it just shows that if you put a lot of hard work and do the right thing in the industry and you actually get rewarded for it. I was very nervous going into the night as we all enter on the hope that we win. Basically I entered to have it as a marketing tool for my business," states David.

For country members of the MPGA the awards night is a treat and a planned journey to Perth which was no different for David.

"We pay a fee as a member of the MPGA so if we can utilise the membership by going for such an award it just makes it worthwhile. Next year we will have a go at some other awards, including some small business awards as well," says David.

David started in the plumbing industry at the age of 17; he then formed Bunbury Water & Gas in November 2004. He also has another plumbing business that is only just 6 months old, Georgrape Plumbing which he is currently developing in Bussleton.

"We want to grow our business obviously and want to keep training out guys so that we have the best team and the best team culture, that's really what we are working on," explains David.

A member of the MPGA since 2006 David views the association as something important that needs to be supported in order for the plumbing industry in turn to be supported.

"I thought it was important to get behind our association that is doing the talking for us and the background stuff that tradies don't see like licensing etc. The support from an association is what appealed to me and why I originally decided to join," says David.

Thrilled with the outcome of his success at the recent awards gala night, David is keen to publicise the award within his company in order to attract and maintain future clients. The motivated plumber and gasfitter has more ideas for both his companies and 2012 will only bring more opportunities to expand grow for him.



David Gray & Marc Stubbs, ATCO Gas Australia

2012 in summary

World Plumbing Events in 2012:

11th March: World Plumbing Day

30th April - 2nd May: The American Backflow Prevention (ABPA) conference/exhibition

7th - 9th May: Australia Institute of Refrigeration, Air conditioning & Heating (ARBS) conference/exhibition

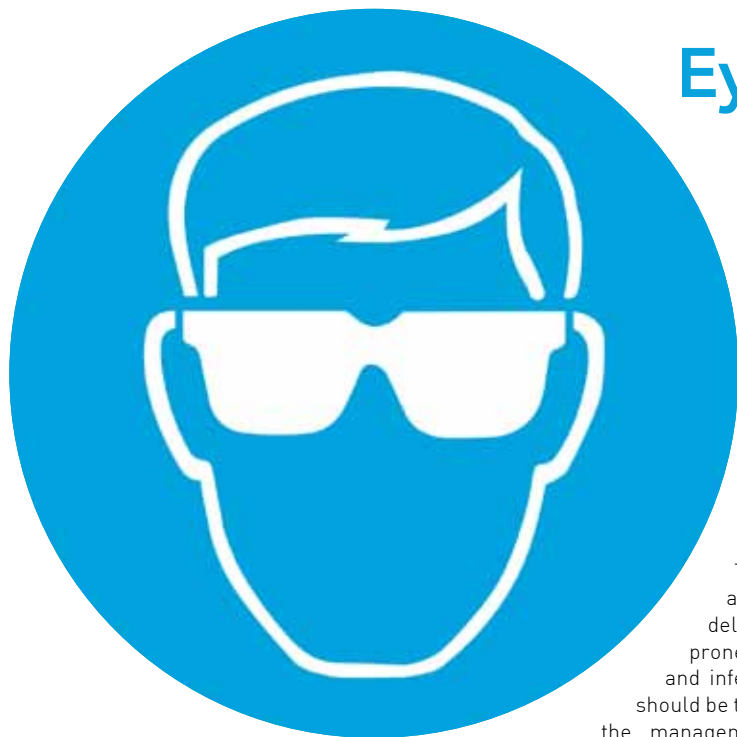
FEB

- 9th February**
Quality Plumbing Seminar
- 22nd February**
Albany trade Show and industry forum
- 23rd February**
Esperance visit and BBQ
- 28th February**
Kalgoorlie visit and BBQ

MAR

- 12th March**
World Plumbing Day Breakfast BBQ's
- 13th March**
Bussleton trade show and industry forum
- 14th March**
Bunbury trade show and industry forum

| MONTH | PUBLIC HOLIDAY | RDO |
|------------------|--|--|
| JANUARY | Monday 2 January - New Years Day Thursday 26 January - Australia Day | Friday 27 January |
| FEBRUARY | | Monday 20 February |
| MARCH | Monday 5 March - Labour Day | Monday 26 March |
| APRIL | Friday 6 April - Good Friday Monday 9 April - Easter Monday Wednesday 25th April - Anzac Day | Tuesday 10 April |
| MAY | | Monday 14 May |
| JUNE | Monday 4 June - Foundation Day | Tuesday 5 June |
| JULY | | Monday 9 July |
| AUGUST | | Monday 6 August |
| SEPTEMBER | | Monday 3 September |
| OCTOBER | Monday 1 October - Queen's Birthday | Tuesday 2 October |
| NOVEMBER | | Tuesday 6 November Monday 26 November |
| DECEMBER | Tuesday 25 December - Christmas Day Wednesday 26 December - Boxing Day | Friday 21 December |



Eye Injuries

Imagine due to the loss of sight, suddenly not being able to work, drive, see your kids grow up or participate in recreational activities that you take for granted with normal vision. Irrelevant of your occupation, sex, age or lifestyle, the loss of an eye or your sight in full would significantly affect the quality of your professional and personal life.

The eye is a sensitive, delicate organ, prone to injury and infection. Care should be taken during the management of an eye injury to prevent infection which could result in later damage to eyesight. Any eye injury should be treated as serious because it could damage the cornea, which could lead to vision loss.

General principles for managing eye injuries:

1. Wash hands thoroughly and put gloves on, remove any external powder from gloves by washing.
2. **DO NOT** attempt to remove an object that is embedded in the eye or is on the coloured part of the eye.
3. Cover injured eye with a sterile pad.
4. Never put direct pressure on the eyeball.
5. Seek medical aid.
6. Warn the casualty of a reduced depth of sight perception due to one eye being covered.

Foreign Objects:

If a foreign object in the eye is small and is not embedded in the eye, it may be washed out by natural 'watering' (tears). If tears do not rid the eye of the foreign object, follow the steps below.

1. Ask the casualty to look up;
2. Gently lower lid down and out;
3. **If the object is visible** – remove using an eye spear or corner of a clean cloth moistened with saline solution – only make one attempt to remove the object and only if the object is on the white of the eye.
4. **If object not visible** – ask casualty to look down, gently grasp lashes of the upper lid, pull lid down and over lower lid – this may dislodge the foreign object.
5. **If unsuccessful** – wash eye with gentle stream of saline or clean water;
6. **If still unsuccessful** – manage injury as for an embedded object – cover injured eye with an eye pad or clean dressing and seek medical aid.

Penetrating eye Injury:

DO NOT attempt to remove a penetrating object from the eye.

Management of a Penetrating Eye Injury Includes:

1. Follow DRABC;
2. Lie casualty on back;
3. **DO NOT** attempt to remove object;
4. Place pads around object, or paper cup over injured eye;
5. Bandage in place – be careful not to apply any direct pressure to the damaged eyeball;
6. Encourage casualty to focus the uninjured eye on an object straight ahead;
7. Call 000 for an ambulance;
8. Administer oxygen to minimise further deterioration of the eye;
9. **DO NOT** give any food or drink.

NOTE: A penetrating eye injury, is usually caused by a sharp object which has gone inside the eye or is protruding from the eye. This injury may cause serious damage and infection if not managed. Vomiting can aggravate a penetrating eye injury, due to the increased pressure caused by retching.

Welding Flash:

The flash from the ultraviolet rays produced by electric (ARC) welding can cause an injury similar to sunburn. The eyes will feel gritty and painful. The symptoms are not felt until several hours after the exposure and both eyes nearly always are affected. Recovery usually occurs within a few days. Covering the eyes with cool moist eye patches may help to reduce the distress to the casualty until medical aid is obtained. If a casualty complains that a flash occurred in only one eye, suspect a foreign object.

Management of Welders Flash Includes:

1. Place eye pads or light clean dressings over the injured eyes;
2. Seek medical aid.

The 2011 national conference of Construction Industry portable long service leave schemes



JOHN YOUNES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Over the 12th - 14th October 2011 the WA Construction Industry Portable Long Service Scheme hosted the annual National Conference of Australia wide Schemes at the Sebel Resort at Mandurah. For the WA Scheme it was a special event as the Scheme is about to achieve its 25th anniversary which occurs in January 2012.

The role of the individual Schemes is to provide a portable long service leave benefit to construction industry workers - the workers therefore receive a long service leave entitlement by service to the construction industry as compared to general employees which receive a long service leave entitlement for service to an individual employer.

On an Australia wide basis the combined Schemes cover in excess of 800,000 workers and 58,000 employers and hold ~\$2Bn in investment funds.

The Conference was attended by ~90 persons including delegates (Chairs / Board Members / CEOs / executives etc of the Australia wide Schemes) and partners / speakers / sponsors.

Speakers at the Conference included representatives from Investment Fund Managers [Schroders (Sydney) / Mercer (Melbourne) / Maple-Brown Abbott (Sydney)], Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Mr James Pearson), Jackson McDonald, Ernst & Young, Pricewaterhouse Coopers (Melbourne) and Mindfield (branding / marketing consultants).

The Conference was formally opened on the Wednesday evening by the Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC (Minister for Finance, Commerce, Small Business) who congratulated the Schemes on their achievements and the invaluable service they provide for the construction industry.

After a full day of speakers on the Thursday the participants enjoyed a fabulous meal at Millbrook Winery with some very special entertainment provided by a Kylie Minogue tribute act.

During the course of the conference both employee and employer representatives benefited from the expert presentations provided and also the networking with interstate colleagues.

"On an Australia wide basis the combined Schemes cover in excess of 800,000 workers and 58,000 employers and hold ~\$2Bn in investment funds."

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World Plumbing Council, World Green Building Council Sign MoU



STUART HENRY
NEW WPC SECRETARY

Toronto, Ontario, Canada (November 7, 2011) — The World Plumbing Council (WPC) and World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) have agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work together to achieve common objectives toward the conservation of water and energy related to building construction and operation.

The WPC and the WorldGBC acknowledge that sustainability for the built environment presents a great challenge for communities around the world and that buildings account for a significant percentage of the resources, energy and water used globally. The organizations are therefore committed to ensuring the materials and techniques with which buildings are constructed, as well as the systems they incorporate, not only support health, safety and amenity, but also consider the impact they have on the environment and adapt to the changing climate conditions.

The MoU defines a collaborative partnership to achieve the following:

- improved efficiency of buildings in both energy consumption and water usage
- reduction in the greenhouse gas emissions and ecological footprint of buildings
- adaptation of construction outcomes to regional climate changes

- development of capacity in all phases of design, construction and maintenance to realize these goals.

The MoU was signed by WPC Chairman GP Russ Chaney and WorldGBC Chairman Tony Arnel prior to the start of the WGBC Congress 2011 – Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 3-4.

"It is quite evident the plumbing industry can make major contributions to water and energy conservation, thus we are committed to this initiative and the many synergies that are present between the WPC and the WorldGBC," Chaney said.

"Plumbing is at the heart of any building and the plumbing industry is at the frontline when it comes to water and energy saving in the built environment. The WorldGBC is delighted to be working together with the WPC to further the global green building agenda", Arnel said.

Founded in 1990, the WPC seeks to unite the world plumbing industry

and promote the role of plumbing in improving public health and safeguarding the environment. It is represented in 24 countries and by 132 member organizations from all sectors of the plumbing industry.

The WorldGBC is a union of national green building councils from around the world, making it the largest international organization influencing the green building marketplace. The WorldGBC's mission is to be the global voice for green building councils and to facilitate the global transformation of the building industry toward sustainability.

"It is quite evident the plumbing industry can make major contributions to water and energy conservation"



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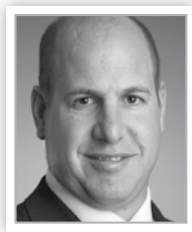
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Building efficiency and water conservation are drivers in the design of new buildings. A well designed plumbing system can offer significant water and energy savings. The Green Star tool allows the benefits of energy and water efficient building to be measured and compared against other similar developments. The Water category in Green Star specifically allows the efficiency of the plumbing system to be measured.

The Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) was developed following the 2000 Sydney Green Games Olympics. These Olympics proved it was possible to construct functional, sustainable green buildings in Australia. In 2002 the GBCA was formed as an independent organisation with a vision to develop green building practices in Australia.

Green Star

The Green Building Council developed the Green Star tool in 2003. It is a national voluntary environmental rating scheme that evaluates the environmental design and construction of buildings. The goal of the Green Star tool is to provide a quantitative frame work to measure

a building against a range of criteria including

- Water Efficiency
- Energy Use
- Materials Selection
- Indoor Environment Quality
- Waste & Emissions Avoidance
- Re-use and Recycling
- Innovations

Points are awarded for compliance to various sections in each criterion. The total points calculated using the Green Star tool will equate to a star rating, the minimum rating being four stars.

75 points achieves a six star rating
60-74 points achieves a five star rating
45-59 points achieves a four star rating

In 2004 the first Green Star accreditation course was held, which has led to more than 15 000 people completing the Green Star course, accredited as Green Star professionals.

Green Star Tools

Green star tools for Australia are based on existing building efficiency tools used by overseas building efficiency systems including the British Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREAM) and the North American Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design system (LEED).

These Green Star tools have been written for Australian conditions, and even state specific conditions. Tools are available for various types of developments, including

- Green Star Office
- Green Star Multi Unit Residential
- Green Star Education
- Green Star Retail
- Green Star Office interior
- Green Star industrial
- Green Star Healthcare

Green Star and plumbing

Each Green Star tool is broken down into nine categories. The main category to effect plumbing installations is the Water Category and to lesser extent the Emissions category. There are five criteria called credits in the Green Star Office tool Water category. The Water Category credits are abbreviated as Wat credits and consist of Wat 1 to Wat 5. The emissions category is abbreviated as EMI credits.

Wat-1 Occupant Amenity Water.

The aim of this credit is to reduce water consumption used for sanitary purposes against an industry best practice benchmark. The points for this credit are calculated using the Green Star Potable Water Calculator, the water calculator is available on the Green Star website. To reduce water consumption and achieve these points water efficient tap ware and sanitary appliances must be specified. The Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS) provides a star rating reflecting the water efficiency of tap ware and sanitary appliances. This is very useful tool when looking for water efficient appliances.

Grey water treatment plants and rain water harvesting plants can assist in reducing the volume of potable water consumed in a building. There is scope in the Potable Water Calculator for Grey Water Treatment plants and rain water harvesting plants.

Although there is no direct reduction in water consumption for using waterless urinals, they allow urinals to be excluded from the Green Star Potable Water Calculator.

There are a total of five points available under in this credit. If a building is to achieve a five or six star rating it will need to include a grey water treatment plant or rain water harvesting plant to maximise the points awarded in this credit.

Wat-2 Water Meters. This credit is to recognise the design of systems that both monitor and manage water consumption.

This is achieved by installing water meters on the water service to areas that consume large volumes of water. These include

- Bathrooms
- Irrigation systems
- Evaporative heat rejection plant
- Wash down plant

There is one point available for providing meters on the water service to areas of large water consumption, the meters must interfacing with the Building Management System (BMS). The BMS system can record the daily water consumption in various areas and alert the building operators if an unusually high volume of water is consumed in an area.

Wat-3 landscape Irrigation. Points in this credit are awarded for reducing the consumption of potable water used for landscape irrigation.

There is one point available for this credit. To reduce the potable water used for irrigation non potable water can be used for irrigation. This can come from a grey water treatment plant, rain water harvesting plant or a bore.

Installing a Xeriscape garden, that is a garden that does not requiring watering is an alternative way to get the point from this credit.

If there is no landscaping at the site or the landscaped area represents less than 1% of the site, this point is not applicable and not included in the points available when calculating the Water category score.

Wat-4 Heat Rejection Water. This credit awards points for designs that reduce potable wastewater consumption from heat rejection systems.

Two points are awarded where the potable water consumed by a water based heat rejection system is reduced by 50%. Four points are awarded when potable water is consumed by the heat rejection system and reduced by 90%, or no water based heat rejection systems are provided.

To achieve these points input and coordination is required with the project mechanical engineer, as ultimately they will decide on the design of the heat rejection plant.

"The goal of the Green Star tool is to provide a quantitative frame work to measure a building against a range of criteria"

Case Study

2 Victoria Avenue, Perth Western, Australia, Perth's First six star Green Star certified building using the Green Star Office Tool:

- 7500 square metres of office
- Total Green Star Points achieved: **75**



Green Star Points achieved as a result of plumbing systems 12, Sustainable Initiatives include:

- The grey water treatment plant,
- Rain water harvesting plant
- Specification of water efficient tap ware and sanitary appliances, these provide an annual saving of 4 450 Kilo litres of potable water.
- Water meters with BMS interface on the water service to areas of large water consumption i.e. bathrooms
- Architects Woodhead
- Developers Stockland
- Green Star Engineer AECOM

Wat-5 Fire System Consumption.

The aim of this credit is to recognise fire system designs that reduce the consumption of potable water for the building's fire protection system.

There is one point available in this credit; it is awarded when there is storage for 80% of the routine fire protection system test water and maintenance drain downs. Individual floors must be fitted with fire sprinkler isolation valves so that each floor to be isolated for testing or the fire protection system does not use water.

EMI – 5 Water Course Pollution. This credit recognises stormwater designs that minimise stormwater runoff to and pollution of natural water courses. Three points are available for this credit

Points are awarded where the post development peak 1.5 year storm occurrence interval event discharge from the site does not exceed the predevelopment event stormwater discharge. The stormwater discharge must meet pollution targets, this is dependent on the pollutants present.

EMI – 6 Discharge to Sewer.

This credit aims to minimise discharge to the Authorities sewer system, and is closely linked to the Water Category. A total of four points are available under this credit. Points are awarded for percentage reduction of overflows compared to an average practice benchmark.

Green Star is a valuable tool for developers and engineers when as it provides formal recognition of the efficiency of a building. Large corporations and Australian governments will now only occupy buildings with a formal Green Star certification.

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Product News

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details, so they can process payments simultaneously from different locations. To find how you can get eVolve, contact MPGA membership services on 9471 6661.

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Developments in hand protection

In a move designed to encourage workers to observe hand protection procedures in the workplace, Ansell has developed a technique that creates relief zones in the glove structure. Called 'Zonz™ Knit Technology' Ansell says this new liner knitting technology reduces hand fatigue by providing stress release in the knuckle area through a patented knitting process with a varying stitch design that enhances glove stretch for maximum flexibility and dexterity. Comfort is also enhanced by an additional knitting process that drops down the little finger. With the upper palm portion below the middle-three fingers knitted separately from the rest of the palm, and the little finger joint mounted lower than the rest, independent movements are enhanced resulting in a better-fitted glove.



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For more information, please contact:

Mitchell Mackey, Marketing Manager, Occupational Healthcare, Australia and New Zealand

Customer Service: 1800 337 041

Email: protection@ap.ansell.com

Web: www.ansell.com.au or www.ansellasiapacific.com

RIDGID CS 10 Digital Recording Monitor



The RIDGID SeeSnake CS 10 Monitor combines RIDGID durability with the easiest to use Digital Recording Monitor in the industry. One touch recording allows you to record snapshots and video to a USB Thumbdrive, and then hand it directly to your customer.

USB Thumb Drive Recording lets you record digitally into a format that your customer can read on their computer.

12.1" Daylight Readable Display allows you to easily monitor and record inspections in bright outdoor environments.

Multi Mode Recording lets you take snapshots, record full frame video and record in a lean video format called Auto-log (small files)

Specifications

Weight - 12.2lbs./5.5kg

Display - 12.1" Daylight Readable LCD

Power - 1 or 2 RIDGID 18V Batteries (optional) or AC Plug

Ridge Tool (Australia) Pty Ltd
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phone 03 9930 7000 fax 03 8339 2511
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Twelve Simple Health Tips



DR. JOE KOSTERICH
www.drjoe.net.au

"Your health is predominantly a function of what you do each day. Follow these simple tips and you are well on your way to good health."

We all like things that are simple. Here are twelve of the simplest ways to be healthy which are easy and are either free or come at absolutely minimal expense. Whilst you will need to make the effort of applying them there is nothing listed here that you are incapable of.

- 1) **Have a big glass of water before each meal.** Research shows that people doing this will be far more likely to maintain any weight loss. It also helps your daily water intake.
- 2) **Eat slowly.** People who eat quickly are twice as likely to be overweight and those who eat quickly till full, are three times as likely to be overweight.
- 3) **Know your portion size.** Many people complain that they eat "healthy" but still struggle with their weight. Measuring portions means you know exactly how much you are eating and what is required to satisfy your hunger. After a few weeks your eye will become a better judge of what your body needs.
- 4) **Leave the table feeling you can eat more.** The Japanese believe that you should eat till 80% full. They have the longest life expectancy on the planet so we can learn from them.
- 5) **Park your car in the furthest spot at the shopping centre.** Rather than stress about getting a spot near the door, park further away and reduce stress whilst getting a little exercise.
- 6) **Take the stairs.** What is called "incidental" activity is nearly as important as formal exercise so taking the stairs instead of the lift is a great way to do this.
- 7) **Do some slow deep breathing each day.** This is great for helping manage stress. You can take this one step further by doing some slow deep breathing in the fresh air.
- 8) **Eliminate soft drinks and fruit juices from your diet and replace them with water.** Liquid calories comprise 10% of the average calorie intake in Australia and close to 20% in the USA. If you are thirsty the body needs water not sugar. This is the easiest way to cut calories and not feel hungry.
- 9) **Get adequate sleep.** For most people this means eight hours per night. People who get enough sleep function better and studies show that you are less likely to eat too much if you have had enough sleep. Regular exercise also helps you sleep better.
- 10) **Minimize foods, which come from a manufacturing "plant" and maximize food, which come from plants that grow in the ground.**
- 11) **Do some things standing each day to reduce the amount of time spent sitting.** Read the paper standing at the kitchen bench or see if you can stand at your computer.
- 12) **Have fun and laugh.** Laughter is good for your hearts health and you cannot feel stressed when you are laughing. If this does not come naturally find things to laugh at. Almost everything has a funny side if you are prepared to look for it.

Health is made complex and often we are left feeling like there is nothing we can do that will make a difference. Reality could not be further from this.

Your health is predominantly a function of what you do each day. Follow these simple tips and you are well on your way to good health.



LISA BAKER
MLA MEMBER FOR MAYLANDS

Maylands Home Expo and Sustainable Living Fair

On Saturday 15th October MPA Skills along with Lisa Baker, member for Maylands oversaw the 2011 Maylands Home Expo and Sustainable Living Fair. Hosted at the MPA in Maylands, this free event ran from 10am to 3pm and provided theory and practical workshops on a variety of different sustainably living techniques and practices.

They day saw people from the local Maylands community and surrounding suburbs descend upon the Maylands campus and become involved in the activities laid out. MLA Member from Maylands Lisa Baker was a big supporter for the day voicing her opinion on everyday families using practical skills for things such as energy saving.

By hosting children activities, courtesy of Environment House, this allowed for people, parents especially to take the time to listen closely to the exhibitors and what they had to say, as well as participate in the hands on activities such as the Gardening Workshop hosted by Josh Byrne.

By the conclusion of the day it was clear a strong message had been reinforced to all attendees that we all need to start living as best we can in order to provide and maintain a strong sustainable living for the present and future generations.



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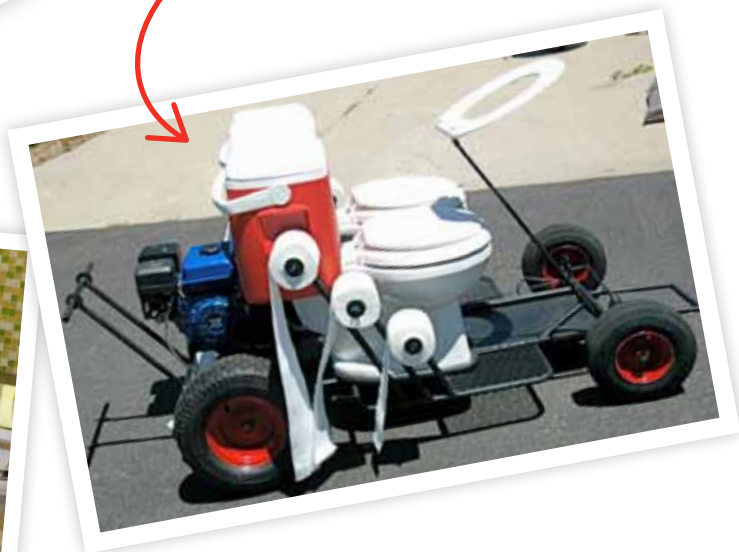
The MPA Group Head Office is relocating to new premises at:

353 Shepperton Road, East Victoria Park WA 6101



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SHARREN HOLT
MANAGER TRAINING & QA

Australian Training Awards 2011

MPA Skills undertakes school based pre-apprenticeship programs and school based apprenticeship programs for the plumbing and painting industries with full time students in Year 11 and 12. The school based programs are currently conducted in partnership with John Forrest Secondary College ("JFSC"), Ursula Frayne Catholic College and St Norbert College.

The MPA Skills and JFSC partnership was recently announced as one of three finalists in the National Focus Category of "School Pathways to VET Award". The National Focus Awards are included in the Australian Training Awards.

The 2011 Australian Training Awards were held in Brisbane on Friday, 25 November 2011.

Plumbing Contractors Licence, Certificate IV in Plumbing & Services and Certificate III in Gasfitting (Non-Apprenticeship Pathway):

Registrations are currently being taken for 2012 for the above courses

To register please contact Linda, Kirsty or Constance in Advanced Training on (08) 9471 6600.

Short Business Courses:

In 2012 MPA Skills will be offering a wide range of short courses to suit the growing needs of business professionals to assist you in the day-to-day running of your business such as Debt Collection, Financial Management, Job Safety Analysis, Australian Standards, Contracts and Tenders, Customer Services, Negotiation, Communication, Conflict

Management, Payroll, Supervisory Skills, MYOB, Excel, Outlook, Reticulation / Irrigation Industry, GST and BAS Workshop

To register for any of the above courses, please contact Linda, Kirsty or Constance in Advanced Training on (08) 9471 6600.

Congratulations to:

- Dylan Boswood
- Reuben Boudville
- Byron Castel
- Matison Dalwood
- Jesse Davies
- Richard Fremlin
- Jack Garrett
- Julian Moon
- Matthew Mort
- William Thomas

We hope to see you in at training soon.

Sharren Holt

Manager, Training & QA

Congratulations to Kenneth Martin

Congratulations to Kenneth Martin on be awarded Department of Finance Most Outstanding 1st Year Apprentice in the Master Builders Apprentice of the Year Awards 2011. Kenneth received the award in recognition of his standard of workmanship, college results and commitment to successfully completing his apprenticeship. Kenneth lives in the Kimberleys and travels to MPA Skills to undertake his apprenticeship training.

Apprentice Training - Stage 6 Completion Presentations

In August 2011 MPA Skills' conducted a presentation to Stage 6 apprentices who had successfully completed the off-the-job training component of their apprenticeship.

Each apprentice was presented with a Certificate from the Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of Western Australia acknowledging their achievement in successfully completing the off-the-job component of their apprenticeship. Each apprentice was also presented with a Drill Bit Kit which was very kindly donated by Galvins.

The apprentices will be completing their apprenticeship in 2012.



Damian Tabram & Kenneth Martin



WINNER
SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO VET AWARD

www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au



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At time of printing MPA skills won the School Pathways to VET Award. Congratulations to all involved! Further information will be available in Construction & Plumbing March publication.

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BRYCE STEELE
Business Development
Manager

Master Plumbers & Gasfitters WA Association, strength in numbers!

2011 has been a significant year for the Master Plumbers & Gasfitters Association of WA, building a strong membership we have been able to ensure that the voice of our members is heard at both a state and national level.

There has never been a better time to become a member of the Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association, as we aim to deliver benefits to our members that are relevant, of real value and easy to access. In 2012 we are introducing direct debit payment options for both our flimsy service and membership fees. So if you're not already a member NOW is the time to become involved and throw your support behind an association that is working for its members to ensure that the voice of the plumbing and gasfitting industry continues to be heard.

The Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association name and logo is instantly recognisable and synonymous with quality workmanship and integrity. Our members are afforded the

reputation of being a West Australian Master Plumber & Gasfitter. During 2011 the MPGA embarked on a community awareness campaign involving radio and print media, the feedback from our members and the consumer has been positive. This increased the traffic onto our website (www.masterplumbers.asn.au) to our "find a plumber" page that now has over 400 visits per week. This awareness campaign will continue throughout 2012 as part of our strategic direction and plan.

Plans for 2012 are coming together; we will again be embarking on our regional visits with a view of having the industry regulators involved in our trade shows and industry forums. The MPGA website will continue to be the source for what is happening within the West Australian plumbing and gasfitting industry. In addition to this we will have all the benefits and advice available that are required to run a successful plumbing business.

Finally I would like to take the opportunity to thank our valued industry partners, without their support 2011 would not have been the success that it was. We have endeavored to meet and deliver their expectations and look forward to their continued support in 2012!

To our current members, sponsors and all the MPGA, I wish you a safe and happy Christmas and a successful 2012.

Regards,

Bryce Steele

Business Development Manager

"NOW is the time to become involved and throw your support behind an association who is working for its members to ensure that the voice of the plumbing and gasfitting industry continues to be heard."



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MERRY CHRISTMAS!



THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF AT MASTER PLUMBERS & GASFITTERS ASSOCIATION OF WA WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND BEST WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN IN 2012!

The MPGA office will be closed from COB Friday 16 December 2011 and re-opening on Tuesday 3 January 2012. There will be skeleton staff on over this period for flimsy services only.

Please call (08)9471 6670 or fax your request to (08)9471 6663.

MPGA FLIMSY OPERATING HOURS OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Monday 19 December - 8 am to 4.30 pm

Tuesday 20 December - 8 am to 4.30 pm

Wednesday 21 December - 8 am to 4.30 pm

Thursday 22 December - 8 am to 4.30 pm

Friday 23 December - 8 am to 12 noon

Flimsy will be closed completely between Christmas and New Year, re-opening on 3 January 2012.

The Water Corporation Services remain open and can be contacted on 13 13 95.



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