

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRAINING NEWS

The latest news on training in the building and construction industry

DEC 2018 #98



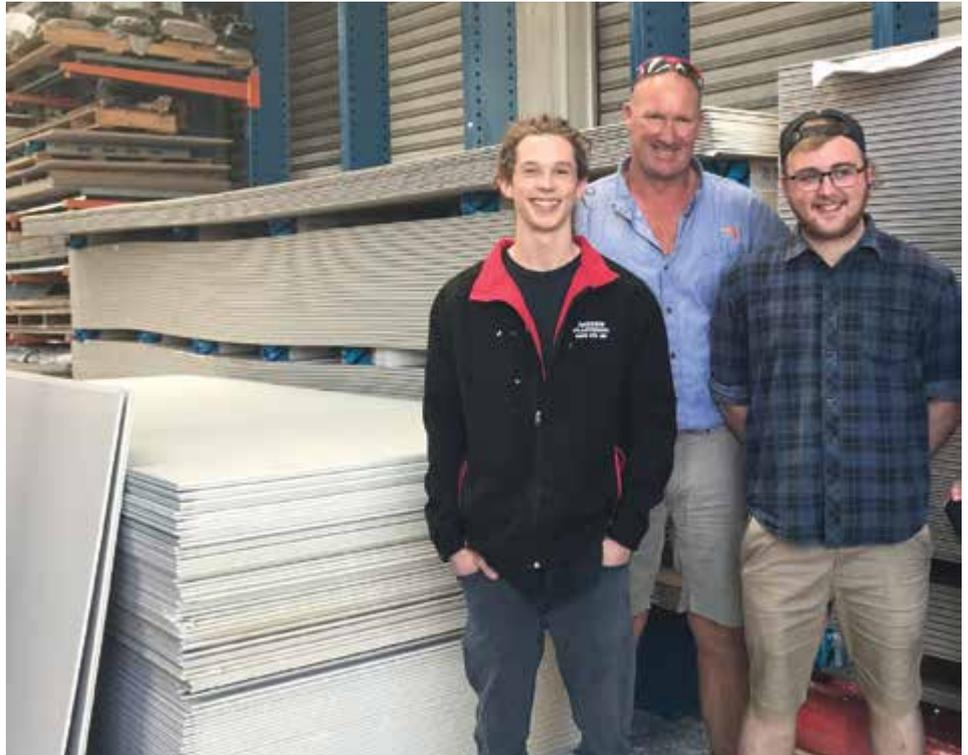
TBCITB

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

THE TBCITB WILL CLOSE FOR THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR BREAK AT NOON ON FRIDAY 21 DECEMBER AND REOPEN ON MONDAY 7 JANUARY.



From left, Mitchell Stephen, Andrew Scott and William Browne at Brock Plaster.

TASTAFE APPRENTICES WIN AUSTRALASIAN PLASTERING COMPETITION

TWO Tasmanian trained plastering apprentices have taken out the gold at an Australasian plastering competition.

In late October, Mitchell Stephen and William Browne won the Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries (AWCI) Australia and New Zealand 2018 Apprentice Skills Challenge held in Perth, Western Australia.

It is the seventh time in the past eight years that Tasmanian plastering apprentices trained at TasTAFE have won the competition.

Mitchell, who also won gold in plastering at the WorldSkills Australia National Competitions in June, works at Darren's

Plastering and William works at Tasmanian Professional Plaster.

TasTAFE plastering teachers Warren Banks and Andrew Scott have trained all of the seven winning teams.

Both Mitchell and William are undertaking a Certificate III in Plastering and have done their apprentice training at TasTAFE's Clarence Campus.

During the competition, they went up against apprentices from all states of Australia and New Zealand.

They had to complete a project which involved a metal stud structure built to

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BACHELOR OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

THE Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board (TBCITB) and the University of Newcastle has the following questions to ask:

- Do you have trade qualification (Certificate III/IV or Diploma) and want to upskill in order to get a Construction Management Degree?
- Do you want to be a fully accredited construction professional in either construction management, quantity surveying or building surveying?
- And do you want to work and study in Tasmania?

While the questions are quite specific, the broad answer is that they can all be achieved through a Bachelor of Construction Management with the University of Newcastle. The program is supported by the TBCITB.

Students benefit from monthly face-to-

face tutorials in addition to online delivery.

Dr Marcus Jefferies, Senior Lecturer at the university's School of Architecture and Built Environment, said **employment opportunities for construction managers in Australia were excellent.**

"In 2017, 92 per cent of University of Newcastle construction management graduates had a job within four months of graduating," he said.

"Our graduates work for major construction companies like LendLease, Brookfield Multiplex, Theiss, John Holland, Hansen Yunken, Leighton Contractors, Laing O'Rourke and many sub-contracting organisations. They are also employed at various level of State and Local Government.

"The average starting salary for a construction manager is more than \$89,000 which escalates quickly when qualifications are combined with experience."

Marcus said the **Australian construction industry was "massive" and continued to grow.**

"The industry employs more than one million people, accounting for about nine per cent of the country's total workforce and contributes nearly eight per cent of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP)," he said.

Importantly, the University of Newcastle degree program directly reflects the needs of industry, across the full spectrum of construction management roles, covering:

- Building information modelling (BIM)
- Building surveying
- Communication
- Construction ecology
- Construction technology
- Contract management
- Economics
- Facilities management
- Finance

- Health and safety
- Law
- Management
- Procurement
- Tendering and estimating

Marcus said graduates could work in the following roles:

- Building surveyor
- Certifier
- Construction manager
- Contracts administrator
- Estimator
- Facilities manager
- Project manager
- Property developer
- Quantity surveyor

On successful completion of the program, and as well as being awarded a Bachelors Honours Degree in Construction Management, students also receive accreditation from the following professional bodies:

- Australian Institute of Building (AIB)
- Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS)
- Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (AIBS)
- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)

For more details on the program and information on how to apply, please visit the following link:

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/degrees/bachelor-of-construction-management-building-honours/handbook>

For more information, please contact Dr Marcus Jefferies on telephone (02) 4921 6737 or email marcus.jefferies@newcastle.edu.au.

TASSIE BUILDERS TAKE HOME GOLD

FROM FRONT PAGE

standards, specifications and plans, which included a stepped ceiling and two niches in walls.

They said it was a surprise to win, but they felt their teamwork had helped them take home the award.

"As Tasmanian plasterers, we do a bit of everything compared to mainlanders, where one will trowel, one will screw," William said.

"They do separate things and they get stuck on it forever, whereas we get to do different things all the time."

Mitchell said it was definitely a more diverse trade in Tasmania.

"Especially in regards to what we have to do and what's expected of us down here," he said.



Krause Construction has added waterproofing to its company skillset.

SEALING THE KNOWLEDGE GAP

WHETHER you live in an old or brand-new house, no one wants a leak, Krause Construction director Alex Krause says.

“A new bathroom generally costs from \$10,000 to \$15,000 but, if not done correctly, it will cost an additional \$20,000 to fix,” he said.

“As a builder, our waterproofing work is done by a tiler, but it is important to know the basics of waterproofing and what is expected of us.

“If a seal is penetrated during an installation of a shower or toilet, then it is our responsibility to fix it and make sure the job is done correctly.”

Based out of Riverside in the state’s north, Krause Construction is a locally owned and operated building company specialising in new homes, home extensions, home renovations, bathrooms, decks, pergolas, brick and masonry.

To keep up to date with current industry

standards and top up his CPD points, Alex joined several building and construction participants in a three-hour Waterproofing – Wet Areas training course in October.

The course, which was funded by the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board, gave an overview of the application of waterproofing products to domestic internal wet areas, such as bathrooms and kitchens.

It covered the application processes, product types, surface area calculations, industry standards and coverage requirements for waterproofing membrane and associated products.

Alex, who had participated in a similar course several years previously, said this was one of the “best courses to date.”

“This was a really good and thorough training course,” he said.

“A lot has changed in waterproofing regulations since I last did the training, so

it was a valuable update on the current standards and what is expected of us.

“The course presenter was also an inspector, so it was good to get an idea of what they look for.

“Waterproofing is a very specialised field, but in every house renovation there is a bathroom, ensuite or kitchen installation – it’s important that everyone is on the same page.

“This is one of the better courses I’ve done to date and I would recommend it to any builder.”

A week following the training course, Alex was already able to put his new qualification to good use.

“I went back to a job we were working on and made sure everything was up to standard and aligned with the new training,” he said.

“I plan to do another refresher waterproofing course in a couple years – you learn something new every time.”

STAYING ON TOP OF THE GAME

STAYING on top of new technology and developments is a must for VOS Construction and Joinery.

That is why the Tasmanian construction company recently enrolled three of its employees in a Cubit Fundamentals and Intermediate Training course, with funding assistance provided by the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board.

Delivered in Melbourne over two days, the course covered the basic usage of Cubit, a specialised estimating system that combines estimating and takeoff in one software package.

With features including natural estimating, 3D takeoff, referencing, price lists, job analysis, automatic plan revisions and reporting, the software offers an all-in-one solution for estimating building and construction projects.

Joel Hall, who was among those to complete the training, is required to use Cubit on a daily basis in his role as an estimator and project manager at VOS Construction and Joinery.

Mr Hall said he had only known the basic features on Cubit and wanted to expand his knowledge and skillset.

“Compared to using a hand and scale ruler, Cubit greatly increases the speed and accuracy of doing estimates,” he said.

“Knowing how to fully utilise Cubit means I have more time to complete additional estimates, improving productivity and giving the company opportunity to pick up more work.

“Whereas previously we only used Cubit for quantities, we have also now been able to utilise the rate costs and labour costing included in the software.”

Mr Hall said his new knowledge has already proved useful and that he would recommend the training to anyone who is required to use the software.

“The course was very useful for what I use Cubit for and the instructor was very thorough and went through any issues we had step-by-step,” he said.

“The course covered everything I needed and unless any major changes are introduced, I will only need to watch the webinar sessions for any updates or additional information.”



CALLS FOR BIM TASKFORCE

A WORKSHOP in Hobart has called for the establishment of a Building Information Modelling (BIM) taskforce to progress the implementation of the technology in Tasmania.

It also identified the need for a range of training programs from awareness through to formal training and marketing to improve BIM understanding among stakeholders and the broader community.

The forum’s keynote speaker was John Mitchell, a board member of buildingSMART, a not-for-profit industry group internationally developing openBIM standards, and locally comprising organisations committed to seeing BIM adopted nationally.

John said it was important that government took a leading role in promoting and supporting BIM technology in Tasmania.

“The industry and government need to understand that this is an important issue,” he said.

“And they need to get together and work together, implementing a shared strategic plan for adoption.

“It represents a real opportunity to build a bridge between government and industry for community benefit.”

John said BIM had “been around” since the 1990s, but it was not until the late 2000s that the software began to mature

internationally.

“It was taken up rapidly by all of the major building disciplines, and lately it has been adopted by the infrastructure community and is starting to be linked with IoT technologies to model our cities,” he said.

“BIM can deliver improvements and benefits throughout the life cycle of an asset – time, cost, reliability, quality and safety performance.”

John said BuildingSMART was working to link with various industry groups across Australia and would assist Tasmania in 2019 as part of a national BIM events/workshops program.

He noted the establishment of the Australasian BIM Advisory Board (ABAB), a committee which links government with leaders and expertise from industry and academia, and promotes best practice and consistent approaches to BIM practices, standards, and requirements.

John said the key ABAB objective was a nationally consistent approach to the adoption of BIM across all jurisdictions.

“While the Tasmanian industry could do a lot more in this space at the moment, practically speaking it was not that far behind other states,” he said.

“All the states except Tasmania are represented on ABAB. That board wants to establish, across the whole of Australasia, common BIM standards.”

PREPPING APPRENTICES FOR THE FUTURE

CLARKES Painting Services knows firsthand the importance of taking on and preparing apprentices for a future in the building and construction industry.

Since it started operation in 1968, the Latrobe-based business – which offers full commercial and industrial painting, sandblasting and protecting painting services across the state – has taken on nearly 50 apprentices.

“We try and take on at least one apprentice every year and are planning to take on two in 2019,” Clarkes Painting Services contracts manager and estimator Jade Clarke said.

“The main motivation for us is to continue helping people enter the industry and get them developing skills for the future.

“We generally keep on all of our apprentices once they’ve completed their studies.”

But a lot goes into training an apprentice and the costs eventually add up, Jade says.

“Apprentices need to complete a lot of training courses, including such things as working safely at heights and first aid,” he said.

“In reality, it costs us around \$40,000 to train an apprentice from start to finish.”

By taking on apprentice Wayne Mason in 2016, Clarkes Painting Services was eligible for the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board’s (TBCITB) Apprentice Upskilling Program available at that time.

Wayne recently completed his Certificate III in Painting and Decorating and is now fully employed at the business as a painter and decorator leading hand.

Wayne said it was good to hold an official qualification.

“I’ve always been interested in carpentry, painting and decorating – being able to revive something old and make it look good again,” he said.

“So, when Jade offered me the upskilling apprenticeship, I was more than happy to take it on.

“Although I never really had an interest in school, it was good to do something different for a while and I took away a few



Wayne Mason, who recently completed his Certificate III in Painting and Decorating.

new skills such as traditional finishes, which will come in handy if I ever get into heritage work in the future.”

Jade said prior to completing his Certificate III, Wayne had been employed as a labourer and brush hand before the business decided to upskill him.

“Wayne’s done a really good job and adapted well to going back to school,” he said.

“Not having the training incentive wouldn’t

have kept us from taking on apprentices, but it does help us out – it doesn’t cover all the costs, but it goes a long way in easing the financial stress.

“It’s important to have these kinds of incentives available to encourage business to make that commitment.”

TBCITB apprenticeship incentive payments are in addition to government incentives also available for employing new apprentices in the building and construction industry.

INFRASTRUCTURE PIPELINE DOCUMENT HELPING PLANNING



PROJECTED infrastructure spending in 2018/19 is expected to reach \$1.57 billion, the CEO of Infrastructure Tasmania, Allan Garcia, says.

Speaking at the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board's (TBCITB) annual public meeting recently, he said this figure compared very favourably to spending of \$1.32 billion in 2016/17.

"Infrastructure Tasmania prepared the first Tasmanian Infrastructure Project Pipeline to assist industry in decision making and resourcing," he said.

"The pipeline features a list of committed projects worth more than \$5 million focused on economic infrastructure covering roads, energy generation, water and sewerage, airports, ports, irrigation, rail and communication.

"It also includes social infrastructure including housing, health, education and justice."

Allan said it was important to note that the

items identified in the pipeline document were not wish lists – they were actual projects that had been committed to that would be built over the next decade.

"There are many benefits to publishing an infrastructure pipeline document," he said.

"Those who want to invest in the state can see what is going on in the public space – where and when to invest.

"It can help in resourcing – with an uplift in infrastructure spending we are already seeing that we have our book full.

"It will also help agencies to look over the fence and see what is going on – first time to see what other utilities are doing or what is happening in the civil space."

TBCITB chief executive officer Simon Cocker said the building and construction industry had been calling for a pipeline document like this to be published for some time.

"It is important to have this sort of document for workforce planning," he said.

"Industry needs to match up the workforce with the work that is available.

"But it does require bipartisan support, so if there is a change of government industry wants to see the pipeline document maintained."

The pipeline document is available to read at the link below:

https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/infrastructure_tasmania/tasmanian_infrastructure_project_pipeline_2018

INDUSTRY-FUNDED TRAINING VITAL

THE Building and Construction Industry Training Fund and Levy administered by the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board was established to improve and develop industry training.

The Training Levy payable by industry participants is 0.2 per cent of the estimated value of building or construction work worth more than \$20,000.

The definition of building and construction work under the Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Act is very broad and includes the erection, extension, repair, resurfacing or alteration of buildings, structures, water and sewerage works, dams, roads, tunnels, piers, jetties, docks, silos, masts and demolition work.

The Training Levy must be paid prior to commencement of work.

For work requiring a Building Permit, the Training Levy must be paid to the relevant council prior to approval.

For Notifiable Work, a building surveyor will need to sight a Training Levy payment receipt before authorising work to start.

For building work deemed low risk, and all other work not requiring a Building Permit, the builder/project owner must pay the Training Levy directly to the TBCITB prior to commencement of work.

Options for paying the Training Levy to TBCITB include direct funds transfer and credit card. On confirmation of receipt of the funds, the Board will issue a receipt. Further details and assistance with these may be found at www.tbcitb.com.au or by calling the Board during business hours on 6223 7804.

Failure to pay the Training Levy is an offence under the Act with a penalty payable that is the sum of twice the amount of the levy and a fine not exceeding 50 penalty points.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

THE Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board (TBCITB) wants to increase the circulation of its newsletter among building and construction industry participants by developing an email contact list.

While there are no plans to stop printing the TBCITB Training News that is distributed four times a year, distributing an electronic copy of the newsletter – in addition to the hard copies – allows recipients to easily distribute it to their colleagues.

If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of the newsletter by email, which you could then forward to other people in your business and others with an interest in building and construction industry training, please send your email details to email@tbcitb.com.au.