

NEW ZEALAND

building today

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE REGISTERED MASTER BUILDERS FEDERATION

MAY 2006
VOL 16 NO 4



Builder licensing takes off at RMBF Conference



Win a Makita
circular saw!

MAY 2006 | VOL 16 NO. 4

inside this issue

RMBF News p4-17

RMBF Conference review, Builder licensing, House of the Year profiles

Industry News p18-19

Health & Safety in licensing

Vehicles p20-21

Ford's latest offering

E-BT p22

Steel

p24-25

Product News p27

BCITO News p28

Columnists p29-30

Builders Tips p31

Win a Makita circular saw! Page 5



building today

Builder licensing has officially been launched, with Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove revealing to registered master builders at their conference in Queenstown further details of just how the new system will work.

There's plenty of work to be done, of course, but the phased implementation of what Mr Cosgrove called the "most profound change in New Zealand's construction industry" is a commonsense and practical approach, according to RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout.

We also have industry reaction from CIC chief executive John Pfahlert and ADNZ past president Colin Hill.

Plus a review of and pics from what was the best attended conference ever. See you all in New Plymouth next year!

Andrew Darlington
Editor



RMBF builder Allister Saville accompanies Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove on a site visit in Queenstown.

cover story p6-7

Publisher: Taurean Publications Ltd,

P O Box 35 343, Browns Bay

Top Floor, 39 Anzac Road, Browns Bay, Auckland

Editor: Andrew Darlington

Ph: 09 478 4888 Mob: 021 90 11 56 Fax: 09 478 4588

E-mail: andrew@buildingtoday.co.nz

Advertising Manager: Mike Rynne

Ph: 09 426 2436 Mob: 0274 949 064 Fax: 09 478 4588

E-mail: mike@buildingtoday.co.nz

BUILDING TODAY is the official magazine of the Registered Master Builders' Federation.

Advertising statements and editorial opinions expressed in Building Today do not necessarily reflect the views of RMBF members, its executive or committees; or of the chief executive and staff unless expressly stated. Further, the RMBF and members are not liable for any statements made in Building Today unless otherwise stated.

The editor reserves the right to edit, amend or reject copy where necessary. The publisher does not assume any responsibility or liability for any loss or damage which may result from any inaccuracy or omission in this publication, or from the use of the information contained herein. No warranties, express or implied, are made with respect to any of the material contained herein.

1-year subscription: \$56.25 (GST incl). ISSN 1171-0225

MARKHAM

Cure & seal plus flooring protection

Moisture in concrete is always a potential risk where floor coverings are to be installed, especially if curing compounds have also been applied.



AQURON is applied as soon as the concrete is firm enough to walk-on, providing curing assistance, surface hardening, anti-dusting while internally sealing the concrete with a gel formation that "locks up" any free moisture allowing floor coverings to be installed regardless of the moisture readings. AQURON does not require to be removed prior to installation for floor coverings like traditional curing compounds.

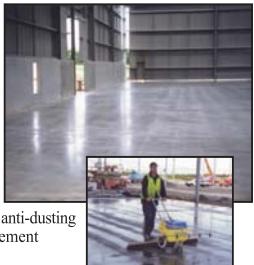
AQURON is a quality controlled supplied and applied treatment with a 15 year guarantee.

For more information, enquire about

**AQURON 2000
MULTI-PURPOSE**

Multi-purpose for warehouses

AQURON is the answer for concrete floors that have been "panned and finished" to a "burnished finish", that require a "light and even" appearance with surface hardening, anti-dusting and sheen enhancement qualities.



AQURON is easily applied to curing concrete as soon as it is firm enough to walk on, to provide complete curing assistance, ensuring even hydration of the concrete and reducing risks of slab curl, shrinkage cracking, surface crazing and delamination. AQURON treated concrete provides an abrasion resistant, easy to clean surface that develops a "sheen" with "use". AQURON is permanent and does not require maintenance, other than regular cleaning and the "more you use it, the better it gets".

For more information, enquire about

**AQURON WAREHOUSE
SYSTEM**

Clear sealers for blocks & masonry

Markham's have the full range of sealers for blocks masonry, with a range for the structural weather-proofing for Stevenson "Dry" blocks.



AQURON Water Repellent is the first application depending on the specifications of the blocks. AQURON Water Repellent can be the final finish as an "invisible" water repellent or can be overcoated with either MARKHAM Satin Sealer for a "wet-look" with a satin seal; or MARKHAM Gloss for a "wet-look" with a gloss or AQURON Low Sheen for a natural look with a sheen.

MARKHAM Satin Sealer is proving popular for the "HONED" concrete block.

For more information, enquire about

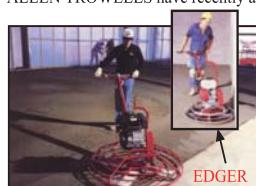
**AQURON MARKHAM
MASONRY SEALERS**

New shipment of concrete machinery

Markham's have just "released" the SMART CONCRETE/DEMOLITION SAW, with a powerful 2 stroke petrol motor making this machine suitable for any work site, requiring no electrical source. This robust power unit and mechanical system is still light-weight and compact making the machine easy to use.



ALLEN TROWELS have recently arrived with all the extras including lifting hooks and adjustable handles. Markhams are offering Term Payment options, cash deals and Trade-in Offers.



For more information, enquire about

**allen
RAZORBACK**

Cheaper steel fibre has landed

Markham's now have a stock of RADIMIX and FIBERCON Steel fibres with some fibre types reduced by up to 25%.



This reduction in cost to the end-user makes the STEEL FIBRES a cost-efficient option to traditional reinforcing. STEELFIBRES save labour and site set-up times while producing a superior concrete with improved compressive and flexural strength, and resistance impacts and cracking.



Markhams also are introducing the RAD55 synthetic structural fibres for the precast industry and for areas where steel corrosion is an issue.

For information or SLAB DESIGN enquire about

FIBERCON

RADIMIX™

Pour longer slabs & comply

ODE requires that slabs longer than 12m are divided by a construction joint. This means pouring in a number of pours.



Quickey is the answer. Allowing the slabs to be poured as one with an "in situ" construction joint, that relieves shrinkage without hidden zones that crack later. Quick and easy-to-erect, it keys the slabs together eliminating up & down movement. Quickey is better than cutting which depends on large induced cracking. Quickey can be used to screed off and has an optional capping for joint sealant.

For more information, enquire about

Quickey™

**CONTROL &
CONSTRUCTION
JOINT SYSTEM**

0800 693 694

chief's chat

by ceo pieter burghout

Queenstown conference proves a hit!

There are two key events we host at a national level each year — one being the House of the Year final gala evening, and the other being our annual conference.

Once again, the Federation showed its strong leadership and passion by putting together an immensely informative and enjoyable conference in Queenstown over the Anzac weekend.

I personally wish to thank all those who attended for proving why we are the best at "building excellence" in the construction sector.

What impressed me the most, perhaps, was the ability of conference delegates to be talking serious business one minute, be roaring with laughter the next and then be socialising and networking to all hours the following minute.

Not only were our guest speakers educational, enlightening and at many times highly humorous, but we also heard from a range of speakers who wanted to give our members the best information to help them succeed in their businesses.

As Mary Haggie from Kensington Swan said: "It's not often you get free advice from a lawyer!"

We had many wins at this conference. Not only did the Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove announce the new licensing system for building practitioners, but we also launched our new book for RMBF members — *Business Best Practice - residential and commercial construction*.

And BRANZ also took the opportunity to launch its own *Sustainable Building Toolkit* publication.

I wish to thank our sponsors for helping make this conference happen, for without their support we wouldn't be able to put on such a spectacular show. I



encourage all of the Federation's members to show your support to them.

The Taranaki RMBA won the Construction Cup for the highest percentage increase in membership — so well done Taranaki!

We were also pleased to announce at the Carters Gala Dinner that Taranaki was the successful host Association for the 2007 conference. Again, well done Taranaki, and we look forward to seeing you all there!

As one first-time attendee at the conference noted to me one afternoon: "I had heard from other members that the conferences can be a bit dull and boring.

"I took the plunge and decided to come to this conference, and it has been absolutely superb.

"If this is how they are going to be in future, then I will definitely be going to the next one, and to the next one after that. It's been a highlight of the year for me and my family so far."

I couldn't have asked for a better endorsement of the work that went into running the conference.

• **More conference news, pages 6 - 9.**

What impressed me the most, perhaps, was the ability of conference delegates to be talking serious business one minute, be roaring with laughter the next and then be socialising and networking to all hours the following minute.



Change, change and more change — but it's all good!

Industry entering a time of unprecedented opportunity for professional builders

By outgoing RMBF
president **Mike Fox**

This will be my last article as president, written before heading to the RMBF's conference in Queenstown, which will be my final official duty.

If there was one phrase that could encapsulate 2005 it would have to be change, change and more change. We have been through a period of unprecedented change, not only within our own organisation but also within the industry itself.

We have been literally running to, first, understand the potential impact of the changes, second, to influence the outcome so it best suits our members and the industry and, third, how we educate and implement the changes in a sustainable way.

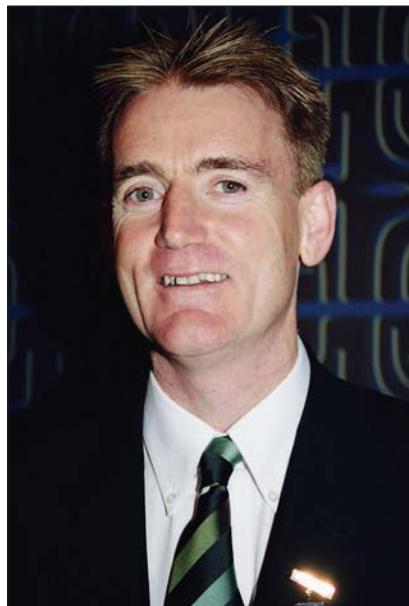
Our view is we have one chance of getting it right as this will shape the industry for the next 20 years.

Going forward, it is certainly going to be a period where the smart get stronger as those that do not wish to embrace the changes will either exit the industry or work for those that are prepared to adapt.

I believe we are entering a period of unprecedented opportunity for professional builders to really show and develop their worth and skills.

The unqualified opportunists who have plagued our industry for decades will no longer have free reign to enter and exit the industry for a quick buck. This will protect the consumer and those professionals in the industry alike.

2005 was a defining year for Registered Master Builders. After a period of sensible consolidation and



RMBF president Mike Fox.

rebuilding under previous chief executive Chris Preston, the board set clear objectives for the next five years.

Let me share their objectives with you as, under the guidance and drive of new chief executive Pieter Burghout, we are well on the way to making these all a reality.

Within five years look for the following from the RMBF:

- Quality RMBF members will lift their share of the market from the current 67% to 80% by value of construction.
- The RMBF will set, construct and help develop best industry practice standards.

The unqualified opportunists who have plagued our industry for decades will no longer have free reign to enter and exit the industry for a quick buck.

- The RMBF will further strengthen its reputation as a quality brand in the eyes of the public and its members.
- The RMBF will offer outstanding service to its members through leadership, networks, camaraderie, a sense of security and access to information and resources.

Our organisation is in great heart with a solid foundation, outstanding staff, leaders and members that will cement our position as the industry leaders out into the future.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow board members, the RMBF staff and the many hundreds of members I have met during the year, for their support and help.

It has been an honour, and an extremely rewarding experience to lead Registered Master Builders through such exciting times.

**Win on-line with
Building Today
and Makita!**



Here's your chance to win a fabulous Makita circular saw!
Just go to the Building Today web site at www.buildingtoday.co.nz, click on the Competitions link and answer two very simple questions to go into the draw.
You can enter the draw for this sleek tool during April and May, with further Makita tools up for grabs in the June and July issues.

RMBF Conference 2006

Cosgrove announces 'most profound' changes

Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove opened the recent RMBF conference in Queenstown by announcing that the Government had officially approved the introduction of a licensing regime for building practitioners.

In what he called perhaps the most profound changes to New Zealand's construction industry in its history, Mr Cosgrove elaborated on the programme ahead, which will be fully in place by 2011, with voluntary uptake beginning late next year.

He anticipated that 28,000 builders, designers and tradespeople will seek licenses.

"It is time to remove the cowboys from the construction industry. Licensing will set benchmark standards of competence, and give the public renewed confidence in the many professional builders who are out there. This is something your industry has needed, wanted and, in fact, demanded," Mr Cosgrove said.

"It means that many (but not all) of those who design and build will need to show they meet a national standard in the work they do."

Mr Cosgrove said from November 2007, 13 license classes will be progressively introduced for people working in certain areas of design and building work.

There will be three licenses for designers, depending on the complexity of buildings being worked upon. Buildings will be classified into three categories.

For example, designers of a Category 1 basic brick or weatherboard house will require a Class 1 design license. Those designing a more complex Category 2 building with monolithic cladding, for example, will require a Class 2 license, and those who design highly complex Category 3 buildings, such as high rises and hospitals, will require a Class 3 design license.

Registered architects and engineers will automatically hold a Class 3 design license and can, therefore, design all three building categories.

Mr Cosgrove said the Government had recognised the importance of having one person responsible for the whole building site. "People who oversee the construction of a building will also need to be licensed. As with the designers, there will be three classes of



Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove.

site license, relating to the category of the building being worked on."

There will be seven licenses for specialist construction trades. These cover concrete structures, steel structures, carpentry, external plastering, roofing, brick and blocklaying, and building services, such as fire protection or air conditioning systems.

These license holders will certify their work, and one person with the appropriate site licence will have overarching responsibility for certifying the whole site.

The license standards and assessment criteria will be approved by the Building Practitioners Board, which is made up of building industry specialists from across the sector.

"You've already seen some of the changes brought in by the new legislation, but I can tell you now that that

"This year is where the rubber will really hit the road, and a whole raft of measures will come in to raise performance across the board,"

has been the warm-up. This year is where the rubber will really hit the road, and a whole raft of measures will come in to raise performance across the board," Mr Cosgrove said.

He also mentioned building sustainability and energy efficiency, saying that a recent report released by the Ministry for the Environment shows so-called "green

buildings" are worth 40% more than conventional buildings, are much cheaper to maintain and are more efficient.

"Yet how many people, when specifying what they want in their new home or refurbishing their existing home, take account of energy usage, water usage and waste disposal? And how many of you in this industry bring it to their attention? We all know the answer — very few do, and I intend to change that.

"So we are working on a fundamental rethink of how buildings perform. We are looking at every aspect of what we should expect from modern buildings, backed up by detailed work on practical, user-friendly standards."

Mr Cosgrove said the Government will determine, in partnership with industry over the coming year, how licenses will be assessed. "But I can assure you that good builders will not be sent back to school, because experience and a good track record will count.

"The Department of Building and Housing will be responsible for issuing licenses. And to ensure the system is transparent and fair, the independent Building Practitioners Board will hear appeals against licensing decisions and complaints against building practitioners."

Annual license costs are likely to be up to \$200, and the initial assessment cost is likely to be between \$250 and \$650, depending on the ease with which an applicant can demonstrate their competence, skills and experience.

Mr Cosgrove said people who don't have a license will still be able to undertake a wide range of building work.

"But the difference is that significant work must be supervised, or done, by licensed people. The license holders will have to sign off that the building work has

been done in compliance with the building consent."

The Minister said the Government had also been very careful about intervening in DIY work, something that is so much a part of the basic Kiwi way of life.

"It is important we look at the whole picture and see that there is a lot of low-risk DIY activity that isn't a problem," he said.

New Zealanders will still be able to do work that doesn't need a building consent, including painting and decorating, maintenance and repair, and building low fences, garden sheds and low decks, and installing new kitchen or bathroom joinery or other internal joinery.

changes in NZ industry's history'

Industry reaction . . .

The Registered Master Builders Federation has endorsed the building practitioner licensing scheme because it will help further strengthen the standards of New Zealand's construction industry.

The scheme will ensure only skilled and competent people can work in the industry, therefore helping improve consumer confidence.

Registered Master Builders has worked closely with the Government and the Department of Building and Housing to develop the builder licensing framework.

We appreciate the way the Government has consulted widely with industry on the details around the scheme and how it should take shape.

A phased implementation of licensing is a commonsense and practical approach. This will enable regulators and the building industry to balance the pressures of implementing the scheme while



Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Pieter Burghout

managing the associated compliance costs.

The RMBF has also welcomed the inclusion of licensing assessments which will recognise people's existing skills, and programmes to help builders prepare for the changes.

Mr Burghout said the RMBF understands the Government's rationale behind its decision to continue to allow some DIY work on the structure and exterior of buildings.

However, the Federation will continue to encourage home owners to have any work on the structure and exterior of buildings done by a licensed building practitioner to ensure they receive as much protection as possible. Our preference is not to see this protection diluted.

There is a lot of work to do to get the licensing regime in place, and the RMBF is looking forward to working with the Government and the Department of Building and Housing on the next phase of implementation.

Architectural Designers New Zealand (ADNZ) past president Colin Hill says his organisation supports the licensing of the building practitioners regime.

The ADNZ has been closely involved in the consultation process with the Department of Building and Housing.

The licensing of designers and certain trades, along with the increased levels of education required to meet the licence standards, will raise the level of consumer confidence in the building industry.

These changes mark a very important development in construction in this country — they will be good for the industry itself and for consumers, who must always be our focus.

The days of cowboys in the building sector are clearly numbered. Licensing represents the next step towards improved construction standards in New Zealand.

I'm sure the public will welcome the news that after 2009, when the regime is implemented, there will be an architectural designer or engineer taking responsibility for the design of every new house, and one licensed builder taking responsibility for the construction work.

The new regime will hold designers and builders of houses accountable in a manner which will ensure that higher standards of construction are achieved.

The industry is still concerned that the new regime could



New Zealand Construction Industry Council chairman John Pfahlert

potentially allow for substantial modifications to be made to a house by a "do-it-yourself" builder without any supervision.

However, the new regime will require a licensed professional to oversee all new home construction and most major additions to existing houses, which together account for the vast majority of construction activity.

The Construction Industry Council is still looking for a firm government commitment that soon after 2009 it will become mandatory for all builders to hold a qualification in building suited to their area of expertise.

This step will cement a culture of professionalism and ongoing education into the sector — something that has been missing for some years.

RMBF Conference 2006

Conference had it all!

By Building Today editor
Andrew Darlington

One of the most important announcements in New Zealand construction history, a team of expert speakers imparting essential industry information, a fantastic location for serious and social activities and a record number of delegates, partners and kids — the 2006 RMBF conference had it all!

And that's not forgetting a generously donated chunk of cash — \$20,000 which was raised at the opening night's Southern Welcome Party at the Skyline Restaurant — for local hospices.

A quick look at the numbers for the 2005 conference in the Bay of Islands and this year's event in Queenstown bears comparison:

- Delegates: 120 (2005), 140 (2006)
- Partners: 85 (2005), 102 (2006)
- Children: 38 (2005), 50 (2006)
- Sponsors: 45 (2005), 50 including 35 stands (2006).

The timely announcement regarding builder licensing was the main news to come out of the conference, but the fact that Minister for Building Issues Clayton Cosgrove chose to unveil this important information at the RMBF's annual conference confirms the leading status the organisation holds in the New Zealand construction industry.

The Minister then undertook a site visit in one of Queenstown's booming new residential areas with registered master builder Allister Saville which earned valuable prime time exposure for the RMBF on both *One News* and *TV3 News* bulletins that night.

Delegates at the conference would have gleaned a wealth of knowledge on essential topical issues such as sustainable building, business best practice and how to position their business during the country's slowing economy.

Insurance, legal and safety issues were also highlighted, along with a general overview of upcoming legislation from Department of Building and Housing chief executive Katrina Bach.

Mike Fox handed over the presidency to stalwart registered master builder Ashley Hartley from Hawke's Bay to bring the Wellington man's tenure to an end before the social highlight of the conference got underway — the Carters Gala Dinner.



Outgoing RMBF president Mike Fox (right) hands over the reins to Ashley Hartley.

The first job for every table was a touch of gingerbread house "decorating and refurbishment" (see separate story) before the entertainment for the night began.

It was provided by XSet — a chameleon-like outfit who, worryingly for this party-goer, began their set without guitars.

They soon swung into real action though — first as the Bee Gees! Then Elton John! Then Elvis made an appearance! Then Freddie Mercury popped in! Every time you turned around another rock legend was up on stage! It made for a cracking good night and a highly entertaining all round.

Confirmation that these conferences just get better and better came from Simon and Belinda Barber of Wellington. They attended their first conference in Paihia last year and told *Building Today* at the time that it certainly wouldn't be their last.

When I spoke to them again this year they both agreed that Queenstown was even better overall — from the excellent speakers to the fact that they knew more delegates second time around and found it rewarding to catch up with friends and acquaintances from last year.

So roll on New Plymouth, where the Taranaki RMBA will be hosting Conference 2007!



Even Elvis made an appearance!

Generous builders!

The RMBF raised \$20,000 from a charity auction at the conference to go to Hospice Southland and Hospice Otago.

Among the prizes donated were a half page of advertising from *Building Today*, two nights for two at the Sofitel Hotel in Queenstown, dozens of oysters, a hot air balloon ride, travel vouchers, Super 12 rugby match tickets and jerseys, a mobile phone, hotel dinners and DeWalt cordless drills.

Hospice Southland chief executive Nicky Kitson was on hand to accept a cheque from RMBF president Mike Fox (below).



Beer the familiar inspiration behind dinner construction!



Icing and cake decorating skills were put to the test at the Carters Gala Dinner at the RMBF conference in Queenstown.

At each table were placed icing and various confectionery items with which to decorate a gingerbread house cake.

Of course, "outside the square" thinkers that registered master builders and their partners are, saw ingenious close-at-hand props utilised on some tables, including hotel pot plants and shrubbery which completely took over the whole of one particular table, and even a Carters promotional banner and stand on another.

However, the winning table came up with a localised theme for its embellishment — a Speights Ale House which sufficiently impressed the judges on the night.

The delegates, who won six hampers full of goodies, were Shannon and Patria Moyle, Rod Norman and Karen Staples, Greg Law and Carmel Kendrick, Mark and Jacqui Kopke, and Marsha and Ada Stevens.

And it was the lucky Carmel who was drawn out from the above names to win \$1000 worth of travel, courtesy of Carters.

Congratulations.



The Winstone Wallboards Partners Tour included an excursion on the TSS Earnslaw across Lake Whakatipu to Walter Peak Station for a BBQ lunch. Pictured, from left, are: Terry Bell (Winstone Wallboards national industry liaison manager), Vicki Popham (Southland RMBA), Lianne Cooper and Tracey Leith (Gore RMBA) and Desiree Crooks (Otago RMBA).

Record turn out of next generation 'builders'!



The Mico Kids Club was again immensely popular, with a record 50 turning out in Queenstown, further enhancing the family focus the RMBF places on its annual conferences.

All the children, who are seen here separated into older (above) and younger (below) groups, received Mico jackets and back packs.

They are pictured on the second day of the Kids Club when they lined up for the Adventure Duck, went mini golfing and then travelled up Queenstown's famous gondola to the Skyline for lunch and unlimited "lugging" for the older kids and other activities for the younger ones.



Zip Level

Zip Level

Zip Level



No. 1 Elevation Measurement System

ENORMOUS TIME SAVING AND ONE-PERSON OPERATION

- Small. Light. Rugged
- Accurate to 2mm
- Measure around corners, behind trees, down holes
- Clear digital display
- Unlimited range

Phone:
03 377 9949



Fax:
03 377 9948

MODUPAC STACKABLE SITE OFFICES



With container strength construction and 75mm EPS insulated walls, these units are ideally suited as site offices.

Featuring:

- Forklift and crane ports
- Stackable to FOUR high
- Size 5970 x 2300 x 2591
- Includes distribution box, lighting and sockets

Kitset or fully built options for sale from \$7500 + GST, or lease from \$60 + GST per week

Phone: 06 834 0445 or mobile 021 488 777
www.modupac.com



www.miteknz.co.nz

LUMBERLOK® FLEXIBRACE



Screw Fixed

- Complies with NZS3604:1999 Section 8
- Eleven configurations quick and easy to install
- Achieves excellent bracing units in restricted wall spaces
- Eliminates need for plywood sheathing
- Can be used in conjunction with 10mm Gib® Standard plasterboard or as stand alone brace system
- Can be retro fit to wall panel

Available through leading Building Supply Merchants throughout New Zealand



MiTek New Zealand Ltd.

HOME OF GANG-NAIL® BUILDING SYSTEMS

New president to focus on industry leadership

New RMBF president Ashley Hartley wants to see the organisation take a more active leadership role.

He sees the RMBF as being the preferred industry association for building practitioners throughout New Zealand, recognised by the public as the provider of quality, solution-driven construction.

"I want to ensure that all registered master builders are true professionals, using recognised standards and sample guidelines as set by the RMBF," Mr Hartley says.

A resident of the Hawke's Bay and general manager of Gemco Construction Ltd, Mr Hartley is looking forward to the challenge of overseeing New Zealand's largest construction industry organisation with a 105 year legacy.

A former vice-president and a registered master builder for almost 30 years, Mr Hartley says there are some big issues facing the construction industry.

"Builders need to be able to respond to changing



New RMBF president Ashley Hartley

economic conditions which will vary from region to region. Licensing will require us to embrace and upskill through continuing professional development, and all builders will need to engage in best practice by keeping up to date with changes to the Building Code and standards," he says.

Mr Hartley is appreciative of the lengths the Department of Building and Housing has gone to in consulting with the Registered Master Builders Federation and other interested groups.

"For licensing to work properly it is essential that it applies across all building categories and the component parts of the industry, and not just concentrate on one or two."

"In order to grow and strengthen the industry overall, it is important that quality training is provided for young people at the trade, quantity surveying and management level. Careers in the construction industry must be viewed as a viable and attractive alternative to university."

In addition, individual businesses need to integrate health and safety into day-to-day business operations and not just a minimum 'add on'.

"I get a great sense of satisfaction from passing on knowledge that I have gained over the past 30 years as a registered master builder, and look forward to working more closely with the membership."





- Protection for roof surfaces
- Modular system
- Easy to install
- Non-slip surface
- UV-resistant
- Rooftop safety
- Portable — easy relocation
- Maintenance-free
- Wide range of applications
- Colour options

Showroom: Harold St, Mt Eden, Auckland
web site: www.boardwalk.co.nz

P O Box 108 171, Symonds St, Auckland
 Phone 09 638 8278 Fax 09 638 8588
 e-mail: boardwalk@clear.net.nz

HOLDFAST

Right First Time!

GORILLA NAILPOWER CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE

... as useful as a hammer

INSULATES

STICKS

WATERPROOF

STOPS AIR TRANSMISSION

100% WATERPROOF

Acoustic rating 57Db

Insulation factor R Value 3.12 (100mm thick)

LESS IS BEST

CRAMP TIGHT JOINTS - STRENGTHEN JOINTS

WATER A BUST OF WATER ACCELERATES CURE

HEAT ACCELERATES CURE

BIRANZ APPRAISAL REPORT NO. 440 (2003) Gorilla power Airseal

CLICK & FIX

'Air Seal'

Line of exterior cladding.

Head Detail

...it will STOP

✓ Air, sound and heat transmission

...it will STICK to

✓ Timber

✓ Most substrates

...it will PROVIDE

✓ Effective air seal to windows and doors

...it will INSTALL

✓ Interior doors

...it will

FILL GAPS & CRACKS

For Help Freephone 0800 70 10 80

Hopes and plans crafted into superb home

A stunning beachfront home in Matua earned Tauranga builder Conrad Kuriger his first national award for the New Homes \$400,000 to \$600,000 category at the Registered Master Builders 2005 House of the Year Awards, held in association with PlaceMakers.

The home was a long held dream for the owners, who are in their seventies, and the judging panel agreed that "the builder had taken their hopes and plans and crafted a superb property which executes their vision with precision and care".

Paramount to the design of the three-bedroom home were views of the harbour and nearby Kaimai Ranges, and indoor/outdoor living so the owners were able enjoy retirement to the full.

Kuriger Builders also gave careful thought to the off-shore breeze, and the outdoor living areas were created to accommodate this.

Conrad Kuriger says the exterior of bagged and painted brickwork, band-sawn cedar weatherboards and copper details provides texture against the home's other features such as American white oak, large windows and interior tiles.

"The materials selected for this project were intended to emphasise the natural appeal of the home and complement the warmth and style of the design," Mr



The Kuriger Builders entry which won the New Homes \$400,000 to \$600,000 category at the Registered Master Builders 2005 House of the Year Awards, held in association with PlaceMakers.

Kuriger says.

The house incorporated features the owners had seen, thought of and noted down throughout their lives.

"It was a special project to work on for a number of reasons. We felt honoured to make this cherished dream a reality for such an enthusiastic couple. Winning a national award and being able to share this with them was the icing on the cake."

A regular entrant in the House of the Year competition, Mr Kuriger says the competition is the only promotional tool he uses to leverage his business as it

complements word of mouth, and the initial investment carries on long after the competition is completed.

"It has also increased the value we deliver to clients as the quality standards have assisted in improving our performance and expectations."

With projects under way in Tauranga and Taranaki, there is no holiday in sight for this busy builder, but he is not complaining.

"Being involved in projects which demand all your skills and experience are challenging but, ultimately, very rewarding."

Southerners don't do things by halves

Methven-based Snowfed Builders is determined not to do things by halves. It is this attitude which helped them achieve a National Gold Reserve Award in the Registered Master Builders 2005 House of the Year, held in association with PlaceMakers.

Snowfed Builders were recognised for building a striking Oamaru Stone home (pictured) which took advantage of the magnificent rural outlooks.

Situated on a 50 acre block, the home brings new meaning to the term outdoor living. A verandah surrounds the house, with the four bedrooms, kitchen and living areas all opening onto it.

"This verandah just begs to be entertained on," director Dave McLeod says.

With its superb layout, textures and flow, Snowfed Builders knew the home was something special when they entered it in the House of the Year competition.

The property won Gold and the New Homes \$200,000 to \$300,000 category in the Ashburton competition before being selected as a National Gold Reserve Finalist.

"It is an awesome achievement to reach that level and know you stand among the best in the business," Mr McLeod says.

Despite the accolades, he is aware that you can never become complacent, and believes every home he

builds should have the potential to be a National Gold Reserve Award winner.

"You cannot do things by halves — you become a national finalist because you build one home well, but all the work you produce must meet that standard," Mr McLeod says.

He says the company's achievement has generated a lot of feedback, and clients have told him they feel privileged he is their builder.

"It is great to feel appreciated and valued. Home owners spend a lot of money on their homes and the least we can do is set a high standard for every job we undertake."

His next project is building his own home, and he admits the pressure is on.

"Every house provides an opportunity to learn and, try as you might, some things don't turn out as you expect. There are always changes you'd like to make."

One hundred National Gold Reserves were picked from the local Gold Award winners after the local competitions were held throughout New Zealand.





You're only as good as the installer you specify. Insist on Nuplex Contractors Federation.

"For the best results I always specify Nuplex Contractors Federation installers" Don Nelson, Architect.

Attention to detail is the difference between a great building and great big problems. Specifying Nuplex and Plaster Systems products is the first step to getting it right; the second step is specifying Nuplex Contractors Federation installers.

Registered Nuplex Contractors Federation installers are trained to correctly apply Insulclad®, Sureshield® and the other specialised waterproofing, flooring, plaster cladding and surface finishes in the Nuplex and Plaster Systems ranges. Their standards are regularly checked.

All Nuplex Contractors Federation installers carry a blue membership card that proves their registration. It's your assurance of a trained installer.



www.nuplexfed.org.nz
www.plastersystems.co.nz
www.nuplexconstruction.co.nz

HoY attracts key sponsorship

The Registered Master Builders House of the Year is made possible through the generous support of the national sponsor family, comprising eight key sponsors. This month we profile four valued sponsors — principal sponsor PlaceMakers and supporting sponsors James Hardie, Mico Bathrooms and Housing New Zealand Corporation.



James Hardie



James Hardie is a leading international building materials company and a global leader in fibre cement, one of the world's fastest growing building products.

The company has been a proud sponsor of the Registered Master Builders House of the Year since its inception in 1990.

"It has been great to see House of the Year winners using new and innovative products such as James Hardie's Linea Weatherboard," James Hardie general manager Rob Kidd says.

"The team at James Hardie believes award winning building begins with innovative building materials. We like to give builders the freedom for architectural expression by providing them with flexible and durable cladding and interior lining products that can help them and their clients turn the most imaginative designs into practical reality," Mr Kidd says.

The company has watched entries in the House of the Year Show Home category grow in number and quality, and believes its ongoing relationship with Registered Master Builders has helped add real value to its business.

"James Hardie views the House of the Year as a significant way of supporting individual builders and companies who demonstrate outstanding building excellence," Mr Kidd says.

Mico Bathrooms

Mico is New Zealand's premier plumbing supplies wholesaler and retailer of bathroomware. The company has 35 branch operations across New Zealand and is part of Crane Distribution NZ Ltd (CDNZ).

Marketing manager David Adams says House of the Year creates a unified platform for the best of the building industry's suppliers, and has helped Mico build strong relationships with builders.

"We are involved in the House of the Year competition because it allows Mico to interact with builders on a local level. Once we have established a relationship with the builders we can educate them on key aspects of best industry practice in our particular market segment. This is essential to growing our business long term," Mr Adams says.

"Mico's involvement with House of the Year has enabled us to work with other key brands in the construction sector and understand issues that our fellow brand partners face," he says.

Mico views House of the Year as a true celebration of excellence within New Zealand's construction industry, and a vital way for Mico to demonstrate its commitment to quality and adherence to building standards.

Mico sponsors the Bathroom Excellence Award.



Housing New Zealand Corporation (HNZ) is the country's largest residential landlord, managing more than 66,000 properties throughout the nation.

The Corporation also works with others such as community groups, local government, Maori and iwi to address local housing issues.

General manager asset services Greg Orchard says the organisation's sponsorship of the Housing New Zealand Community Development



Award in the Registered Master Builders House of the Year is one way it can encourage and recognise the builders providing community residential developments built to meet the needs of the wider community.

HNZ believes the involvement and support of the building sector is vital.

"We rely upon the support of the building sector to help us achieve the Government's vision — that all New Zealanders have access to affordable, sustainable, good quality housing appropriate to their needs.

"The Community Development Award is a true acknowledgment of the importance of government, community groups, not-for-profit organisations and councils in their role of increasing and improving social housing," Mr Orchard says.

- Next month: We profile the four other supporting sponsors: GIB Living Solutions, Nulook, Pink Batts and Future Proof Building.



Go to: www.buildingtoday.co.nz for more articles

Principal sponsor out to promote quality

P

laceMakers is New Zealand's largest supplier of building materials and hardware supplies, and sole principal sponsor of the Registered Master Builders 2006 House of the Year.

"As the leading construction materials company, we like to promote superb quality in building, and aligning ourselves with a programme about building excellence helps us do this," PlaceMakers chief executive David Worley says.

In addition to being the principal sponsor PlaceMakers also sponsors the Renovation Awards.

"These awards help us engage with builders and customers involved in the popular and rapidly escalating renovation market," Mr Worley says.

"There is a greater emphasis on remodelling and restyling homes as land in urban areas becomes scarcer. People are looking to renovate their existing homes to better meet the needs and demands of modern life.



"Building techniques, design and materials are becoming more sophisticated, and there is a growing gap between old living environments and new, providing consumers with added incentive for renovation."

House of the Year celebrates people whose values

reflect what it means to be a registered master builder.

"There is a wealth of talent among New Zealand's registered master builders, and we look forward to watching the 2006 competition unfold," Mr Worley says.

Take Control of your business TODAY!

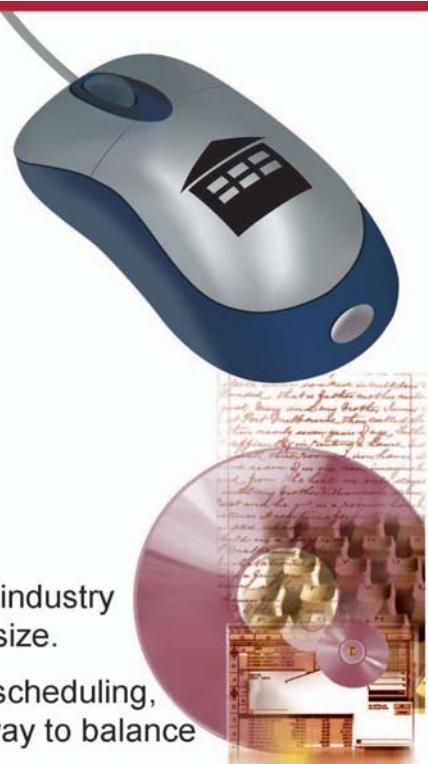
...click onto www.databuild.co.nz

Get the system

The one software system for the building & construction industry that manages all facets of your business, whatever your size.

From first contact through sales estimating, production, scheduling, e-commerce, administration and full accounting all the way to balance sheet and profit/loss in the one package.

www.databuild.co.nz or 0800 080 009



**DATA
BUILD**

BIG 7264705

New staff at MBS

The Master Build Services team is set to enhance its current service with a new claims support officer.

Sarah Wichman joins Holly Fyfe and Bruce Richardson as part of the Master Build Services team, with her work involving transferring and accepting guarantee applications, and arranging final inspections.

She will also be taking on the challenging role of reducing truancy.

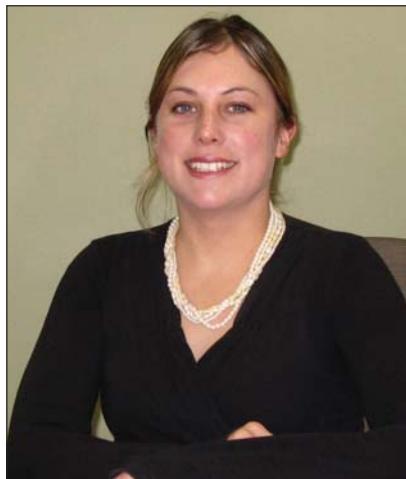
Her previous role with the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation gave her valuable insight into the construction sector and what makes builders tick.

Since she has been in her role, Ms Wichman has seen a number of simple mistakes on guarantee forms which automatically make the guarantee invalid.

She says lodging a claim can be a stressful time for many clients.

"Reading the guarantee carefully and making sure you comply with clauses means that any issues that might emerge can be resolved in a timely and painless manner.

"Master Build Services staff are



Sarah Wichman

"We want to remind builders that issuing a guarantee on all projects over \$25,000 is compulsory. If builders fail to do this, not only are they in breach of their Register Master Builders membership but they are also doing their clients a great disservice."

more than happy to explain the guarantee in easy to understand terms if required."

Master Build Services manager Bruce Richardson says he dislikes declining claims over issues with the guarantee.

"It makes our job very difficult when we have to say no to builders' clients because they haven't notified us of completion, made final payment or have already moved into their new home," Mr Richardson says.

"One of the reasons we hired Sarah was to assist our builders in giving the best value to their clients by helping them provide clients with a functioning and useful guarantee.

"I would encourage any builders who don't quite understand the process to give her a call."

Mr Richardson says Master Build Services has become aware that some builders try to cut costs during the tender process by leaving the guarantee out.

"We want to remind builders that issuing a guarantee on all projects over \$25,000 is compulsory. If builders fail to do this, not only are they in breach of their Register Master Builders membership but they are also doing their clients a great disservice," he says.

MACCAFERRI

Partnering you Nationwide

Engineered Drainage Solutions



Megaflow
Cordrain
Plazadeck
Enkadrain
VersiCell
VersiTank

Phone 0800-60-60-20

sales@maccaferri.co.nz www.maccaferri.co.nz

stock • INVERCARGILL • QUEENSTOWN • DUNEDIN • CHRISTCHURCH • WELLINGTON • PALMERSTON NORTH • HASTINGS
• TAURANGA • AUCKLAND

Commercial building sector's contribution recognised

Enhanced awards programme to encourage best practice by project teams

New Zealand's commercial building sector makes a significant contribution to the country's economy and was responsible for nearly a third (\$3 billion) of all construction in 2005.

In recognition of this, the Registered Master Builders Federation (RMBF) has enhanced its Commercial Project Awards to encourage best practice in the industry and foster ongoing growth.

RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout says the commercial sector has remained a solid performer amid many ups and downs in the building industry in recent years, including weathertightness and changes to the regulatory environment.

The RMBF first introduced the commercial awards four years ago alongside its residential building awards programme, House of the Year.

Huge benefits

Stanley Construction chief executive and RMBF chairman Kevin Stanley says the evolution of the Commercial Project Awards will provide huge benefits to the industry.

"There are many areas of expertise in the commercial sector, and the new format of the awards recognises this," Mr Stanley says.

"This will help entrants, particularly finalists and



Stanley Construction chief executive and RMBF chairman Kevin Stanley

winners, promote their business in their areas of specialisation."

Five new award categories have been developed to reflect the nature of work undertaken by commercial contractors — retail and business, health, education,

industrial/utility, and tourism and leisure.

Seventy-eight entries have been received for the RMB 2006 Commercial Project Awards.

Mr Stanley says although there are signs of a slow down in the residential building industry, commercial building in New Zealand remains strong, and seems likely to remain so with many big projects under way and in the pipeline.

The awards will recognise excellence in the three key elements of the project — design, contract management and construction.

"The RMB Commercial Project Awards are different to the other industry awards around because there is an emphasis on the team aspect of projects," Mr Stanley says.

"It takes more than a good builder to construct an award winning project. There are architects, designers and engineers, not to mention the client, who are all key to the project. The awards recognise all these people have come together."

A judging panel comprising a building specialist and design specialist will assess all entrants nationwide. An additional judge will meet with the panel to discuss their recommendations and peer review final results.

The RMB 2006 Commercial Project Award winners will be announced at a gala dinner in October.

RMBF Head Office: PO Box 1796, Wellington
Ph: 04 385 8999 Fax: 04 385 8995 RMBF Helpline: 0800 269 119 BuildersCV: 0800 762 328
www.masterbuilder.org.nz www.builderscv.co.nz

Registered Master Builders Association Managers:

Ashburton: John Howe 03 308 3362

Auckland: Merrilyn Faithfull 09 302 2894

Canterbury: Steve Lowery 03 357 9469

Gisborne: Katrina Duncan 06 863 3678

Gore: Jacque Lloyd 03 208 9240

Hawke's Bay: Lilias McMinn-Collard 06 876 8327

Manawatu: Des McKay 06 357 8051

Marlborough: Richard Morris 03 577 6638

Nelson: Kathy Tatlock 03 548 0643

Otago: Rowan Howe 03 455 5165

Rotorua: Jacki Parr 07 332 3625

South Canterbury: Trish Harris 03 684 5005

Southland: Therese McCallum 0274 328 065

Taranaki: Paul Jones 06 757 4796

Taupo: Graeme Price 07 378 4463

Tauranga: Lani Christensen 07 577 0628

Waikato: Colleen Walker 07 849 1788

Wairarapa: Pip Dalgliesh 06 378 8008

Wanganui: Warrick Stichbury 06 348 8088

Wellington: Gerald Rixon 04 381 2850

Westland: Renee Symons 03 755 7311

Whakatane: Martin Hygemann 07 308 4393

RMBF Regional Service Team:

Brent Hall: Auckland South, 0274 804 055

Grant Hayes: Auckland North, Whangarei, 0272 859 516

Bob Bringans: Tauranga, Waikato, Rotorua, Whakatane, Taupo, 0274 961 050

Peter Philipsen (New Zealand Regional Service Manager):

Wellington South/Central, Manawatu, Taranaki, 0274 846 207

Darryl Fawcet: Wellington North, Kapiti, Wairarapa, Hawke's

Bay, Gisborne, 0274 574 146

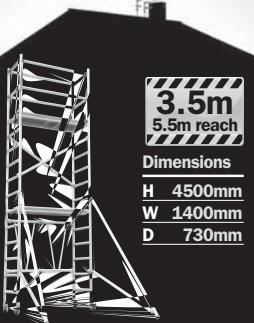
Ian Gould (Southern Regional Services Manager): South

Canterbury, Otago, Gore, Southland, 0274 357 397

Peter Winchester: Nelson, Marlborough, Westland, Canterbury,

Ashburton, 0274 722 226

Serious Scaffolding



Kwikfold Tower

The split system design can be set up as two individual working platforms of 1790mm or a combined working platform height of 3.5mtrs. Lightweight yet robust for industrial use with a max safe working load of 150kg per platform.

Tested to the requirements of AS/NZS 1576.



AJJA 3000 Tower and AJJA 5000 Tower

The AJJA 3000 & 5000 are a lightweight, quick and easy to assemble scaffold tower system. They are ideal for indoor and outdoor access solutions, where a stable and secure platform is required.

Tested to the requirements of AS/NZS 1576.

**Freephone
0800 360 009**

Maximise your options and solve all your access problems with an AJJA Trading Aluminium Mobile Scaffold



AJJATRADINGLTD

AJA60604

Health and Safety factors urged as licensing condition for builders

Inclusion for licensing will significantly cut accidents

Inclusion of quality health and safety systems as a qualification for the licensing of Building Practitioners under the Building Act would contribute significantly to achieving the goals of the Construction Industry Council (CIC) H & S strategy.

This view was expressed by Site Safe chief executive Iris Clanachan following preparation of the strategy.

She says such a step, along with encouragement for all construction workers to have relevant health and safety qualifications, will help cut down the fatality and injury record of the industry.

"We believe a further catalyst for improved H & S performance would be insistence by main contractors that subcontractors have an evaluated H & S system," Ms Clanachan says.

"ACC incentives for small and medium sized businesses to have approved systems will also be emphasised."

Key elements

Ms Clanachan says key elements of the H & S strategy include employee participation in the development and implementation of workplace health and safety strategies and practices, as well as recognition of high risk situations and the development of measures to mitigate the risk.

"Other essential points identified in the strategy are industry-wide promotion of independently verified health and safety systems, and consideration of whole-of-life health and safety requirements as part of the design process."

She says sector members of the CIC will aim to report regularly on implementation of the strategy and to measure progress.

Latest ACC figures analysed by Statistics New Zealand disclosed that in 2004 there were approximately 30 injuries per 1000 workers in the construction industry that led to ACC claims.

Average new injury entitlement payments averaged approximately \$5000 — down from \$7500 in 2001.

But neither of these figures takes into account costs to

employers that include replacement labour hiring, work interruption, repairs to plant and equipment and training of new personnel — which range from three to five times the ACC cost.

Oaks hotels and resorts enters NZ market

Australian property management group Oaks Hotels & Resorts has crossed the Tasman to launch into New Zealand with the opening of two new properties — Oaks Shores in Queenstown and Oaks on Hobson in Auckland.

Sales and marketing general manager Michael Owens says entering the New Zealand market is an exciting phase for the company.

"We opened Oaks Shores in late 2005 and have had a strong response from the New Zealand market," he says.

"The expansion into New Zealand is a natural progression for the company which has been rapidly expanding in Australia in the past 18 months.

"There is a strong demand for self-contained apartment-style accommodation for the business and leisure traveller, and Oaks has made a name for itself in this growth market."

The company has been managing self-contained properties for more than 10 years, and is one of Australia's leaders in strata-titled management.

Its portfolio of hotels and resorts has grown to more than 20 hotels and resorts throughout Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

**Go to:
www.buildingtoday.co.nz
for competitions**

Eden Gate Automation

A division of Eden Hardware Group Ltd

Builders urged to attend expos

The three Home Ideas Centres nationwide will be holding Home Ideas Expos in the coming weeks.

Home Ideas Centre marketing manager Jonathan Drumm says there will be a \$5000 Clearlite bathroom giveaway at each expo and free advice from designers.

"Every stand at the Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch centres will have its company representatives present to give out information to home builders and renovators," Mr Drumm says.

"It will also be worthwhile for people from throughout the industry to attend and ensure they are kept up to date with the latest and greatest products available to the market.

Dates are:

- Christchurch: May 12, 13, 14
- Wellington: May 20, 21
- Auckland: June 17, 18



Fadini Strabuc Rising Bollard

Fadini and Aprimatic Gate Operators

Fadini Traffic Barriers and Bollards

Videx Entry Systems

Showroom: Harold St, Mt Eden, Auckland

web site: www.edenhardware.co.nz

P O Box 108 171, Symonds St, Auckland

Phone 09 638 8278 Fax 09 638 8588

e-mail: edenautogates@clear.net.nz

**DENKA
CSA**

JOINT-FREE
SLABS

**VIDEX
APRIMATIC**

WATERPROOF
CONCRETE
STRUCTURES

**TASCO
TECH-DRY**

WATER REPELLENT
BLOCKS AND
PAVERS

LEADERS IN CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY

demden

Makes you green with envy, don't it?

By Building Today Motoring Correspondent

Well, we've had a first long look at, if not the hero car, then certainly one of the more desirable and accessible ones from the BF Falcon range.

And we also got the hero colour for the BF Falcon range. While colour choice is largely subjective, there's no denying that Ford's intriguingly named toxic shade turns heads.

From past experience, I know that without even seeing the photograph on the page that readers are not going to get an accurate idea of this colour.

So while it's true that a picture is worth a thousand words, you really need oh, about a thousand and twenty to get a good idea of this colour.

That being said, toxic can best be described as: "green as the colour of the radioactive material that Homer Simpson fishes out of his collar on the drive home".

Ask your kids about it if you're not a Simpsons fan.

This colour doesn't quite glow in the dark, but it might as well. One thing's for sure, this car — in this colour — certainly gets noticed!

But what about the car itself? Well, this is the XR6T (for turbo) Falcon — the car to get if you have a moral or financial issue with normally aspirated V8s.

But unlike other cars where a turbo does not make up for the lack of the extra two pots and, therefore, the rewarding thrill of driving an 8, the XR6T comes up trumps.

It has power to burn and gives you a sense of refined delivery, of sophistication in speed.

Naturally, the XR6T comes with all the goodies that the new BF Falcon range has to offer, including dynamic stability control. This system uses the upgraded ABS system found in the BF range and adds to it a conventional traction control system.

In a nutshell, DSC helps maintain stability when the vehicle approaches its physical limits, through programmed intervention in the braking system and powertrain or a combination of both. It prevents the wheels from locking when the brakes are applied. And TCS limits wheel spin during acceleration. So when is it going to do its best to save you?

DSC is likely to engage if you are taking a corner too fast, avoiding obstacles, encountering ice or snow, driving on slick surfaces or encountering a change of surface — say, gravel to seal or vice versa.



The new XR6T BF Falcon.

It's worth remembering though that while DSC is great news as a driver aid it won't defy the laws of physics.

And then, of course, you have the new six-speed auto gearbox with Sequential Sports Shift manual option, a limited slip differential, performance brake package, six-stack CD player and rear grab handles — sounds silly, but you'll come to appreciate them. And under the hood lies a 245kW turbocharged, 4-litre, in-line 6 powerhouse with 480Nm of torque, just to name a few features.

You want more info? OK. The Barra 245T has new variable cam timing and the camshaft profiles have been refined, while dual knock sensors have been incorporated into the engine to further refine spark ignition timing.

All of this gives you maximum 245kW at 5250rpm and maximum torque of 480Nm from as low as 2000rpm.

That's only the tip of the iceberg — your Ford dealer can point out all the other bits and bobs, though he/she might miss something that my daughter didn't.

The sports seats in the XR6T have a distinctive swirl pattern to the cloth which, I suppose, needs a girl's eye to identify. Little Miss 5 going on 20 tells me it makes the seats look cooler than the ones in mummy's Mondeo, which is kind of the right thing to say when you want a lift to school in "the big green Falcon please daddy"?

For the trainspotters, the XR6T comes standard with 17-inch wheels, though 18s are available as an option, and the independent rear suspension, as seen on the preceding BA Falcon and, indeed, much of Ford's

product line-up today, is a little special on the XR6 — it's the sports version for that feeling of a little more control.

All cool. Now, how does it drive?

The biggest advantage the BF has over the BA Falcon line up is the ultra smoothness of the drive. With the changes to the suspension and steering systems combined with the stability control measures, the BF range puts paid to the myth that big cars are unwieldy.

Steering is precise and effortless even when all those Newton metres are doing their thing to get the 245kW for power from the engine to the wheels.

At full noise, the XR6T is extraordinarily controllable.

Marcos Ambrose speedsters?

And for those who don't fancy themselves as the next Marcos Ambrose in terms of speed, but are looking for spectacularly smooth driving, that ZF 6-speed is one seriously slick transmission.

While you can have a lot of fun on the twisty bits with the shifting, leaving the gear in D is almost as rewarding. It certainly takes any dumb decisions out of the equation when it comes to spirited driving.

And all of this for how much Mr Ford? You can start talking to your dealer if you have something around \$57,990 to spend.

That's the RRP of the XR6T BF Falcon with the 6-speed manual/auto transmission, which has to be one of Ford's best efforts yet.



Fieldays Special

\$32,390

PLUS ON-ROAD COSTS



COURIER XL CREW CAB 4X4
2.5L TURBO DIESEL

SAVE \$12,100

RRP\$44,490 PLUS ON-ROAD COSTS

**Buy a new Courier
and get \$1000
of Swanndri gear*.**

* \$1000 Swanndri offer only valid on Couriers registered between 1st May 2006 and 30th June 2006.



BUILDING TODAY INTERNET DIRECTORY

Building Today: www.buildingtoday.co.nz

Registered Master Builders Federation: www.masterbuilder.org.nz

Accurate Instruments NZ Ltd: www.accurate.net.nz	Lesa Systems Ltd: www.lesasystems.co.nz
Affordable Homes Ltd: www.affordable.co.nz	Long Plastics: www.longplastics.co.nz
Alliance Construction Ltd: www.allianceconstruction.co.nz	Loughnan Hall and Thompson, Project Engineers: www.lht.co.nz
Allied Concrete: www.allied-concrete.co.nz	Lowery Supa Cutters: www.lowerysupacutters.co.nz
Alsynite NZ Ltd: www.alsynite.co.nz	Macrennie Construction Ltd: www.macrennie.com
Architectonic Ltd: www.architectonic.co.nz	Mainzeal Property & Construction: www.mainzeal.co.nz
Architects Planners Resource Managers Ltd: www.apr.co.nz	McEntee Hire Ltd: www.mcentee.co.nz
Architectural Designers New Zealand Inc: www.adnz.org.nz	McIntosh Timber Laminates Ltd: www.mcintosh.nzforestry.co.nz
Architectural Profiles Ltd: www.aplnz.co.nz	Makita NZ: www.makita.co.nz
Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand Inc (ACENZ): www.acenz.org.nz	Marley NZ Ltd: www.marley.co.nz
Ajax Fasteners Ltd: www.ajaxfast.com.au	Masada NZ: www.masada.co.nz
Akzo Nobel Coatings: www.international-pc.com	Masonry Concepts Ltd: www.masonryconcepts.co.nz
Autex Industries Ltd: www.autex.co.nz	Masterspec Specification Systems: www.masterspec.co.nz
Balmoral Homes: www.balmoralhomes.co.nz	Meridian Construction Ltd: www.meridian.org.nz
Bill Irvine Ltd (lead paint test kits): www.test4lead.com	Meridian Homes Ltd: www.meridianhomes.co.nz
Boardwalk Modular Platform Systems: www.boardwalk.co.nz	Metrotile (NZ) Ltd: www.metrotile.com
Bostik Findley NZ Ltd: www.bostik.com	Microsilica New Zealand: www.microsilica.co.nz
BRANZ Ltd: www.branz.co.nz	Holcim NZ Ltd: www.holcim.com/nz
Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation: www.bcito.org.nz	Mitek NZ Ltd: www.miteknz.co.nz
Building Code Consultants Ltd: www.ubd.co.nz/bcc1	Moore Living Masonry Housing: www.mooreliving.com
Building product information in Australia and New Zealand: www.connectus.co.nz	NCB Ltd: www.ncb.co.nz
Building Research: www.buildingresearch.org.nz	Nationwide Prehung Doors Ltd: www.nationwideprehung.co.nz
Cameo Gazebos: www.cameogazebos.co.nz	Natural Light Solutions Ltd: www.naturallightsolutions.co.nz
Canzac Construction Products: www.canzac.com	Nelson Pine Industries Ltd: www.nelsonpine.co.nz
Carter Holt Harvey Futurebuild: www.chhfuturebuild.com	North-City Builders Limited: www.north-city.co.nz
Carter Holt Harvey Woodproducts: www.woodproducts.chh.com	NZ Builders.com: www.nzbuilders.com
Carters: www.carters.co.nz	New Zealand Building Trades Union: www.nzbtu.org.nz
Chubb NZ Ltd: www.chubb.co.nz	New Zealand Institute of Architects: www.nzia.co.nz
Cement and Concrete Association New Zealand: www.cca.org.nz	NZ Pine Manufacturers' Association: www.pine.net.nz
Clearlite Bathrooms: www.clearlite.co.nz	New Zealand Window Shades: www.nz-window-shades.co.nz
Construction Marketing Services: www.cmsgroup.co.nz	Nuplex Industries Ltd: www.nuplexconstruction.co.nz
Corus New Zealand: www.corusnz.com	Occupational Safety and Health (OSH): www.osh.dol.govt.nz
Crittall Steel Windows & Doors Ltd: www.crittall.co.nz	Pacific Steel: www.steelreinforcing.co.nz
CSR Bradford Insulation: www.bradfordinsulation.com.au	Pacific Structural Products (PSP) Ltd: www.psp.co.nz
CSR Gyproc Fibre Cement: www.csrfibrelement.com.au	Parmco Sales Ltd: www.parmco.co.nz
CSSP (Construction Industry Software): www.cssp.co.nz	Partitioning Supplies (NZ) Ltd: www.partitions.co.nz
Darell Trigg Builder Ltd: www.trigg.co.nz	Paul Nankivell (Registered Master Builder): www.buildersnelson.co.nz
Dec-k-ing (NZ) Ltd: www.decking.co.nz	Permathene Plastics Ltd: www.permathene.co.nz
Department of Building and Housing: www.building.dbh.govt.nz	Pegasus Engineering Ltd: www.pegasusengineering.co.nz
DeWalt: www.dewalt.co.nz	Pilchers Waterproofing Ltd: www.waterproofing.net.nz
Dimond: www.dimond.co.nz	Pinepac Group of Companies: www.pinepac.co.nz
Dominion Constructors Ltd: www.dominionconstructors.co.nz	PlaceMakers: www.placemakers.co.nz
Dux Industries Ltd: www.dux.co.nz	Plaster Systems Ltd: www.plastersystems.co.nz
Dynex Extrusions Ltd: www.dynex.co.nz	Plusfactor Software International: www.plusfactor.co.nz
Easiroll Roofing Ltd: www.easiroll.co.nz	Plyco Doors: www.plycodors.co.nz
Econo Built Systems Ltd: www.econobuilt.co.nz	Polymer Developments Ltd: www.polymer.co.nz
Eden Hardware Group Ltd: www.edenhardware.co.nz	Precast New Zealand Inc: www.precastnz.org.nz
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA): www.energywise.co.nz	Primesite Homes Ltd: www.primesitehomes.co.nz
Exotic Building Supplies Ltd: www.exotic.co.nz	Proarch Architects Ltd, Palmerston North: www.proarch.co.nz
Fairview Aluminium Joinery: www.fairviewjoinery.co.nz	QBE Insurance (International) Limited: www.qbe.com/nz
Familton Homes Ltd, Taupo: www.familtonhomes.co.nz	Ralenti Quickfind: www.ralenti.co.nz
Firth Industries Ltd: www.firth.co.nz	Ramset NZ Ltd: www.ramset.co.nz
Fletcher Residential Limited: www.frl.co.nz	Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ): www.reinz.co.nz
Fletcher Wood Panels: www.fwp.co.nz	Resene: www.resene.co.nz
Flexco (NZ) Ltd: www.flexco.nz.co.nz	Rinnai (NZ) Ltd: www.rinnai.co.nz
Ford Motor Company of NZ Ltd: www.ford.co.nz	Robinhood: www.robinhood.co.nz
Forman Building Systems Ltd/Forman Commercial Interiors Ltd: www.forman.co.nz	Ross Roofing Ltd: www.rossroofing.com
Fortress Fasteners: www.fortressfasteners.co.nz	Russell Properties Limited: www.russellproperties.co.nz
Fosroc Ltd: www.fosroc.com	Rylock: www.rylock.co.nz
Frame & Truss Manufacturers Association of New Zealand: www.ftma.co.nz	SDS Design Consultants: www.sds.co.nz
Frametek (NZ) Ltd: www.steelframe-homes.co.nz	Securimax Limited: www.securimax.co.nz
Fraser Brown & Stratmore Ltd: www.fbsltd.co.nz	Selleys: www.selleys.com.au
Freear Philip Ltd: www.freearphilip.co.nz	Sellwood Products Ltd: www.sellwood.co.nz
Fyfe Homes: www.fyfe.co.nz	Sewage treatment: www.davemiller.co.nz
Garador: www.garador.co.nz	Signature Homes Ltd: www.signaturehomes.co.nz
GaraPlan (NZ) Ltd: www.garages.co.nz	Sika (NZ) Ltd: www.sika.co.nz
Gateway Homes Ltd: www.gatewayhomes.co.nz	Site Safe New Zealand: www.sitesafe.org.nz
Geo-Systems Ltd Lasers & GPS: www.geosystems.co.nz	Skellerup Industrial Ltd: www.skellerup.co.nz
Glue Guru: www.glueguru.co.nz	Skope Heating: www.skope.co.nz
Golden Bay Cement: www.goldenbay.co.nz	Sopers (NZ) Ltd (door hardware): www.sopers.co.nz
Hawkins Construction Ltd: www.hawkins.co.nz	Spectrum Homes: www.spectrumhomes.co.nz
Hazel-Hewitt & Associates Ltd (resource consents): www.hazel-hewitt.co.nz	Strategic Data: www.strategicdata.co.nz
Heavy Engineering Research Association: www.hera.org.nz	Standards New Zealand (SNZ): www.standards.co.nz
Herman Pacific: www.hermepac.co.nz	Stanley Construction Ltd: www.stanleyconstruction.co.nz
Hills Floorings Ltd: www.hillsfloorings.co.nz	Steel Construction Industry of New Zealand (SCI-NZ): www.sci-nz.org.nz
Hilti Fastening Systems: www.hilti.co.nz	Superior Doors: www.superiordoors.co.nz
Hirepool Ltd: www.hirepool.co.nz	Synergex Systems NZ Ltd: www.synergex.co.nz
Hirequin Ltd: www.hirequin.co.nz	T & R Distributors Ltd: www.trdistributors.co.nz
Hitchins NZ Ltd: www.hitchins.co.nz	Taskforce Construction Management Ltd: www.constructionsite.info
Holdfast NZ Ltd (adhesives & sealants): www.holdfast.co.nz	Tasman Insulation Ltd: www.pinkbatts.co.nz
Houseworx: www.houseworx.co.nz	The House Company Ltd: www.thehousecompany.co.nz
Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ): www.ipenz.org.nz	The Kitset House Company Ltd: www.kitsethouseco.co.nz
International Roofing NZ Ltd: www.introofing.com	Three Dee Concrete Insulated Structure: www.threedee.co.nz
ITM: www.itm.co.nz	Timberbond: www.timberbond.co.nz
Jac Jay Ltd: www.jacjay.co.nz	Timberline Construction Software: www.timberline.com
James Hardie Group: www.jameshardie.co.nz	Timpan City Ltd: www.timpan.co.nz
Jennian Homes: www.jennian.co.nz	Tony Tay & Associates Ltd: www.ttay.co.nz
Jordan Construction Ltd: www.jordanconstruction.co.nz	Trig Instruments: www.triginstruments.co.nz
Juken Nissho Ltd (JNL): www.triboard.com	Universal Homes Ltd: www.universal.co.nz
JW Maddren Construction Ltd: www.jwmconstruction.co.nz	Velux roof windows and skylights: www.velux.co.nz
Kaindl Flooring: www.kaindl.com	Vertical Horizonz Ltd: www.verticalhorizonz.co.nz
Kingdom Residential Housing Nelson (1999) Ltd : www.kingdomresidential.co.nz	Versatile Buildings Ltd: www.versatile.co.nz , www.totalspan.co.nz
Kiwivac Central Vacuum Systems Ltd: www.kiwivac.co.nz	Wardrobe World Ltd: www.wardrobeworld.co.nz
Leaweld Ltd: www.leaweld.co.nz	Winstone Wallboards Ltd: www.gib.co.nz

Select Quality Workmates



**Multiple tasks
... MASTER THEM ALL!**

FEIN MultiMaster is one of the most versatile special tools - designed for the professional and the home handyman to perform a massive range of applications - saw, scrape, separate, rasp, polish, cut, compact cement and many other tasks - producing professional results everytime.

**FEIN MultiMaster - No problems
'Many heads are better than one!'**

- * Work without kick-back into the smallest corners and on edges
- * High sanding capacity with virtually no pressure force required
- * Perfectly smooth running; the tool does not move on its own
- * Extremely versatile compared with competitive products
- * **Very safe to handle**
- * Built to the exacting standards of the prestigious German manufacturers



POWERPAC GROUP

FREEPHONE 0800 654 030

Head Office: Cnr. Raiha Street and Sunlight Grove, PO Box 50-522, Porirua.

New generations of SWISS+LEVEL specialty lasers

- Laser level / Point Laser • Autoleveling layout systems • Rotation Lasers
- Line Lasers • Optical Level • Measuring Wheels • Distance Measuring Instruments • Tripods & accessories

POCKET 5 - Automatic Levelling 5-Beam Laser

- Accuracy +/-4mm/10m • Out of range warning • Battery -3 x AA • Supplied with case, footed base, magnetic target, batteries



LASER² SQUARE II - Line Laser for 90° & diagonal pattern

- Accuracy +/-3mm/10m • Battery -2x AA • Supplied with case, target plate & batteries



LASER 6 Automatic levelling layout

- Accuracy +/-3mm/10m • Out of range warning • Battery -3 x AA • Supplied with case, laser glasses target, batteries

DIGITAL ELECTRONIC LEVELS ...



The most complete programme of digital electronic levels without compromises, from 25cm to 180cm. Digital protractors to measure any angle on a construction site - angles from 0° - 185° with high accuracy and repeatability.



DISTANCE MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

New dimension in distance measurement - the DISTO makes short work of once complicated interior measurements requiring two workers. Straight line and continuous measurements, surface area and volume calculations in seconds. Save time for your layout crew and reduce those costly positioning errors.



Portamix

The benefits of the HIPPO design

The HIPPO PORTAMIX requires less physical effort, very little set-up time, lightweight and compact - one person can transport and operate, no hoses to get blocked, no material wastage, very easy to clean, mix up to 130kg or 70 litres in a batch - once mixed, material can be dispensed with ease.

"Talk to us, we are the equipment specialists"

ENGINEERING

SURFACE PREPARATION

DIVISION

DIVISION

Mitre 10 Dream Home 2006

Steel roofing features on prime time telly

The 2006 Mitre 10 Dream Home has, up until recently, been screened every Monday at 7.30pm on TV2.

The ultimate in home renovation television, *Mitre 10 Dream Home* focused on the exterior and, in particular, the roof in Episode 8 on Monday, March 27.

Dimond has been heavily involved in the programme, providing all the roofing and associated roofing accessories for both teams' houses.

To further assist both teams, Dimond and H&H Roofing combined to help deliver and install the roofing.

Both teams opted for modern mono-pitch designs which created a striking and eye-catching appearance.

Dimond Styleline and Dimond Corrugate were the roofing profiles specified and used on the two homes.

Value and versatility

The ever-popular Corrugate provides value and versatility with the added advantage of curving capability, while Styleline can achieve interesting contrasts of light and shade while still remaining economical.

The two profiles were used to excellent effect by both teams with stunning results.

But there could be only one winner and, in the end, the Blue Team led by Kylee Wyatt and Brent Old took away the spoils, earning them their dream home mortgage-free.

Congratulations to Kylee, Brent and the team on a job well done!

However, it was not all bad news for the Yellow Team, with Mitre 10 coming to the party to help get them to the \$240,000 needed to win their auction and purchase their dream home.



The Dimond product is delivered to the site.



Installation takes place.



The finished product.



TUSCAN TUSCANCHIP

GR3195BT

TUSCANY IS TRULY UNIQUE.

A TIMELESS PLACE WITH WONDERFUL LANDSCAPES FILLED WITH RICH COLOURS OF OCHRE, BURNT SIENNA AND GOLD.

THIS SPECIAL REGION IS THE INSPIRATION FOR OUR NEW TILE COLLECTION, TUSCAN AND TUSCANCHIP, DESIGNED TO RECREATE THE ENDURING BEAUTY OF OLD TUSCANY WHILE OFFERING ALL THE BENEFITS OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND MODERN INNOVATION.

CARTERS
Your Building Partner

Hamilton Trade Breakfast proves to be a roaring success!



On the morning of April 6th, Carters Hamilton held a hugely successful trade breakfast. Over 220 builders turned up for the tasty feed, hot in-store specials, and to listen to speakers from key building brands. As an added bonus, the attendees were also lucky enough to watch a display by the TKR-R (Team Kiwi Raching) V8 Holden hot lap car.

The Carters team went all out for the event and transformed the store warehouse to a huge breakfast bar and stage area.

Representatives from Makita, Paslode, James Hardie and Woodproducts turned up with fantastic specials, and loads of giveaways.

Branch Manager Bruce McCluskey said "We at Carters were thrilled at the turn out for our first trade breakfast, thanks to all our suppliers and of course a big thank you to all that turned up on the day."

Wanganui Go Fishing!

Shock weather prevented Carters Wanganui from holding their planned Trade Fishing event but it didn't stop them from getting out into the community. Instead, the Carters team took Graeme Sinclair to visit some local schools where he spoke with the children and presented the schools a copy of his book.

More clouds threatened to put a stop to the next days Carters Kids Gone Fishin' event but the weather held off and the event went ahead. The twilight fishing kicked off at 3pm with a fantastic 327 kids registered in total. Overall the event pulled over 700 people which was an impressive turnout.

Kahawai was the order of the day with the best catch being 1.69kilos. All the kids received a prize and the day was deemed to be a great success.

For more information on Gone Fishin' visit the Carters website www.carters.co.nz



Software designed specifically for builders

Databuild for Windows is an all-encompassing estimating, accounting and job control software package designed specifically for builders.

The Windows-based system is easy to navigate, straight forward for experienced users to follow and very easy for first timers to learn. It offers more features, power and flexibility than any other comparable software package, and Databuild's network of support services ensures the user is never on their own.

An enterprise solution that will service all business needs. Databuild is scalable from single-user systems through to installations with several hundred users in multiple locations.

The software:

- monitors the progress of a job from conception to completion,
- gives access to all job data at the click of a mouse,
- allows multiple-level, date-based pricing to establish accurate pricing at any point in time,
- has powerful quantity-processing tools to ensure what is quoted is what is supplied and is what is paid for,
- lets users provide quotes and estimates instantly,
- automatically detects problems to ensure early rectification,
- lets users communicate instantly with customers, suppliers, contractors and staff by integrating e-mail and SMS functions,

- documents creation, control and dissemination to streamline workflow,
- lets users invoice what they can, when they can so they pay only what they should, and
- lets users share information electronically with suppliers, banks, and customers so everyone involved with the business stays informed.

JobControl

As the number of jobs increases, users need a tool to schedule and monitor progress, and to act as a control centre for job information.

This module gives the ability:

- to generate target dates for purchase orders and monitor progress on all jobs,
- to compare actual against target times,
- to produce colour progress charts,
- to generate cash flow reports and charts,
- to automatically generate documents and e-mail charts,
- to combine jobs to produce resource usage reports to prevent bottlenecks,
- to disseminate action sheets for all staff,
- to control invoice authorisation and force timely progress claims,
- to regularly e-mail all suppliers required delivery dates of all their undelivered orders, and
- to control the pre-start and on-site function of businesses.

FrontEnd

This is a sales-orientated system ideally suited for the larger user or project homes builder.

It allows the sales team to create quotations and captures information for transfer to a parent Databuild system.

It is able:

- to tightly control what is quoted, and what options should be allowed,
- to allow sales staff or inexperienced estimators to safely and rapidly produce quotations,
- to format and produce professional proposals, contracts and colour brochures,
- to manage leads, sales, sales staff and customers,
- to set and monitor margins and retail pricing, and
- to capture a myriad of client information for transfer to the parent system.

On quote acceptance, the system creates the job quantities in the parent Databuild system. It can literally be ready to order.

Clarification

In a product news story in last month's *Building Today* it was stated that Stevenson DryBlock masonry blocks are made using a water-repellent additive — Markham sealers — to build in weathertightness.

Markham sealers are not, in fact, used in the production of the blocks, but they can subsequently be applied to the block's surface to provide an added water repellent.

Various concrete block sealing options available

Markham Distributing has a number of sealing options for structural and veneer concrete block construction.

These include Aquron Water Repellent, Markham Satin Sealer and Markham Gloss Sealer.

Aquron Water Repellent:

- is a clear surface-to-subsurface silicate treatment solution that provides a water repellency while retaining the surface's natural appearance.
- is a clear penetrating preservative solution designed for providing a water repellent to the surface of concrete blocks.
- is a water-borne repellent that provides a tough breathable water barrier beneath and to the surface.
- preserves the natural appearance of the masonry.
- retards efflorescence, fungus and mildew. Treated surfaces can be overcoated with a subsequent

application of paints and coatings.

- is non-polluting, non-toxic, non-flammable and user-friendly.

It stays pliable, improves traction, is abrasion-resistant and is hydrocarbon-resistant.

Markham Satin Sealer:

- is a high-performance solvent-based sealer that produces a clear-non-yellowing, low sheen "wet look" when applied to the surface of concrete blocks.
- is suitable for interior/exterior application, providing a surface with resistance to water, efflorescence, UV light, abrasion, staining, fungus and mildew.
- can be used on floor surfaces as it has an integral traction enhancement.
- is not recommended for non-porous surfaces.

Markham Gloss Sealer:

- is a high-performance, solvent-based sealer that produces a clear-non-yellowing, low sheen "wet look"

when applied to the surface of concrete blocks.

- is suitable for interior/exterior application, providing a surface with resistance to water, efflorescence, UV light, abrasion, staining, fungus and mildew.
- is not recommended for non-porous surfaces.

For structural masonry, Markham's sealers are recommended for Stevensons Dry Block/Mortar System. Structural masonry is defined as single-skin construction or when concrete blocks are exposed exterior/interior or strapped and lined on the interior.

Markham's sealers will provide visible membrane on other manufacturers' blocks, but coverage rates may vary. It is important to note that the Markham/Stevensons System is a double defence system.

Aqron/Markham Sealers are not suitable for any basement or below grade waterproofing.

For more application information contact Markham Distributing Ltd.

Benefits of industry training



Your future is in your hands

> **BUILDING CAREERS**
Do an apprenticeship in building and construction

www.bcito.org.nz
CALL 0800 422 486



T

To reach a sustainable level of qualified tradespeople, the construction industry needs dedicated employers to train apprentices.

A recent Department of Labour survey (Skills in the Labour Market - March 2006) indicated that skill shortages were still prevalent in the construction industry, identifying a shortage of labour as the main constraint for 34% of builders as at December 2005.

Industry training has come a long way from the days of the "time served" apprenticeship. Today, training is more flexible, paperwork is kept to a minimum and most transactions take place on site with a BCITO training advisor.

Training an apprentice takes time and commitment but it can also bring rewards and benefits to the business including:

- the right mix of skills: industry training enables a business owner to have a variety of skills on the team, from junior apprentices to more experienced supervisors and foremen,
- securing the future of your business: training and upskilling staff now will ensure your business has the right people to prosper in the future,
- improving staff retention: encouraging staff to become qualified works as an incentive and creates motivated, more productive staff with an increased loyalty to the business, reducing staff turnover which is a significant cost saving, and
- increasing productivity: research has shown that even while training is taking place, overall productivity is greater. Staff have more skills, are more efficient and can do the work right the first time.
- improving your bottom line: workplace training can improve financial outcomes for your business by decreasing wasted time and materials, workplace accidents, recruitment costs and absenteeism.

Currently more than 4000 employers are training around 8000 apprentices with the BCITO. Workplace training does not always involve taking on a new apprentice straight from school.

Approximately 20% of employees working in the sectors covered by the BCITO are involved in workplace training, meaning there's huge potential for employers to encourage current staff to upskill and get qualified.

The development of two new qualifications from the BCITO — the National Certificate in Construction Leading Hand and National Certificate in Construction Supervisors — are designed specifically to meet this need to upskill more experienced staff.

Similarly, workplace training can benefit staff in a variety of ways. Workplace training enables staff to gain formal recognition of their skills with a qualification that is designed by industry for industry, ensuring the skills learnt are ones that are relevant and beneficial to the workplace.

If you are dedicated to ensuring the future of the construction industry through training programmes, or you would like to gain formal recognition of your skills with an industry qualification, contact your local BCITO office on 0800 422 486 or visit our web site for more information: www.bcito.org.nz.

Two more cases on the Construction Contracts Act

Tim Bates of Auckland law firm Legal Vision reviews two more Construction Contracts Act cases



West City Construction Ltd v TL Edney

This was an appeal from a District Court decision declining summary judgment on a payment claim. West City was a construction company and Mr Edney was a trustee of a property developing trust.

On May 31, 2004, the Trust accepted West City's quote for certain construction work to be carried out in 5 Maurice Road, Penrose, Auckland. A payment claim was issued on June 30, 2004, under the Construction Contracts Act 2002. It was left by West City at nearby Rockfield Road.

The Trust did not accept the payment claim, and purported to issue a payment schedule out of time, challenging the payment claim. The parties were unable to resolve their issues out of court and, therefore, summary judgment proceedings were issued by West City.

It was held in the District Court that the payment claim satisfied the requirements of the Act in terms of its content. It was held, however, that service had not been proved, and went further to state that West City, by denying receipt of the payment schedule, was at the same time denying any evidence that the payment claim was served.

In the high court it was found that, in fact, the payment claim had been served. It was held that the leaving of the payment claim at the same offices used by the trustees was enough to constitute proper service of the payment claim.

Reference was made to Section 80 of the Act which states that any document is properly served if:

"(b) the notice or document is left at that person's usual or last known place of residence or business in New Zealand".

The High Court also considered whether, in fact, the payment schedule that had been served complied with the Act and, in particular, whether it indicated a scheduled amount.

The payment schedule in question simply referred to a formula for working out the amount of money that was due and owing. The High Court held that this fell short of the requirement in a payment schedule of specifying an amount.

10 Gilmer Ltd v Tracer Interiors and Construction Ltd

This is also a decision dealing with the Act. However, this time the High Court was considering the Act's application in the context of a statutory demand that had been made by Tracer Interiors.

A statutory demand is a formal demand made under the Companies Act 1993 seeking payment of a liquidated amount.

It has significance for a company served in that it is usually the first step in the liquidation process, such that if a company fails to make payment of the amount demanded or applies to set aside the statutory

demand, then the liquidation process can proceed.

The background to this case was that the Tracer Interiors had been involved in the construction of 61 units for 10 Gilmer Ltd. progress claims 1-8 had been dutifully paid by 10 Gilmer Ltd. However, approximately \$225,000 was outstanding as regards progress claims 9-12. This is the amount that was demanded via the statutory demand.

It was argued by the developer that the statutory demand ought to be set aside as there was a substantial dispute, and the company was able to pay its debts and, therefore, was solvent.

The case for the contractor was simply that the developer had failed to respond to progress claims 9-12 in the appropriate manner under the Act, which meant that it was now out of time in attempting to dispute them for the purposes of setting aside the statutory demand.

It was held by the High Court that the developer had failed to respond in time to each of the four payment/progress claims by way of payment schedules and, thus, the amounts claimed became amounts due and owing.

It was no longer open for the developer to purport to dispute the amounts claimed.

And as regards the argument as to solvency, the judge considered the evidence put forward by the developer. He agreed with the submissions of counsel for the contractor that the evidence as to the developer's solvency was inadequate in that it had not been audited by an independent external chartered accountant.

Accordingly, it was ruled that solvency had not been proved by the developer and, therefore, the statutory demand ought not to be set aside.

However, it seems clear that had the requisite evidence of solvency been tendered then, in fact, the demand would have been set aside.

www.buildingtoday.co.nz
to search archived articles



LegalVision
At Three Lamps Lawyers
Legal Vision specialises in providing legal advice to the Building Industry.
Principal: Timothy Bates LLB (Hons)

LEVEL 1
283 PONSONBY RD
PONSONBY

PO BOX 47 587
PONSONBY
AUCKLAND

PHONE 09 360 2415
FAX 09 361 2412
EMAIL legalvision@clear.net.nz

Raurimu's twisting spiral

Dr Kerry Rodgers ruminates upon inspired colonial lateral thinking

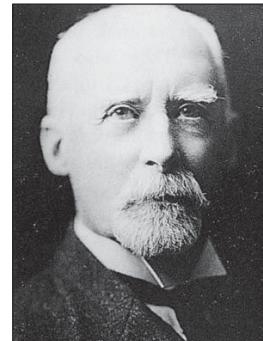


and, thereby, reduce the average gradient to a manageable 1 in 52.

The success of Holmes' solution is shown by the spiral's continued use today.

A new deviation was pushed through the historically difficult Mangaweka section of the main trunk in the 1980s. New viaducts have replaced their 19th Century predecessors up and down the line.

But Holmes' twisting spiral remains. A replacement seems most unlikely if, for no other reason, no one has been able to come up with a better idea.



*Field engineer extraordinaire:
Robert West Holmes.*

The date: 1898. The problem: How to achieve a workable climb for New Zealand's main trunk line from Taumarunui to the summit at National Park 2km away but 132m above — a gradient of almost 4°.

In the late 1890s the rail head had been driven south from Auckland and had reached Taumarunui. To the south it was advancing apace up the Rangitikei, climbing past Taihape towards the volcanic plateau at Waiouru.

R W Holmes, the field engineer on the spot, was only too well aware that he had a problem. The 1 in 15 gradient south of Raurimu was, and is, beyond the capability of any standard locomotive. It is just too damn steep.

If a rail connection was to be achieved between Auckland and Wellington, then the critical Taumarunui-National Park section of the main trunk had to be bridged in some manner.

In those days the detailed location of the final line was a field engineer's decision. No resource consent application was necessary.

Rail buffs' delight

Holmes' answer was inspired. It is now history. It is a delight for rail buffs the world over. They come and travel its 11km, and then go back and do it all over again.

Holmes simply lengthened the distance travelled. He wound the line through three horseshoe curves, a couple of tunnels, and one complete spiral.

His cunning plan made skilful use of the topography so as to minimise cut, fill and tunnelling.

The upshot was to lengthen the line from 5km to 11km



Above: The three levels of the Raurimu Spiral are visible in this 1908 image.

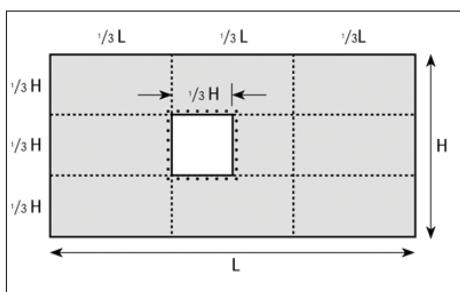
Below: A mixed train traverses the first level above that of Raurimu Station, circa 1908.



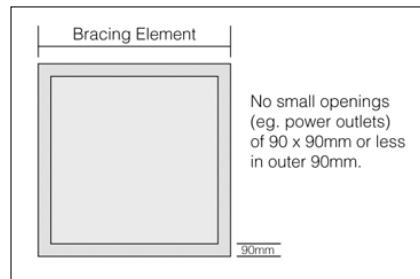
Tip 26. Bracing Tips

Openings in bracing elements

Openings are allowed within the middle third of a wall bracing element's length and height. Neither opening dimension shall be more than one third of the element's height. Wall linings are fixed to opening trimmers at 150mm centres.

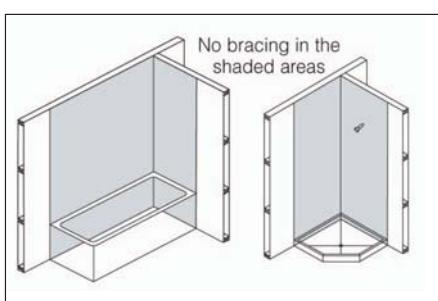


Small openings (eg power outlets) of 90 x 90mm or less may be placed no closer than 90mm to the edge of the braced element.



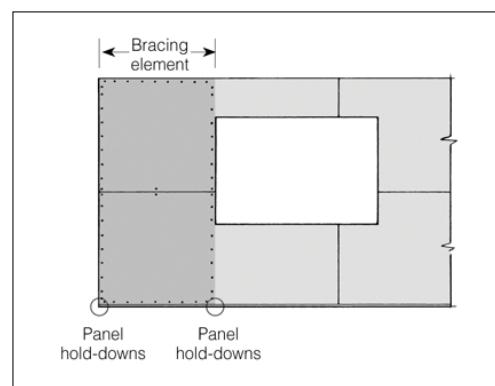
Bracing in water-splash areas

Bracing elements are required to have a durability of 50 years. It is recommended that bracing elements are not located in shower cubicles or behind baths because of durability requirements, and the likelihood of renovation and practical issues associated with fixing bracing elements to perimeter framing members.



Horizontal fixing

Linings may be fixed horizontally when linings extend under/over door or window openings. Fasteners are provided around the perimeter of the bracing element.



Note: These tips apply to GIB Bracing Systems. Please refer to GIB literature for full information on GIB Bracing Systems.

PURCHASE ANYTHING AT CARTERS
AND BE IN TO WIN

THE GOOD

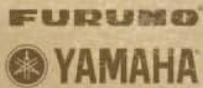
THE BAD OR THE

UGLY



THE GOOD

A STABI-CRAFT 559XR SPORT WITH A YAMAHA
90HP OUTBOARD, TRAILER, FURUNO FISHFINDER,
AND A UNIDEN VHF RADIO



THE BAD

A WALLABY
RUGBY JERSEY



THE UGLY

\$5,000 WORTH OF BUILDING
MATERIALS AND COCKSY FOR
5 DAYS TO SWING THE HAMMER
AT YOUR PLACE

CARTERS

SEE IN-STORE FOR DETAILS
PROMOTION RUNS FROM 27 FEB - 31 MAY 2006.