



Training Fund Authority to Launch the 'Business Builders Network'

The 'Business Builders Network' is a new industry initiative being established by the Training Fund Authority. The Network is actively supported by the following industry organisations:

- Housing Industry Association, ACT and Southern NSW
- Master Builders Association of the ACT
- Master Plumbers Association ACT
- National Electrical and Communications Association
- National Association for Women in Construction
- Construction Industry Training and Employment Association

The aim of creating the 'Business Builders Network' is to set-up a networking group for people working in an administration role (male and female) in the building and construction industry. It is to encourage Network members to come together on a regular basis, to provide support to each other, share information about industry training and business development issues, as well as enjoy social interaction with others working in similar roles in all areas in the industry.

People working in businesses of all sizes are welcome, and those in small (micro) businesses are especially encouraged to join and participate in the Network.

The first event of the year is a luncheon being held on Tuesday, 10 May 2011 at the Federal Golf Club. Our first guest speaker will be Kate Sykes (below) who is the **2010 Telstra ACT Business Woman of the Year**.

Kate will talk about the importance of on-going professional development training; training for re-entry in the workplace; and, the importance of creating flexible work environments. Kate runs her own business facilitating training and re-entry into the workforce; she is also a teacher in Small Business Management at the Canberra Institute of Technology. Her presentation promises to be both informative and engaging.



Master Builders Group Training Apprentice and Cadet Awards

Over 150 people attended a function hosted by the Master Builders Association of the ACT for their 2011 Group Training Apprentice and Cadet Awards. The awards recognise outstanding work by the current Master Builders Group Training apprentices and cadets.

The awards were divided into the following categories: Plumbing, Carpentry, Civil, Bricklaying and Australian School Based Apprenticeships. The major awards of Outstanding Apprentice of the Year and the para-professional category of Cadet of the Year were awarded to Tim Knight and Terry Mulcahy respectively.

The team at Project Coordination said about Terry Mulcahy, "We have found Terry to be diligent and conversant with all aspects of the building industry, able to negotiate with all levels of the building team including clients, architects, consultants, subcontractors and our management team. We have seen him transform from an inexperienced foreman to a very experienced general foreman".



Robert Palombi from AC Contractors, host employer of Tim Knight, said "We have had many apprentices over the years and within the first week we knew we had something special in Tim. His understanding and

ability for a first year apprentice was that of tradesman and has only improved over the past three years. The ability to solve any problems that he came across and the quality of his work is outstanding and it comes as no surprise that Tim was the winner of the Award".

Wendy Tengstrom, General Manager of Master Builders Group Training said that the evening "was another successful apprentice and cadet awards ceremony with many talented apprentices and cadets competing for the awards. It was great to see so many hosts and sponsors on the night".

The event is an important way of recognising rising talent in the building and construction industry, and provides apprentices and cadets with the opportunity to network with industry professionals and showcase their skills.

Photo: Tim Knight receiving the 'Outstanding Apprentice of the Year' award from Gary Guy, Training Fund Authority. Article and photo courtesy of Master Builders Association of the ACT.



Australian Government

Critical Skills Investment Fund

The Australian Government has opened the \$200 million Critical Skills Investment Fund to partner with industry to provide training and employment opportunities.

Companies can now apply for funding to improve the skills of existing workers, train adult tradespeople as supervisors and recruit and train new workers and unemployed job seekers.

The Fund will help train 39,000 skilled workers over four years and target areas of critical need for the resources, construction, infrastructure and renewable energy sectors.

Priorities for the first round of the Critical Skills Investment Fund will be rapid and innovative training responses that are tailored to meet employers' immediate skills needs.

The Fund may also be used to support the recommendations of the National Resources Sector Employment Taskforce.

For more information on the Critical Skills Investment Fund, visit www.deewr.gov.au/criticalskillsinvestmentfund

Source: Training Packages @ Work



training services

At HIA, we aim to provide industry specific, relevant and timely training for our members so you can keep pace with, rather than becoming overwhelmed by change. We have training courses and workshops designed to place you at the head of the pack, by having the advantage of improved skills and knowledge.

We consider our training program as a critical component of our member benefits. We have developed new courses, including builder licensing, estimating, occupational health and safety, business, sustainability and technical subjects. Importantly, we will continue to review and validate existing courses to ensure they are both relevant and comprehensive.

And we are continually looking to introduce new courses, particularly on topics raised by members and in emerging areas such as sustainability.

We invite you to contact HIA Training Services on 6285 7300 for a copy our 2011 training calendar.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY
OFFICE OF REGULATORY SERVICES

New ACT Code of Practice for Formwork

The ACT now has a Code of Practice for Formwork.

Formwork is an inherently high risk activity. It usually involves work at heights over rough, uneven or possibly unstable terrain where other building materials and equipment are often present. It may also involve multi-storey work, with the associated risks of structural collapse or objects falling on workers and bystanders.

The purpose of the Code is to provide businesses and workers with practical advice to help prevent injury to workers and bystanders when erecting and dismantling formwork and associated equipment.

You can view a copy of the code by visiting the following website: www.legislation.act.gov.au

Source: The Office of Regulatory Services monthly electronic news bulletin

Need extra skills to help your bottom line?

The Canberra Institute of Technology provides relevant, practical building and construction training. We are large and diverse enough to have qualified specialists in almost every area of business.

Our 500+ courses can be tailored specifically to your employees and your industry sector – whether it's MYOB, OH&S, BAS, project management, updating your website, contract management, white card registration and many others.

Don't need an entire course? We custom-design a solution to the specific skills your employees need. Whether it's in the workplace, online, or on campus, we can help you and your employees with the right skills in a way that works for your business.

Get in touch with Mick Doyle on (02) 6207 8770 or Michael.doyle@cit.edu.au, or visit www.cit.edu.au.



WHAT WORKS FOR YOU

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