

# E – INSTITUTE

## The Official Newsletter of IPA



The Institute of Plumbing  
Australia Incorporated

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Promoting Consistency in all things Plumbing

### National Construction Code 2011

The draft National Construction Code (NCC) Plumbing Provisions were released July 21 for public comment and can be found on the ABCB website at [www.abcb.gov.au](http://www.abcb.gov.au). The public comment period extends until 1 September 2010.

Comments can be sent to [plumbing2011@abcb.gov.au](mailto:plumbing2011@abcb.gov.au) and will close on the 1st September.

The Institute of Plumbing Australia urges members to view this important document and make comment where thought applicable. Please make your comments as directed above but also if willing please provide a copy to the Institute so as we may include your thoughts into the Institute's comment submission.

Copy comments to [secretary@plumbing.org.au](mailto:secretary@plumbing.org.au)

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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6 May 2010

### New statistical resource taps into training history

Over one million more students undertook publicly funded training in 2008 than in 1981, when 692 000 students were enrolled.

Covering over 27 years, a new statistical resource released by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) offers a one-stop shop for historical data and a timeline of important events in the VET sector.

Complemented with apprenticeship and traineeship data stretching back to 1963, the two sets of data tables allow users to gain an overview of training activity over nearly the last half century.

In doing so, both sets of web tables reflect the major changes to the VET system in Australia in one resource.

"In the past, if you wanted data going back as far as these resources do, you had a lot of hard work ahead of you as the information was spread across numerous publications", says Sandra Pattison, General Manager, Statistics, NCVER.

"Now, understanding recent developments in VET in terms of the longer-term trend is more straightforward.

"For example, the remarkable growth of traineeships following the introduction of the New Apprenticeship System in 1998 is evident.

"Similarly, data going back to 1996 shows the marked growth of students undertaking publicly funded training with a private provider."

Adding to these resources in the near future, another NCVER project charts national policy changes going back to at least the 1970s that affected the VET sector. The timeline will highlight landmark reports and major drivers of change at the federal level.

*Historical time series of vocational education and training in Australia from 1981* is available from [www.ncver.edu.au/statistic/publications/2244.html](http://www.ncver.edu.au/statistic/publications/2244.html)

*Historical time series of apprenticeships and traineeships in Australia from 1963* is available from [www.ncver.edu.au/statistic/publications/2245.html](http://www.ncver.edu.au/statistic/publications/2245.html)

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<http://blog.worldskills.org>

Dear Stephen J,

WorldSkills International has just launched the WorldSkills Blog! The Blog will educate, inform, promote and engage people around the world who want to discuss the latest trends, ideas, movements and relevant issues in skills, trades and technologies.

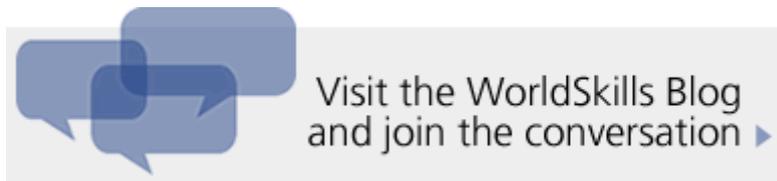
The blog currently includes some exciting topics, these are just an example of what potential the blog can evolve to in the future. It is our hope that bloggers and readers can help drive an interactive and engaging attitude and spirit through this initiative.

The WorldSkills Blog is a platform for people that are passionate about skills and want to share their opinions and voice their ideas with others.

We are currently contacting potential bloggers who are willing to devote time to writing current, relevant and inspiring posts. The bloggers will address global skills issues, with local, national and international focus.

If you wish to become a regular contributor please contact Christine Scoot ([christine.scoot@worldskills.org](mailto:christine.scoot@worldskills.org)).

We look forward to adding more exciting contributions from the WorldSkills movement so visit the blog now and share your thoughts.



## Goodbye big tin sheds of yesterday: GBCA launches Green Star Industrial tool

TUE 4 MAY, 2010 GBCA MEDIA RELEASES

A new Green Star rating tool for industrial facilities has been released to support the sustainable planning, design and construction of high-performance industrial buildings.

The Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) has today released the Green Star - Industrial v1 tool, after a two year development period involving an extensive stakeholder feedback and a pilot phase.

"The days of industrial facilities being nothing more than big tin sheds on concrete slabs are gone," says the GBCA's Green Star Executive Director, Robin Mellon.

"Industrial facilities can be intelligent buildings. This doesn't necessarily mean investing in high-tech

solutions, but rather applying common sense principles of good passive design. Just like other green buildings in the office, retail, education and residential sectors, green industrial facilities can save occupants and owners millions of dollars across the industry in reduced energy and water costs alone," Mr Mellon says.

The rating tool assesses the environmental attributes of new and refurbished industrial buildings in every state across Australia. The industrial base building and its services are assessed under the Green Star - Industrial v1 rating tool; fitouts and industrial processes are not included in the assessment.

The Green Star - Industrial v1 rating tool includes two sector specific credits called 'Noise Pollution' and 'Small Occupied Spaces'. A number of credits have been significantly improved and are featured in this rating tool for the first time; these include a revised version of the watercourse pollution credit called 'Stormwater' and the revised Materials credits for 'PVC', 'Timber' and 'Steel'.

The Transport credit for public transport has also been revised to accommodate regional differences in transportation needs, and the methodology for assessing greenhouse gas emissions is now based on the energy efficiency requirements in section J of the Building Code of Australia (BCA).

Refinements to the calculators and credits have already received positive feedback from industry.

"This new Green Star tool will help the industrial sector to catch up to other sectors that have taken an early lead in green building. Most companies and the people within them want to do the right thing, but often don't know where to start. The Green Star Industrial tool can provide useful guidance and help Australia to become a world leader in green industrial facilities," says BlueScope Buildings' National Business Development Manager, Carmelo San Gil.

When TradeCoast Central opens its new industrial facility at Lot 12 in Brisbane's Eagle Farm, not only will its employees benefit from a cleaner, greener work place, but the local community and the environment will too.

Lot 12 TradeCoast Central became the first certified Green Star industrial facility in Australia when it achieved a 4 Star Green Star - Industrial PILOT rating in April 2010.

"Being involved in the Green Star - Industrial PILOT has been a challenging but rewarding experience; our consultants and contractors have learnt a lot and the support from the occupier has been overwhelming. We hope the introduction of the Green Star - Industrial v1 rating tool will see more new

projects within the estate become formally certified," says TradeCoast Central's Project Director, Cassie Eivers.

ESD Consultant on the project, John Moynihan from Ecolateral, said: "The industrial building sector is an area where substantial savings can be made in terms of energy, greenhouse gas and water savings. At the same time, industrial buildings usually house a number of diverse functions under the one roof, making it challenging to track environmental performance. The Green Star - Industrial v1 tool provides clarity and guidance during the design phase of industrial buildings to ensure owners and operators get a good mix of economic and environmental outcomes."

"The new Green Star - Industrial v1 tool will deliver a single third party certification that the market can understand and trust, and that developers can use to demonstrate their industrial developments' green credentials," Robin Mellon concludes.

The Green Star - Industrial v1 tool can be freely downloaded for self-assessment and online registration is open. [Read more, including a fact sheet and business case.](#)

Your input into this Newsletter and other IPA matters is always welcome and in fact sort after. If you are not already a member why not join and really help us provide a voice for plumbers and plumbing. Simply email the Secretary below.

Comments on matters raised in E-INSTITUTE or suggestions for future issues are welcome and may be sent to the Editor at:

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You have been sent this Newsletter as a member of the IPA or as a professional member of the wider plumbing industry. If you do not wish to receive further issues please send a reply email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.