

Thursday 31 August 2017

MASTER BUILDERS SHOWCASES GREEN TECHNOLOGY TO HELP ADDRESS HOUSING ISSUES

On Friday 1 September, Master Builders Association of Victoria convenes its eleventh annual Green Living Conference to a sold-out audience at the Building Leadership Simulation Centre in South Melbourne. The conference focuses on the continued development of building technologies that not only support stewardship of the environment, but offer solutions for some of Victoria's most looming housing problems.

"It's widely agreed that sustainable building practice is the right thing to do for the environment, but it can also help to solve practical crises that Victorians are facing today, like housing affordability and prolonged planning delays," Radley de Silva, CEO Master Builders Association of Victoria, said.

"Homes and their components can now be printed three-dimensionally, greatly accelerating the construction process, and pre-fabrication technology allows components to be assembled offsite with much less waste and much greater precision," Mr de Silva said.

"This precision and control offers the opportunity to fast-track aspects of the building process, thus lowering the building costs and improving housing affordability. But what remains to be addressed are the continued delays in the planning and building permits process, the documented slowness of which currently costs both homeowners and builders more time and money for the housing Victorians need," he said.

"Sustainable building practices, like pre-fabrication, also offer employment opportunities to workers displaced by the closure of auto manufacturing plants. Retraining skilled workers for new careers in building strengthens the Victorian economy."

"As the state's second-largest full-time employer, and contributing more than 40 per cent to the Victorian economy, the building and construction sector recognises it plays a major role in offering employment opportunities to Victorians eager to work," Mr de Silva said.

Conference details:

When: Friday 1 September, 8.30am-4.30pm

Where: Building Leadership Simulation Centre (BLSC), 49 Brady Street South Melbourne

Quotes attributable to Radley de Silva, CEO Master Builders Association of Victoria:

- *"Investment in cutting-edge building technologies is crucial to addressing the issue of housing affordability because it does so much to enhance building efficiency, reduce waste of building materials, and offer the opportunity to accelerate a sluggish building permit*



process.”

- *“Our Green Living Conference has been an instrumental, eleven-year pursuit of knowledge to help builders gain the knowledge about sustainable building that the market demands.”*

Featured speakers at the Green Living Conference include industry experts on topics including selection for the right power source (Damien Moyse and Dean Lombard, The Alternative Technology Association), building high-performance houses (Sven Maxa, Maxa Design), heat-recovery ventilation (Oliver Joss, Steible Eltron), performance parameters for glass windows and doors (Stuart Prain, Rylock), and ‘Passivhaus’ technology (Stuart Lee, Craftsmen Quality Builders)

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