

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
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Builders claim green win on jobs package

Victoria's peak building industry body, the Master Builders Association, says the State Government's *Jobs for the Future Economy* package will help boost building workforce productivity and reduce housing costs for future Victorian homebuyers.

Executive Director of Master Builders, Brian Welch, said the \$5 million *Building a Green Future* fund invests in the future productivity of Victoria's building workforce and is exactly what the industry has been calling for.

"Master Builders [2010-11 State Pre-Budget Submission](#) urged the Government to invest in upskilling Victoria's building workforce to meet the sustainability challenges of the future," said Mr Welch.

"Today's announcement is a great win for the building industry as thousands of builders and tradies will now be able to improve their sustainability credentials through subsidised green skill training courses.

"Master Builders also welcomes the Government's decision to delay the introduction of Six Star residential energy efficiency regulations until 1 May, 2011.

"A recent Master Builder survey found that 65 per cent of builders opposed the introduction of Six Star regulations anytime in 2010, with the majority supporting an introduction date in mid 2011.

"Master Builders had been urging the Government to avoid rushing the introduction of Six Star regulations due to its high compliance costs and design complexity.

"The combination of subsidised sustainability training and the revised May 2011 start date will help ensure the building industry is better prepared to affordably comply with the incoming regulations.

"Master Builders currently operates a [Green Living Builder](#) program which trains residential and commercial builders in sustainable building and design.

"Our three courses are linked to units of competency and are formally recognised industry qualifications. The courses are:

1. A two day course for residential builders (Members \$395, Non-Members \$669);
2. Commercial Builder Course in Sustainable Construction (Members \$543, Non-Members \$709); and,
3. A ten day course, Cert. 4 Building & Construction - Environmental Management (Members \$1,645, Non-Members \$2,395))

"Today's announcement of support funding will enable thousands of builders and tradies to access these courses at discount rates. Today's announcement is a great win for builders and the environment."

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