

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
ABN: 38 004 255 654

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Residential builders looking forward to a busy year ahead

Residential builders in Victoria are optimistic about the year ahead according to the latest Master Builders *Building Trends* survey.

Master Builders Association of Victoria Executive Director Brian Welch said that 45 per cent of the builders who responded to the quarterly survey described their current level of business activity as 'good'.

"Our members are telling us they are getting a reasonable amount of work with 48 per cent of them expecting their level of work to improve over the next 12 months," Mr Welch said.

"As the Government stimulus packages wind down for first home buyers, the majority of work will come from second home buyers and renovators," he said.

"Of those surveyed, 35 per cent said they believed second home buyers would make up the majority of work while 30 per cent said they believed renovators would be their most common clients.

"35 per cent have told us they have work lined up for the next four to six months and 65 per cent plan to maintain their current workforce.

"Another 8 per cent say they will hire new staff.

"The worst of the Global Financial Crisis is over and interest rates have stabilised creating a positive business environment for residential builders.

"The survey revealed that 48 per cent of the residential builders who responded see their profits improving over the next 12 months.

"As the Victorian population continues to increase by 1500 people a week, it is a good time to be in the building industry. We hope that planning regulations and land supply improve to support that growth and the industry."

Master Builders *Building Trends* eSurvey is done quarterly to gauge the business activity, financial situation and outlook for Victoria's builders.

FAST FACTS

- 35 per cent of residential builders said second home buyers would make up the majority of work in 2011.
- 30 per cent said they believed renovators would be their most common clients.
- 48 per cent of the residential builders who responded see their profits improving over the next 12 months.
- 35 per cent have work lined up for the next four to six months.
- 65 per cent plan to maintain their current workforce.

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