

PSF24

PLUMBING SUPPLY FORUM

The Premier Business Event For The Australian Plumbing Industry

TUESDAY JUNE 4TH: CONFERENCE PROGRAM - MORNING SESSIONS

8.00 AM	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS
8.50 AM	CONFERENCE OPENING & WELCOME
9.00 AM	DOMESTIC FORECAST FOR BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION <i>Presented by Chief Economist for the Housing Industry Association</i> The HIA headlines the day with its much-anticipated national forecast (with State breakdowns) of Australian building and construction sector data, covering both new build and renovation sectors. This data is always highly valued as a takeaway reference for delegates' business planning purposes, especially so in this volatile market.
10.15 AM	MARKET OUTLOOK FOR COPPER, METALS AND ALLOY SUPPLY <i>Piers Montgomery: Principal Analyst, Base Metals Supply; CRU Group</i> Back by popular request following his presentation at the previous PSF, Piers will again unlock some of the mystery behind metals supply. With today's geopolitical situation, who can guess what those influences might be by June 2024. With fewer alternatives in the plumbing supply, this will be valuable information, given the supply/price pressure of metals/alloys.
10.45 AM	INDUSTRY BENEFITS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER EFFICIENCY LABELLING AND STANDARDS SCHEME <i>Teresa McMaugh - Director - WELS Program</i> The Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Act was introduced nationally in 2005 and since that time has served the plumbing industry well. Teresa McHugh, Director of the WELS Program will update delegates on the management and continuing success of the scheme, and improvements that are underway that will further benefit industry and consumers.
11.00 AM	MORNING TEA
11.25 AM	AUSTRALIAN BUILDING CODES BOARD (ABCB) MARKET UPDATE ABCB PRESENTATION Delegates will be briefed on the latest updates/amendments to the WaterMark program, aside from Lead-Free, which will be extensively covered in the afternoon session. ABCB management will also detail which Australian Standards relevant to the plumbing industry are coming up for review.
11.45 AM	THE CONTINUING ROLE NATURAL GAS HAS TO PLAY, IN THE DECARBONISATION PATHWAY Gas has and will continue to play a vital role in the broader plumbing/gas industry, but it's not without its challenges. In recent time, a lot of misinformation has been spread about the gas sector, particularly from the 'let's electrify everything' lobby and the Victorian Government, who introduced their ban, effective January 2024. Several States remain supportive of gas, but the sector has lost some of its scalability. Natural gas can be the nucleus of our transition to renewable energies and carbon reduction. Transitioning to hydrogen can be obtained by utilizing the current natural gas networks. High energy gaseous fuel is needed by many industries. The transition to hydrogen will allow the Australian manufacturing sector to maintain its current operations and expand in the future. Australian industry is aware it needs a skilled-up ongoing gas service sector. These embedded skills and past knowledge of plumbing and gas-fitting must continue to be maintained and built upon. This session will provide a national industry update presented by gas industry leaders, using the latest data, and will explore both conventional and hydrogen gas development options, which are virtually changing by the day. Speakers will include Enzo Alfonsetti from Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) and Paul Bonsak - Managing Director of IAPMO
12.30 PM	PPIG INDUSTRY UPDATE The Plumbing Products Industry Group speaks for the interests of the industry, be it with Federal or State Governments/Departments, or consumer lobby groups/activists. This update will detail the major issues ahead of the industry.
12.45 PM	LUNCHEON

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2.00 PM	ENSURING COMPLIANCE IN THE NSW MARKET Matthew Whitton - Director, NSW Department of Customer Service In recent time the NSW Government has introduced significant legislation aimed at improving the outcomes across the building and construction sector. Delegates will hear of the latest initiatives being introduced by NSW Fair Trading.
2.20 PM	LEAD-FREE BRASS - INDUSTRY TRANSITION PROGRAM Session Chair - TBA The industry has moved well beyond 'the why' and is now focussed on how best to implement a Lead-Free environment and be assured that all competitors are playing by the rules. By the time the 2024 PSF comes about, more than one third of the Lead-Free transition period will have passed. However, at that point, it is anticipated that many of the suppliers and resellers throughout the supply chain, will still be blissfully ignorant of major compliant issues. The focus for the afternoon session will be the exchange of expert views about the transition program, from several technical and business directions. To achieve that, we have assembled an expert group of senior industry leaders to present. These expert presentations will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interpreting The Legislation• Testing for Lead• Manufacturing Know-How• Understanding Certification• Educating Contractors• The Merchant View• Shared Experiences from Asia/Europe/US• Making Compliance Work for Everyone
3.40 PM	AFTERNOON TEA
4.00 PM	TRANSITION TO LEAD-FREE Q & A PANEL / OTHER SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES As has always been popular at previous Plumbing Supply Forums, the opportunity for delegates to directly question our panel of industry experts offers everyone a great opportunity to air their views.
5.00 / 6.15 PM	NETWORKING COCKTAILS This is when the real business gets done. It's your opportunity to meet and mingle with your fellow industry delegates.

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THE EVENT IS JOINTLY PRESENTED BY:
The Plumbing Products Industry Group (PPI) and Plumbing Connection Magazine.

