

Why should I use an Accredited Building Practitioner?

Accredited Building Practitioners are:

- accredited by *Building Practitioner Accreditation*, part of Workplace Standards Tasmania;
- insured;
- skilled, experienced and knowledgeable;
- required to keep their trade and business skills and industry knowledge current through compulsory Continuing Professional Development – “CPD”;
- subject to random performance checks (audits) on their compliance with the Building Act and the conditions of their accreditation;
- aware they must comply with a Code of Conduct for accredited building practitioners. The Code measures the professional standards expected of practitioners. Consumers may make a complaint if it is alleged that practitioners have engaged in unprofessional conduct or professional misconduct.

How can I tell if a person is an accredited building practitioner?

All accredited practitioners have a unique accreditation number starting with “CC”. Individuals only are accredited. You may check details of individuals with a cross reference to their associated business by searching the on-line Register of accredited practitioners on the Workplace Standards Tasmania website:

www.wst.tas.gov.au/building



How do I find out more about Accredited Building Practitioners?

Contact *Building Practitioner Accreditation* (part of Workplace Standards Tasmania):

Phone (in Tasmania) 1300 366 322

Phone (outside Tasmania) (03) 6233 7657

Email: wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au

Website: www.wst.tas.gov.au/building

Fax (03) 6233 8338

PO Box 56, Rosny Park TAS 7018

Owner builders should read the *Owner Builder Kit* available free from Workplace Standards Tasmania

Building?

ARE YOU USING AN

Accredited Building Practitioner?



BUILDING ACT 2000

Department of Justice
Workplace Standards Tasmania
Building Control Branch

GB163 May 2008



What is an Accredited Building Practitioner?

If a person is in the "business of building" then more than likely they must be accredited (licensed) as an Accredited Building Practitioner. If you intend to undertake building work over \$5,000, the first question you should always ask a builder or designer is: "Are you an Accredited Building Practitioner?"

By using an Accredited Building Practitioner, you are engaging a qualified, knowledgeable and experienced professional. Building practitioners who contract with owners to be the responsible person to carry out building work must be accredited by **Building Practitioner Accreditation (BPA)**. It ensures that applicants meet the requirements of the Accreditation Scheme and monitors the conduct of accredited practitioners so they meet suitable professional standards. BPA is independent from industry or professional associations. Individuals only are accredited, not companies or businesses.

What work must be carried out by an Accredited Building Practitioner?

- The design, construction (or demolition) and assessment of any building work that is valued at more than \$5,000 and requires a building permit must be carried out by an Accredited Building Practitioner.
- Non-accredited persons or corporations contracting with owners to perform this type of building work are breaking the law and they can be fined up to \$60,000.



- Owners of land and buildings who authorise building work must ensure that any person engaged to carry out the building work is an accredited building practitioner.
- Genuine owner builders can still build on their own land and hire non-accredited tradespersons to help them. For information about owner builder's responsibilities see the **Owner Builder Kit** free from Workplace Standards Tasmania publication reference GB177.

What are the categories of Accredited Building Practitioner?

There is a category of accredited building practitioner to suit any building project, domestic or commercial, including new building work, alterations and extensions, repairs and maintenance or a change of use of premises.

Designers of building work or its components:

Architects and Building Designers — produce detailed architectural designs;

Engineers — produce detailed designs,

documentation and calculations for the construction and implementation of building structure and systems;

Building Services Designers — design the heating, cooling, air handling and plumbing systems of buildings.

Builders:

Low Rise e.g. houses, units, town houses, garages, one storey high shops or offices;

Medium Rise e.g. shops, offices, units and blocks of flats up to three storeys;

Open e.g. work on all buildings including multi-storey offices and apartments, large factories, shops and warehouses.

Construction Managers — specialise in the management role of building projects;

Fire Protection — install fire detection or fire suppression services and systems;

Demolishers — specialise in the demolition or removal of buildings.

Assessors of building work:

Building Surveyors and Assistant Building Surveyors — certify that architectural proposed building work is likely to comply with the Building Act, before an application is made for a building permit, conduct inspections of work in progress and certify building stages such as occupancy.