

# Media Release



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## **Apprenticeship System Vital To Increased Productivity, Growth And Jobs**

Master Builders Australia welcomes the Assistant Education Minister, Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham's reinforcement of the Government's commitment to an apprenticeship system that meets the needs of industry and provides enhanced pathways to rewarding careers for young people.

"Master Builders has pushed for pragmatic reforms that will help industry and education providers deliver those outcomes," Richard Calver Acting CEO of Master Builders Australia.

"Master Builders strongly backs Minister Birmingham's recognition that an effective vocational education and training (VET) system is central to productivity and economic growth," he said.

"The building and construction industry is playing an increasing role in filling the gap left by the resources boom. The strengthening residential building upturn is an example of how more rewarding career opportunities are being created for young people as highlighted in Master Builders' latest *National Survey of Building and Construction*," Richard Calver said.

"Builders want to train more young people so they are job ready for the work in our industry and welcomes Minister Birmingham's recognition of employer concerns about getting the apprentice system right, including the cost of training, the impact of wage costs and the level of incentives," he said.

"Master Builders welcomes the Minister's commitment to consult with business and looks forward to working with the Government to ensure that the apprentice system meets the needs of the industry in offering more rewarding career opportunities for young people," Richard Calver said.

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