

# a brighter future

A new program designed to help apprentices and young tradespeople to become successful sole contractors was launched recently in Sydney.

## About the scholarship

Underpinning the HIA Build Your Future program is the HIA Training Scholarships, in partnership with JELD-WEN and supported by Stratco. The scholarships are designed to help young people achieve their training goals, reach their full potential and meet their professional development objectives. HIA training scholarships will be awarded twice a year with the first to close on 30 November. The scholarships are not restricted to HIA members or HIA apprentices, and are open to people currently employed in the residential building industry as an apprentice, employee or working as a contractor wanting to increase their skills and qualifications, typically 25 years or younger.

The HIA Build Your Future program will award full and partial training scholarships across Australia to a total value of \$200,000, with individual scholarships ranging up to \$6500, to help offset the cost of HIA training fees.

*NB: The first round of scholarships close 30 November 2010; however, nominations will be received from 1 December 2010 onwards for 2011 HIA Training Scholarships. Nominees who applied for the 2010 scholarships are welcome to renominate for the 2011 scholarship program.*

The HIA Build Your Future program, underpinned by an HIA Training Scholarships component, is an industry driven initiative specifically designed to support apprentices and young tradespeople in the residential building industry to go on to become successful sole contractors. It was successfully launched at the HIA-BlueScope Steel Apprentice Training Day in Sydney on 30 September (see page 90).

Partnered by JELD-WEN Australia and supported by Stratco, the HIA Build Your Future program will help apprentices to make the transition from apprenticeship to sole contractor by encouraging them to increase their qualifications and business skills and better prepare themselves for a successful future in the residential building industry. The program will also offer them the

support they need to complete their apprenticeship by providing one central source to draw upon for the latest and most up-to-date information.

HIA Managing Director Shane Goodwin says the HIA Build Your Future program is timely in promoting up-skilling, training and developing career pathways in the building and construction industry. It will encourage young people to do more courses, gain more licences and qualifications and, as a result, profit from the growth in the industry, he says.

**‘Such challenges will be overcome in the future with key residential building industry initiatives such as the HIA Build Your Future program’**

‘With an ageing workforce looking to scale back their role in the industry, it is important to provide up-and-coming generations with the skill, solid knowledge base and industry encouragement to pick up the slack

*Below: Build Your Future partners: (L-R) Wayne O'Brien, HIA NSW; Michael Amparo, Stratco; Luke Van Dyck; David Bare, HIA NSW; Christine Evans, JELD-WEN Australia; James Courtney.*





## Meeting the challenges to build your future

V8 supercar champion James Courtney and third-generation builder Luke Van Dyck have faced and overcome their own fair share of challenges.

Both James and Luke, courtesy of JELD-WEN Australia, addressed the 90-something crowd of apprentices at the recent HIA-BlueScope Steel Apprentice Training Day when the HIA Build Your Future program was launched.

James spoke of his journey to success, telling the apprentices that – as much as you want to – you can't always win every race. 'As with any journey to success, you will experience the ups and downs,' he said, 'but the rewards are there if you keep going.'

Luke, at just 30 years of age, has successfully transitioned from completing his apprenticeship to owning and managing his own highly successful custom home building business and also has a high media profile, proving to aspiring apprentices that you can indeed build your future.

Luke's motivational address offered invaluable advice to apprentices about completing their apprenticeship and taking the step to sole contractor. He said that the industry has changed significantly and builders need to be highly professional in order to gain work from a potential customer.

'Reputation is a major component to the success of a builder and it can only be built on professionalism, qualifications and workmanship,' he said. 'With the reinforcement of major companies like JELD-WEN and industry voices such as HIA, a program like Build Your Future can support young future tradespeople to realise the rewards of this highly competitive industry.'

*For more information on the HIA-BlueScope Steel Apprentice Training Day see page 90.*

which is vital if underlying housing demand is to be met.

'Such challenges will be overcome in the future with key residential building industry initiatives such as the HIA Build Your Future program,' he says.

JELD-WEN Australia CEO and Executive Vice President Nigel Lapping agrees. 'Building and construction is the engine room of the economy and it is in everyone's best interest to ensure we have an ongoing supply of qualified tradespeople coming through the ranks,' he says. 'We can never underestimate the importance of fostering young Australians where the opportunity exists to become involved in business.'

'Becoming a successful home builder requires a great commitment from a young person. This is why JELD-WEN is so strongly committed to supporting apprentices to complete their qualifications and then make that transition to running their own business.'

'As a key supplier to the residential building industry, JELD-WEN absolutely relies on young people taking on apprenticeships in the housing industry. The HIA Build Your Future program is an initiative that can support future apprentices and reduce the shortage of skilled workers in the industry,' he says.

David Bare, HIA's NSW regional executive director, launched the program and stressed the importance and benefits of it and the training scholarships to apprentices: 'By registering on [hia.com.au/buildyourfuture](http://hia.com.au/buildyourfuture) and taking just 10 minutes of your time to nominate for a scholarship, you may end up saving yourselves thousands of dollars in training course fees.' 

