

# OUTLET

The Official Reece Customer Update

We welcome your **feedback** so please send any comments by e-mail to [outlet@reece.com.au](mailto:outlet@reece.com.au) or by fax to **(03) 9274 0131**.

# HEATING DOWN UNDER

## Auspex Radiant underfloor heating launches in Australia.

Right now it's summer, everyone wants to get out of the heat. But winter's coming, and if your customers are building, underfloor heating is a great way to keep them comfortable in winter, and grow your business. *Continued page 2*



Is it really that time again?  
**Footy tipping: back for 2012**

Yes, it really is happening. It's time for all you Reece account customers to charge up your footy brains. The NRL season starts on March 1 and the AFL a little later, on March 24.

So don't miss out. Make sure you get in and register at your local Reece branch for your chance to win over \$20,000 worth of prizes.

**For more details go to [www.reece.com.au/tipping](http://www.reece.com.au/tipping)**

# Heating down under

Auspex Radiant underfloor heating is efficient, cost-effective, reliable and easy to install.



## What's it all about?

Heat rises. That's why underfloor heating is one of the most efficient ways to heat a home. Traditional air heating methods force warm air through the house, resulting in uneven heat distribution, particularly in dwellings with high ceilings.

Forced air heating also blows dust and pollen around the house, which means it's a serious health issue for sufferers of asthma and allergies.

## How does it work?

Underfloor heating provides a constant, even spread of radiant heat. It's a simple idea that goes back to ancient Rome (they used hot air, now we use water). The Auspex system works by circulating hot water through PEX pipes laid out in-slab beneath the floor. Connected through a central manifold, hot water is maintained by a gas boiler.

Once it's installed there are minimal ongoing maintenance costs. With no fans and very few moving parts, it's quiet. And because the floor's the heater, there are no units attached to the walls, giving a new home an uncluttered, stylish, minimalist look.

## How to get started?

It takes about a day to install a system in a standard home before the concrete pour, then about half a day to get the system up and running. Everything you need comes in the kit, so you'll save time chasing components and taking out all the guesswork on site. The Smart Clip system for laying pipe makes pipe installation faster and easier.

Auspex Radiant underfloor heating is easy to install, however you do need to be trained, which is something we can help organise. We will also provide you with support after your training through our online assistance as well as an optional design service.

For more information on this exciting new opportunity ask your Branch Manager or go to [www.reece.com.au/hydronicheating/auspexradiant](http://www.reece.com.au/hydronicheating/auspexradiant)

# Apprenticeships aren't what they used to be

The federal government is planning big changes.



**Apprenticeships are important. Young people need them to get their careers started. Plumbers need them to bring fresh talent into their businesses. And the country needs them to address the skills shortage.**

But apprenticeships are facing big challenges. Right now there are around 400,000 apprentices in Australia, but an independent review has found that, for various reasons, as many as half could drop out. There are also inconsistencies between the states. Currently apprentices can qualify in two years in some states, while the same qualification requires four years across the border.

The federal government is about to address these issues with a national scheme.

## Here's what's happening:

- The Gillard government plans to slash bureaucratic red tape and establish a national system for apprenticeships, instead of the current state-by-state framework.
- This includes a pay rise for early-year apprentices.
- Apprentices will soon be able to fast-track their apprenticeships.
- They'll also be able to transfer their apprenticeship across state borders more easily.
- The government hopes the apprentice blueprint will make it 'easier and quicker for Australians to get the skills they need to access the high paying skilled jobs of the future'.

## Journeyman Toolkit

Whatever the changes, Reece is committed to helping apprentices get off to a good start, with the Journeyman Toolkit. The 24 or 34 piece kits are specially designed for apprentices, and come equipped with all the tradesman quality tools they'll need during their plumbing career.

And, yes, it's affordable. The Tools For Your Trade, is an initiative from the Australian Government which provides eligible apprentices periodic payments totalling \$5,500. You can use a small part this to purchase a Journeyman Toolkit.

**For more information regarding the Journeyman Toolkit and the Tools For Your Trade initiative, visit [www.reece.com.au/journeyman](http://www.reece.com.au/journeyman)**



## Reece is on Facebook

Facebook is all about sharing and this is your site to talk about all things plumbing.  
[www.facebook.com/ReecePlumbing](http://www.facebook.com/ReecePlumbing)

# Keeping it safe



The tragic events at the end of last year were a reminder of how important it is to make sure you're safe, especially when you're transporting gas cylinders.

When you're doing the same thing every day, it's very easy to get casual. But you can't afford to take your eye off the ball, particularly when it comes to gas cylinders. And if you're running a business, it's not just a moral obligation to keep your workers safe, there are heavy legal implications if someone's injured on your watch.

## Here are a few safety tips when working with gas cylinders.

- Transport gas cylinders in an open vehicle or ventilated storage facility
- Transport and store in a secure, upright position
- Remove regulators before transporting
- Carry fire-fighting equipment in the vehicle
- Store cylinders outside, away from potential ignition sources, tampering and other chemicals
- Leak checking may be done by pressure drop test, soapy water, gas detection tubes or flammable gas detector at joints and outlets.
- Remember empty cylinders can still be dangerous

For more safety advice and information about your legal obligations check out your state's Work Cover website.

Victoria  
[www.workcover.vic.gov.au](http://www.workcover.vic.gov.au)

Tasmania  
[www.workcover.tas.gov.au](http://www.workcover.tas.gov.au)

South Australia  
[www.workcover.sa.gov.au](http://www.workcover.sa.gov.au)

ACT  
[www.workcover.act.gov.au](http://www.workcover.act.gov.au)

New South Wales  
[www.workcover.nsw.gov.au](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au)

Queensland  
[www.workcover.qld.gov.au](http://www.workcover.qld.gov.au)

Western Australia  
[www.workcover.wa.gov.au](http://www.workcover.wa.gov.au)

Northern Territory  
[www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au)

## Total market recall of all Rothenberger MAP/Pro Gas Cylinders

Reece have recently been advised of the total market recall of all MAP/Pro cylinders. This means ALL Rothenberger branded Map/Pro Gas Cylinders in your possession that were purchased from Reece should immediately be returned to your local Reece branch, where you will receive a full credit for the product. For more information about the recall visit [www.reece.com.au/product-recall](http://www.reece.com.au/product-recall)

# The Crack

Welcome to The Crack, a new monthly feature in which we look at some of the stranger happenings in plumbing around the world. It's a sort of plumber's odd spot, something to brighten your day.

And, as even a first year apprentice quickly learns, there's no shortage of bizarre happenings in plumbing. So if you have a weird and wacky plumbing story, send it to us at [outlet@reece.com.au](mailto:outlet@reece.com.au) and we'll send you a Reece t-shirt if we publish it.

We kick off with this report from Sweden.



## Hair-raising

Mysterious happenings in a small Swedish town.

Sweden is famous for its blondes. So when the inhabitants of the little town of Anderslov found their hair turning green, investigations were initiated at the highest level. The water supply was tested for a high level of copper, but recorded only normal levels of the metal. However, when hot water was left in the houses' water systems overnight, the amount of copper in it was found to increase to five or ten times normal.

Hot water had peeled copper from pipes and water-heaters, which was absorbed into the water, causing the shock hair colour change when residents showered. The problem was worst in new homes, where pipes lacked coatings. Residents were told wash their hair in cold water or live in an older house to avoid the problem.

It's not recorded whether any of the residents preferred to stick with the green look.



YOU COULD BE ONE OF TWO WINNERS OF MILWAUKEE GEAR VALUED AT \$6000.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH TO FIND OUT HOW



# In The Pipeline

## Products for smarter plumbing

Plumbing is changing, and there's a lot more to it than pipes, trenches and taps. In The Pipeline keeps you up-to-date on a wide range of products.

Australia is a challenging climate. In summer the temperature routinely gets above 40°C and in winter it can drop below freezing. And the climate refuses to stick to the rules. That's exactly why many of your customers expect reliable, efficient and cost effective heating and cooling. And the Onsen range will exceed their expectations.

### Onsen reverse cycle air conditioning

The Onsen OAF series reverse cycle air conditioner range offers outstanding heating and cooling performance, with a full five-year warranty.

Available in four sizes, Onsen is the perfect choice for the smallest apartment through to the biggest home, providing total control, total comfort. Infra-red remote and auto swing control allow temperatures to be adjusted quickly and easily from a distance.

Even the indoor unit has a remote activated LCD display that shows the temperature setting and current mode. Intelligent Defrosting Technology has been fully integrated to prevent freezing in cooler environments, while helping to extend the life of the unit.

For more information please go to [www.reece.com.au/onsen](http://www.reece.com.au/onsen) or ask your local Branch Manager.



Heating/Cooling Indoor Unit



Infra-Red Remote



Anti-Rust Outdoor Unit

## EXPANDING THE NETWORK NEW BRANCHES



### North Lakes

Unit 1/6 Oxley St, North Lakes QLD 4509

Ph: (07) 3482 4199

Fax: (07) 3491 9744

Manager: Rodney Browning

### Fyshwick Plumbing

82 Barrier St, Fyshwick ACT 2609

Ph: (02) 6228 1718

Fax: (02) 6228 1702

Manager: Scott Mohamad

### Fyshwick Bathroom Life

82 Barrier St, Fyshwick ACT 2609

Ph: (02) 6228 1728

Fax: (02) 6228 1704

Manager: Jade Faulkner

## Main Price Changes

For the full list of price changes or if you have any queries, please see your Reece Branch Manager or visit [www.reece.com.au/outlet](http://www.reece.com.au/outlet) for further updates.

Supplier	Products	% Increase	Date Effective
APRICUS	Solar hot water systems	VAR%	01 February 2012
BLUNDSTONE	Workwear	VAR%	01 February 2012
CAROMA DORF	Tapware	3.8%	01 February 2012
IMPERIALWARE	Sanitaryware	VAR%	01 February 2012
MACSIM	Fasteners	6%	01 February 2012
MARBLETREND	Bathroomware	2%	01 February 2012
NYLEX	Irrigation products	VAR%	01 February 2012
PPI CORPORATION	Irrigation products	10-15%	01 February 2012
REPELEC	Tools	VAR%	01 February 2012
ROBERT BOSCH	Hot water systems	VAR%	01 February 2012

Outlet is a publication by Reece Pty Ltd (ACN 004 097 090) Copyright These materials are copyright. No part of them may be reproduced, adapted, translated or transmitted without the prior permission of the copyright owner, Reece Pty Ltd, except under any permitted circumstances set out in the Copyright Act 1968. Liability Reece makes no warranties with respect to any of the materials contained in this publication and Reece does not assume any responsibility or liability for any loss or damage which may arise from the use of, or reliance on, any information contained in this publication.

Outlet is printed on Monza Recycled which contains 55% recycled fibre (25% post consumer and 30% pre consumer) and 45% elemental chlorine free pulp. All virgin pulp is derived from well managed forests and it is manufactured by an ISO 14001 certified mill.

