

# 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**.

# Stop the drips



THAT'S RIGHT, THE REECE DIY PLUMBING DISASTERS COMPETITION IS BACK. AND WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THE WORST YOU'VE SEEN. YOU COULD **WIN \$3,000 CASH** ALONG WITH A WEBSITE FOR YOUR BUSINESS OR 1 OF 10 RUNNER UP PRIZES!

**FIND OUT MORE ON PAGE 3**



## 60 secs at the counter

Craig Denning is the Region Leader for Tasmania. This year is a milestone for Craig, it's his 10th year at Reece. He has worked all over Victoria and Tasmania, even though his background was not in plumbing he says he is "fully toilet trained"!

### Your 60 seconds starts now

1. What is happening in your region/area that the guys are talking about at your Trade Counter?

*One of the questions at the moment is the strength of the new Rehau PX fittings. (Some customers have even driven over them to test them! And they survived. They have to be Tassie Tough to make it here.)*

2. What area of plumbing do your customers work in?

*We get a full look at all aspects of plumbing whether it's commercial or domestic, Civil, HVAC-R or Irrigation. We see it all!*

3. Other than plumbing what are your customers talking about?

*The Daniel Geale fight. Footy – Will Tasmania get an opportunity to have a side in the AFL?*

4. What is the most memorable or funniest question you have been asked?

*On one of my first days at South Melbourne a plumber looked at me and asked "Are you old enough to work little fella?" (Most kids aged 6 are taller than me.)*

5. In your opinion, what area of plumbing has seen the most change/s over the last 12 months?

*I.T. - The plumbers are flat out and need information like pricing, technical specs or access to their account fast.*

# He revolutionised the computer

Now Bill Gates is doing the same thing with the toilet

Since Bill Gates stepped down as Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft he has devoted his time to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. One of the Foundation's most recent projects is the reinvention of the toilet in developing countries.

Toilets are things we take for granted. But in many parts of the world they're simply not an option. UNICEF estimates that 1.1 billion people around the world don't have access to any kind of toilet, and in crowded communities that means fouled drinking water and health risks such as diarrhoea and cholera.

Flushing toilets have saved countless lives. They've been refined, but they're still old technology, older even than the steam engine. Gates says it's time to move on from the classic toilet. Which is why the Foundation is distributing \$41.5 million in eight grants to universities to develop a more efficient and accessible system.

Coming up with a practical alternative is harder than you might think. The advantage of a flushing system is that it neutralises waste. But most of the countries which lack flushing toilets also lack the plumbing infrastructure and water resources to support them. What's called for is something more like the personal computer of sanitation. And if anyone can come up with that it ought to be Bill Gates.



Dutch engineer Frank Rijsberman works for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and is working on two projects. One supports the construction of pit latrines in rural areas and slums, the other gives grants to scientists who come up with new ideas for using human excrement. Some of the innovative ideas include:

- Bacteria that can turn waste into compost, even into drinking water.
- Dry toilets that separate excrement from urine in order to dry it.
- A solar-powered toilet.
- A toilet that could convert waste into electricity and;
- A South African project using the urine of 400,000 people to make nitrogenous fertilizer in powder form.

## Zero gravity plumbing Space is the last frontier in all sorts of ways.

Repairing the toilets of the International Space Station isn't easy. There's a little more involved in an environment in which water doesn't flow downhill. The toilet consists of two machines that use airflow created by suction to help remove toilet matter away from the astronaut.

And with the nearest plumber at least 378 kilometres away on Earth, Ron Garan, space station flight engineer, had to roll up his sleeves and become plumber for a day when the US toilet broke down.

Like all the best homes, the space station has a second toilet. While the repairs were being undertaken, the occupants of the US side were able to use the toilet on the Russian side. A shining example of international cooperation.



## The best Rainwater Tank down under

The Carat underground Rainwater Tanks  
Visit [www.reece.com.au](http://www.reece.com.au) to find out more.





# IT'S BACK

We all know they're out there, those home hacks who love nothing better than cranking the safety valves shut in hot water heaters or making ingenious repairs with gaffer tape, that somehow leads to the stormwater draining under the living room floor. They often just don't understand the risks of doing it themselves.

That's why the Reece DIY Plumbing Disasters Competition is back. It's all about helping spread the message of the dangers and implications when these DIYers choose not use a licensed plumber.

We're looking for those DIY disasters you've seen and had to fix. The winning entry will receive a \$3,000 cash along with a website built to promote their business. There are also ten runners up prizes up for grabs.

Last year's entries were impressive (in a scary way). Check them out at the Reece Facebook page or go to [www.reece.com.au/diydisasters](http://www.reece.com.au/diydisasters) and then start looking out for your own stories of home hacks who have taken on the risk of not using a licensed plumber like you.

## The Reece DIY Plumbing Disaster Competition

### How to enter

If you're a Reece account customer go to [www.reece.com.au/diydisasters](http://www.reece.com.au/diydisasters) and tell us in no more than 200 words of the disaster you've seen. We want to see your photos too, so send them if you've got them.

### The judges

As always our judges are industry experts who know a good disaster when they see one. Visit the website to see their profiles.

# It's that time again for men to think about their own plumbing.



This year more than 22,000 Australian men will die of cancers such as lung, prostate, bowel, pancreatic, melanoma and testicular cancers. Half the men in Australia will be directly affected by cancer by 85, and at least one in three cases is preventable.

Yet some men don't like to think about it. Which is one reason men are twice as likely as women to die from cancers that in many cases could have been prevented or cured.

We need to raise cancer awareness among men, because cancer can be avoided or treated successfully if we talk about it, think about it, and take care to avoid the risks.

Once again the Australian Cancer Research Foundation and Bowel Cancer Australia, is running their Blue September program. Blue September is a cancer awareness month, a nationwide fundraising initiative to increase the awareness of cancer, particularly in men. Money raised by Blue September supports and helps men reduce the risk of developing cancer by making better lifestyle choices, such as quitting smoking, reducing alcohol intake, taking care in the sun, getting regular exercise, maintaining a healthy weight and attending age appropriate health check-ups.

Blue September is about men facing up to cancer as well as encouraging donations towards cancer research, to help find a cure for the disease that affects so many Australian men.

Plumbers included.

For more information please go to [www.blueseptember.org.au](http://www.blueseptember.org.au)

## My Account Payment Portal

**The Payment Portal is a new feature of the My Account system.**

It's a secure online payment system that makes paying invoices and managing your account easier, faster and hassle free. The online Payment Portal now accepts Reece account payments by credit card.

**To find the Payment Portal please follow the steps below:**

1. Click on 'Payment Options' and then 'Go there now' to enter the My Account Online Payment Portal
2. New visitors to the Payment Portal will need to register to gain secure access to the site.

*(Note: This will be a separate login to your My Account login).*



Once you've logged in, to make payments, simply follow these easy steps:

1. Set up your bank details
2. Select view invoices
3. Select payment type
4. Select the invoice or invoices to pay
5. Submit payment

For help or more information please visit your local branch manager or visit [www.reece.com.au/paymentportalexplained](http://www.reece.com.au/paymentportalexplained)



**Designed to cope with the demands of even the most hectic family - whether it's in the bathroom, kitchen or laundry.**

Visit [www.reece.com.au](http://www.reece.com.au) to see the whole Posh range of taps, showers, baths, toilets and basins.

an everyday luxury **Posh**

# 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.

The drought seems to have broken in most parts of the country (fingers crossed). Which means thousands of Australians have full water tanks. This month we look at the Vada Rain2Main Automatic Rainwater Controller, which will divert water for domestic uses such as washing machines or toilets.

### Vada Rain2Main Automatic Rainwater Controller

The Vada Rain2Main is a controller that automatically switches between water sources depending on availability. Tank water is given priority, then the device automatically diverts to mains water if the tank is empty. WaterMark approved, the Vada Rain2Main has a comprehensive range of features that help to simplify installation and ensure that rainwater is fully utilised.



#### Features

- Maximum pressure: 1000kPa
- High-flow design.
- Optimum energy efficiency.
- Lower running costs by allowing smaller, more efficient pumps to be used.
- Pre-wired plug and play.
- True compliance – water switching, not water mixing.
- No need for a float switch.
- Quick and easy installation.
- In-built backflow protection.
- Integrated dual check valve (mains) and single check valve on pump delivery eliminates backflow and siphoning.
- Inlets/Outlet 25mm BSP female.
- Compatible with the Vada range of Jet, Horizontal Multistage and Submersible pumps.
- 2 years warranty.
- WaterMark approved.

## 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
AVK AUSTRALIA	Valves	6%	01 September 2011
BLUESCOPE WATER	Rainwater tanks	3%	01 September 2011
BOSTIK	Silicone	5%	01 September 2011
DECINA	Baths & spas	1-6%	01 September 2011
DUX MANUFACTURING	Hot water units	0-5%	01 September 2011
GEBERIT	Plastic pipe & fittings	3%	01 September 2011
PIPE KING	Plastic pipe & fittings	2.3%	01 September 2011
SELLEYS	Silicone	VAR%	01 September 2011
ZIP HEATERS	Water heaters	VAR%	01 September 2011
BILLI	Water heaters	VAR%	01 October 2011

# PUSH IT

TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL WITH PLASSON

**EASIER TO INSTALL**  
**EASIER TO DISASSEMBLE**  
**WIDER RANGE OF APPLICATIONS**

**PLASSON®**

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.

