

Outlet

The Official Reece Customer Update

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

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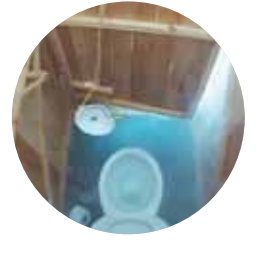
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On World Plumbing Day 2015
we ask, what does the future
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The Reece Grant supports healthy, happy communities

We're celebrating **World Plumbing Day** with the launch of the **Reece Grant**, a community water initiative that is all about creating healthier and happier communities around the world.

Launched this month, the Reece Grant is open to Reece Account customers who are looking to undertake clean water and sanitation projects in Australia or abroad.

The grant, which awards up to \$15,000 in the form of funds or products, supports water projects that focus on improving quality of life within underprivileged communities.

"At Reece we're passionate about helping our customers make a difference and the Reece Grant really strengthens our commitment to improving lives through clean water," says Reece Plumbing Marketing Manager, Adam Watson.

Submissions for the Reece Grant are now open, closing 30 April 2015. For more information or to apply for the Reece Grant visit reece.com.au/grant

What's next for plumbing?

“In the year 2015 we find ourselves in an era of rapid change, where smart technology, energy efficiency and high population growth are majorly impacting on the way we do our jobs day-to-day.

We've felt for some time now that the rate at which the plumbing industry has changed, and the extent to which it's changing, is rapid," says Shayne La Combre.

In the lead-up to World Plumbing Day (WPD), which takes place on Wednesday 11 March, Shayne reflects on the challenges and opportunities being faced by today's plumbing industry.

"Some areas have always been subject to significant changes, particularly where advancing technology is concerned. But now it's happening right across the Plumbing Industry," says Shayne.

Water and energy efficiency is the perfect example.

While water efficiency is clearly associated with plumbing (from advanced water recycling techniques through to efficiency innovations in fittings and fixtures), people do not tend to make the connection between energy and plumbing.

Shayne points out that both gas and electric hot water services can be big energy consumers in the home, with plumbers being called on to advise on better solar technologies and more energy efficient solutions – "while also responding to changing consumer demands."

"Plumbing is really front and centre when it comes to better use of energy," he says.

Smart technology, too, is an exciting and fast-moving development. "With technology rapidly evolving, soon will come a time when our home

heating and cooling mechanisms are controlled using smart technology. It offers rich areas of opportunity for plumbing."

Of the major challenges plumbers face, population growth has significant implications on system efficiency and living conditions like water and air quality. "Apartment living is far more prevalent, meaning when we get a system failure it can affect many inhabitants," says Shayne. "With building design changing to accommodate multi-dwelling living, it's up to plumbers to really understand ventilation and flueing," and the risks around installing and maintaining things like gas appliances in confined air spaces.

Sustainable plumbing practices are also going to continue to play an important role, but according to Shayne, it's not just about advising the industry on how to be more 'sustainable'. "It's also about improving the way we work. Taking stock of the whole life cycle of a job and having a commitment as an industry to producing less waste."

WPD comes as a timely and positive reminder that plumbers are incredibly important to our health and safety and the way we live and operate at home and at work. It's a job that demands training, competency and skill.

"If you want to ensure that plumbing work completed today is future proofed for tomorrow's users, then accessing quality up to date training is an essential investment to anyone wanting a long term career in plumbing."

"If you are looking to operate across the broad spheres that are contemporary plumbing, then you will not be successful without a commitment to ongoing training and development," says Shayne.

And as an industry? "No matter where we head, we must not lose sight of our fundamental promise to ensure access to safe drinking water and effective sanitation for our communities and families," says Shayne.

In recognition of World Plumbing Day 2015, we chatted to Shayne La Combre, CEO of the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC) and the Deputy Chair of the World Plumbing Council to find out what the future holds for our industry.

World Plumbing Day is an international event on March 11 initiated by the World Plumbing Council. With the key message 'Plumbing – Vital to Global Health' it celebrates the important role plumbing plays in the health and safety of modern society.

With many events planned around the world, closer to home a number of industry associations and registered training organisations have some great events and activities planned – contact them or your local Reece Plumbing branch to find out how you can get involved.



Plumbed water revolutionises beer

In Oregon, USA local brewers have been experimenting with a new recipe for beer, made using sewage water.

Last year, the Hillsboro Clean Water Services (HCWS) in Oregon challenged home brewers to create a beer using 30 per cent sewage water.

As part of the competition, which aimed to explore new ways of using treated water, brewers exchanged tap water for purified sewage water direct from the treatment plant.

It encouraged lots of new experimentation among brewers, as well as some healthier and tastier brews.

"The water that comes from the high purity water system is the cleanest water on the planet," Mark Jockers of the Clean Water Services told KGW News in Portland, USA.

While anything sewage related might sound pretty unappetising, the competition really proved that purified sewage water was as good as new – if not better.

HCWS are now looking to take their 'sewage brewage' to the next level, teaming up with Portland's Oregon Brew Crew to craft beer using only purified sewage water.

But the brew will not be available on tap at the local pubs. HCWS and the Brew Crew will be producing it for special events only.

To read more about this unconventional brew visit mashable.com



Legendary LASCO leads in quality

When choosing irrigation fittings, you can't go past quality, innovation and technical leadership. And you can't go past LASCO.

A technical leader with a history of quality and craftsmanship, LASCO was founded in 1947 in Los Angeles, and began manufacturing plastic pipe 10 years later. In 1960, the company was listed as public on the Great Western Stock Exchange, entering the plastic fittings market seven years later.

During the 1980s LASCO continued to expand with acquisitions of Plastiline and Tyler Pipe. In 1998, LASCO built a new, state-of-the-art facility, in Brownsville, Tennessee where they are still based. With 50 acres of land and 11.5 of these under roof, this gave the company much needed manufacturing capacity, along with a modern machine shop and distribution centre.

LASCO currently manufacture fittings seven days per week – that's one million fittings every day - and pride themselves on having experienced employees dedicated to providing the highest level of integrity, value and service.

Now owned by Netherlands-based Aalberts Industries Inc., this rich 68-year history has placed LASCO at the forefront of technology, paving the way in irrigation with quality products that last the test of time. This reputation for quality and technical innovation has stood LASCO in good stead as a leader in irrigation fittings.

With a large focus on innovation, LASCO have recently launched their revolutionary PVC Push Fit range along with sweep bends.

Reece stocks a vast range of LASCO Schedule 40 fittings, including LASCO Push Fit which offers a new level of speed, convenience and flexibility on every installation.

Visit reece.com.au/lasco to view the range.



THE REECE FOOTY TIPPING COMP IS BACK



The footy's back and so is your opportunity to be part of the 2015 Reece Footy Tipping Competition. Whether you take it one week at a time or go in hard from the first bounce, you'll be in the running for over \$22,000 worth of prizes. So drop into your local branch and sign up today.

www.reece.com.au/tipping



How to cool a space station

Last month astronauts at the International Space Station (ISS) were forced to evacuate the American section after an alarm indicated a possible ammonia leak.

Used in the cooling and heating of this outer-space orbiting outpost, ammonia is an essential part of the ISS's complex air conditioning system.

While a broken air conditioning unit at home or work can cause some inconvenience, out there in space, a faulty air conditioner can be a life and death situation.

It's not the first time the ISS airconditioning has broken down but, according to US space agency NASA, this latest alarm was a false one – thankfully!

Without thermal controls, the temperature of the ISS's sun-facing side would rise to 121 degrees celsius, while its dark side would fall to -157 degrees celsius.

In space, heating and cooling occurs through radiation – objects are warmed by solar rays and

cool off by emitting infrared energy. So, for the ISS to maintain a comfortable, middle-of-the-range temperature for its astronauts, it requires a pretty clever cooling solution.

Firstly, the space station's metal skin is protected from extreme heat and bitter cold using special Mylar insulation (a highly reflective blanket called Multi-Layer Insulation).

For the internal temperatures, however, NASA engineers designed the Active Thermal Control System, or ATCS, to remove the waste heat (given off by active machinery and human bodies inside the space station) in two ways.

Air and water heat exchangers cool and dehumidify the spacecraft's internal atmosphere while high heat generators are attached to custom-built cold plates. To keep everything cool,

cold water circulated by a 17,000-rpm impeller (about the size of a 10c coin!) courses through the heat-exchanging devices.

The heat is then carried outside the space station, to circulate through a grid of coiled pipes, much like a giant radiator, and rejected into space.

But rather than containing water, which would freeze once outside the space station, these pipes contain ammonia. The heated ammonia circulates through the huge radiators and the heat is released into the atmosphere as infrared radiation.

And if you think that's complicated, just imagine what's involved in controlling air quality and air flow!

To find out more about how the ISS keeps cool visit science.nasa.gov

Milwaukee

BACK TO WORK SALE

The Milwaukee Back to Work Sale is now on. Drop into your local Reece Plumbing branch or visit reece.com.au/plumbing to check out some of the great deals on offer. Sale ends 31 March.

The Crack



A port-a-loo made for stormy weather

You never know when a cyclone-proof port-a-loo might come in handy!

In a special challenge put to three teams of Queensland tradies, Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ) dared them to a series of "Tradies Vs." tests.

Teams competed in four unconventional challenges, the first being to build a cyclone-proof port-a-loo.

The teams, from Thompson Building Group, McNab and WorldSkills Australia, took to the task with enthusiasm, each constructing a storm-proof port-a-loo that was "part outback dunny, part royal throne and part bomb shelter."

Using a limited supply of material, contestants came up with weird and wonderful creations like port-a-loo magazine racks, crawl-in doors and "zombie-proof" windows.

The port-a-loos were then faced with the "mother of all storms" – a high pressure hose!

Under the onslaught of cyclone-force water, the three port-a-loos survived with mixed results. Doors buckled, entire toilets went rolling and walls came apart like a handful of pick-up-sticks.

As one contestant put it: "In the event of catastrophic storms or catastrophic bowel movements, you can escape fairly easily." You'd want to hope so!

The four-part competition was videoed, to record the contestants' building process – and the destruction that followed!

Visit tradievs.com.au/home/episode/episode-1#watch to watch all the action from the ultimate port-a-loo challenge.



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.



Bridgland Marker Tapes

Reece Civil stock a large range of Bridgland detectable and non-detectable underground warning tapes. Made from high quality, low-density polyethylene, Bridgland Non-Detectable Underground Tapes are buried above underground services to provide a visual warning during subsequent excavation. The non-detectable tapes are WSAA approved and come in a 150mm wide x 100 metre roll.

Manufactured using 316 stainless steel tracer wire, Bridgland Detectable Tapes offer a high level of protection and detectability for underground services. Detectable tapes are WSAA approved and come in a 100mm wide x 250 metre roll.

The following tapes are available from Reece Civil:

- Water Main Blue
- Rainwater
- Sewer Main
- Gas Below
- Fire Line
- Recycle Water
- Stormwater
- Electrical
- Communications
- Irrigation
- Water Main Green

To find out more visit reece.com.au/civil

National Construction Code now free!

The National Construction Code (NCC) became freely available online in February, meaning building, construction and plumbing tradespeople and businesses will no longer have to pay \$400 for a copy.

It's a welcome move for the trades, with industry insiders touting the move as a significant step towards cutting the red tape and ensuring future builds are of best practice standard.

To register for free online access visit abcb.gov.au



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 for further updates.

Supplier	Products	% Increase	Date Effective
Astralpool Australia	Pool products	Up to 3%	1 March 2015
Ausplastics	Plastic pipe & fittings	Various %	1 March 2015
Brasshards	Plumbing and tapware miscellaneous	Up to 10%	1 March 2015
Bremick Fasteners	Bolts, nuts & fasteners	7.5%	1 March 2015
Caroma Dorf	Tapware & bathroomware	Various %	1 March 2015
Carrington Products	Copper fittings	Various %	1 March 2015
CSR Building (Bradford Insulation)	Roofing & insulation	2-7.5%	1 March 2015
Dixon Asia Pacific	Fire products	7%	1 March 2015
Galvin Engineering	Commercial tapware & brassware	Various %	1 March 2015
Gameco (NSW, VIC, QLD, NT)	Spares - hot water & heating	Various %	1 March 2015
Henry Technologies	Refrigeration products	Various %	1 March 2015
Hydroflow (Aust) Distributors	Backflow valves	Various %	1 March 2015
J&M Heat Exchange	Spares - hot water & heating	Various %	1 March 2015
Johnson Controls	Refrigeration controls	Various %	1 March 2015
Maccim Fastenings	Hardware products	6%	1 March 2015
Stormtech	Drainage products	Various %	1 March 2015
Sussex Taps	Tapware	5%	1 March 2015
Tesuco	Welding & cutting tools	15%	1 March 2015
Tool Hire	Rothenberger B-Press Tools	Various %	1 March 2015
Adelaide Brighton Cement	Cement products	Various %	1 April 2015
Australian Valve Group	Valves	8%	1 April 2015
Aymroo	Sewer maintenance, accessories & storm water fittings	2-5%	1 April 2015
Bromic	Plumbing miscellaneous	Various %	1 April 2015
Cockburn Cement	Cement products	Various %	1 April 2015
Fletcher Insulation	Pipe insulation	3%	1 April 2015
FM Harrison Sales	Tools and spare parts	4%	1 April 2015
HR Products	Irrigation products	Up to 10%	1 April 2015
ITW Buildex	Fasteners	Up to 6%	1 April 2015
Moody & Winter	Plumbing miscellaneous	Various %	1 April 2015
Pyropanel Developments	Fire collars	Various %	1 April 2015
Rain Bird Australia	Irrigation products	8-10%	1 April 2015
Reln Plastics	Drainage products	4%	1 April 2015
Tasman Sinkware	Kitchen sinks	Various %	1 April 2015
Techtronic Industries	Milwaukee power tools	Various %	1 April 2015