

Supported by the Brick & Block Manufacturers of Australia

OPERATING RESULTS FOR 2007/2008

During the year to June 2008 Australian Brick & Blocklaying Training Foundation (ABBTF) achieved the following:

- ABBTF support for employers of new apprentices is assisting the training and employment of 1,239 apprentices, almost double the apprentice number of 637 at June 2007.
- Expenditure and commitment to mature age apprentices has grown significantly with the value of ABBTF support to June 2008 being four times the previous year.
- Growth in secondary school students participating in the Step Out Programs, to gain hands on experience in bricklaying. 3,667 students completed the 40 hour program, which is 52% more than the previous year.
- The launch of the ABBTF website during the year and the publication of newsletters in every state has increased the market awareness of ABBTF operations and impact of the scheme on the skill shortage.
- A large number of careers events and promotions were attended to inform people, promote the trade and the career paths offered through bricklaying. Try-a-trades in bricklaying were a feature of many of these events.
- ABBTF have agreements with seventy-one Group Training Companies to subsidise the employment of 566 apprentices. Benefits are passed on to the host bricklayer by reduced charge out rates.
- Constructive partnership with 43 TAFE colleges and registered training organisations, where our joint efforts have improved the quality and expectations of new apprentices through Step Out Programs in schools and support for pre-entry training.
- Increased investment in pre-training support to improve the quality of apprentice intakes and minimise attrition rates during the apprenticeship term. Expenditure was more than three times the previous year.
- ABBTF promoted bricklaying employment opportunities in Australia to bricklayers in the United Kingdom under the general skilled migration program. Promotion at DIAC expos in the UK and ongoing ABBTF support is assisting skilled bricklayers with their visa applications, relocation and workforce participation.

Financial Results	2007/08 \$000's	2006/07 \$000's
Revenue	7,423	5,610
Total Expenditure	6,075	4,566
Operating Surplus	1,348	1,044
Equity	4,266	2,917
Apprentice Subsidies Provided	3,193	2,756
Mature Age Allowance	184	46
Pre-Apprenticeship Support	202	65
Step Out Programs (for school students)	908	495
Immigration	30	-
Promotion	614	397
Development	599	538
Administration	345	269

The full Statutory Annual Report will be available for distribution and provided on request.

Australian Brick & Blocklaying Training Foundation Limited

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