

A quarterly newsletter for Formcraft Vic clients, architects, engineers & builders

EDITORIAL

This Formcraft Vic newsletter has been created in response to expressed interest from many of our clients and associates to be kept abreast of events and developments in sustainable construction in Victoria.

Many of you are already aware that there is considerable product information on the Formcraft website www.formcraft.com.au.

This newsletter does not replace what is available on the website, it is simply to update readers on product innovations, current builds in Victoria, recent articles on energy efficiency, events and expos where Formcraft Vic will be exhibiting and to relate feedback from our clients.

REACH FOR A HIGHER STAR

In 2009 Formcraft Vic took on the challenge of improving the energy-efficiency star ratings of Victorian homes through the use of new energy saving construction systems.

The FormPro® ICF wall system was developed in Australia by Perth engineer Mike Schock in 2006. Mike and his father Rob then set about establishing a Formcraft distribution network throughout Australia.

In Victoria where Formcraft Vic is the distributor, it has been an exciting time working with Formcraft's innovative energy-efficient building systems with many of our builds achieving high star ratings.

We are pleased to announce that Formcraft Vic is working with client and Master Builder, Anton Engelmayer, who is currently building his home in Upper Ferntree Gully which could soon be setting the standard in the race towards sustainable living. Anton constructed the external walls of his house and 3 level lift shaft using Formcraft ICF's.

To complement the Formcraft ICF walls and to maximise the thermal efficiency benefits Anton has installed solar panels, double glazed windows, used environmentally safe paint, the home comes complete with grey-water storm system to retreat waste water. It is envisaged that the home will have a STAR RATING in excess of 9.

On March 31st 2011 Anton's efforts were recognised by the Building Commission and he was presented with the 5 Star Sustainability Excellence Award.

Formcraft Vic is listed in the Sustainability Vic website and in 2010 Formcraft ICF's received accreditation and were duly registered in the high profile Australian EcoSpecifier website.

Since our inception we did not underestimate the challenge of promoting sustainable homes. We put a number of programs in place to reach our target market, the over 35's, mature clients building their second home and well aware of the energy efficiencies and cost savings that are a direct result of building with Formcraft ICF's .

Our commitment is to work with clients to help them "Reach For A Higher Star".



Reach for a Higher Star!

IN THIS ISSUE

- Editorial.....1
- Reach for a Higher Star.....1
- Meet John Rousakis.....2
- FormPro® New Generation Wall System.....2
- What's Happening in VIC.....3
- Upcoming Events.....3
- Formcraft Achieves Higher Energy Efficiency Star Ratings.....4
- Contact Details.....4

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MEET JOHN ROUSAKIS, General Manager Formcraft VIC

John Rousakis was born in 1973. John had two ambitions in life.

Firstly, he has a huge passion for AFL football both as a player and as a supporter. He regularly attends games with family, friends, business associates and clients.

As a young boy he attended football matches with his mother and grandparents, avid Collingwood supporters. In his teenage years John realised his dream to play competitive football at a high level. His height, skill, and speed combined with a canny ability to kick goals made him a leading player in the Victorian suburban league. AFL club, Essendon, was aware of his talent and invited John to train with their league team.

From an early age John was always making or repairing things. He was destined to become a carpenter and after completing his apprenticeship went on to become a partner in Repcon Constructions, a home building and renovation company.

With the creation of the Formcraft distributorship in Victoria John has found his niche. He and his uncle and co-partner, George Cooper, are founding shareholders and key executives in the setting up of Formcraft Vic in Melbourne in April, 2009.

John is General Manager and as such is a full-time employee of Formcraft Vic Pty Ltd. His responsibilities are wide ranging and include maintaining close liaison with current and potential clients. His ability to read plans and cost jobs invariably means that he is estimating many of the enquiries requiring quotations. His understanding and on-site training cannot be underemphasized as John heads the team of installers that set up and build the FormPro walls and FormDeck slabs for builders throughout Victoria.



“This product development will open up exciting new sales opportunities in the commercial construction sector.”



FORMPRO® NEW GENERATION WALL SYSTEM

The FormPro® ICF wall system is being expanded to enable the options of using 8 mm MgO board instead of 60 mm EPS panels on one or both sides of the formed concrete walls.

MgO board, whilst not having the high thermal insulation rating that EPS has, possesses other important properties. It is an extremely tough, non-combustible material, and, like EPS, contains no toxic substances such as asbestos, chromium, mercury or lead, thus making it a very environmentally friendly material. It is non-flammable, water and termite resistant, and has a very low thermal expansion and contraction rate.

The ability to use combinations of EPS and MgO panels broadens the scope for construction of walls with a range of R values, sound transmission coefficients, fire ratings and overall thicknesses for different applications.

This product development addresses the different wall requirements and specifications for commercial construction projects in particular, and will open up exciting new opportunities in that sector.

It is anticipated that the new EPS/MgO options could be available to the market by the end of June. Their release will be supported by a new FormPro® brochure and construction manual.

Although there will be a new connection system for the MgO panels, the existing easy and fast installation process involving “stack, brace and pour” will continue to apply.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN VICTORIA

The Formcraft team are currently working on an exciting build in **Warburton**.

Tyrone Jaspers and his partner, Hailey have designed an exciting new home which will be completed later this year.

In building in fire zone areas it was important that Formcraft ICF panels had passed all the necessary testing requirements to meet local building regulations.

In mid May the Formcraft Vic team will head to **Kinglake** to do a major build.

The project is in the very heart of the fire areas and again Formcraft Vic needed to make available documentation that our ICF panels had met the necessary BAL (Bushfire Attack Level) requirements. This is an exciting project which will incorporate both 220 & 270 panels.

Formcraft Vic recently exhibited at the **Seymour Alternative Farming Expo** for the second year.

With John in Adelaide doing a build in Tennyson SA, the Formcraft site was manned by George and Mike and wife Toula.

Warm weather prevailed and attendance numbers were high. It was great to see many familiar faces from the 2010 Seymour Expo, a number of which had over the past 12 months only recently finalised their building plans and were ready to go ahead with Formcraft ICF.

Formcraft Vic will be exhibiting in Seymour in 2012.

With Easter and Anzac day falling at the end of April it coincided with the lead up to the **HIA (Housing Industry Association) Home Ideas Show**. The HIA Expo was over 4 days, from Thursday April 28th through to and including Sunday May 1st, and was held in the Melbourne Convention Centre. Formcraft Vic had an excellent stand which enabled us to showcase our product and recent awards.

Formcraft Vic has many projects in Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria.

However we would like to emphasise our commitment and support to the people in the fire areas where we have done numerous workshops and expos.

Formcraft Vic has done recent builds in **Cockatoo, Monbulk, Warrandyte / Ringwood, Upper Ferntree Gully, Warburton and soon Kinglake**.

UPCOMING EVENT— MASTER BUILDERS EXPO

Once again Formcraft Vic will be exhibiting at the Master Builders Expo to be held in the Melbourne Convention Centre **from Friday, July 15th to Sunday, July 17th, 2011 inclusive**.

To cope with the many enquiries and to help launch the new product range we have invited Mr Rob Schock, Executive Manager, Formcraft Pty Ltd, WA to assist us.

Please keep these date free as we look forward to seeing you at the Master Builders Expo in July.

FORMCRAFT ACHIEVES HIGHER ENERGY-EFFICIENCY STAR RATINGS

With increasing focus throughout the world on reducing energy use and the associated carbon emissions that are having a detrimental effect on our environment, it is understandable that the Australian Government has legislated for improved energy efficiency standards in new homes and commercial buildings.

In January 2010 the Federal Government, along with all states and territories, made a decision to introduce new 6 Star energy efficiency requirements into the Building Code of Australia. The BCA is set to move to a minimum 6 Star standard throughout Australia this year.

A critical factor in determining the energy efficiency of a building is the thermal resistance (R value) of the building envelope, which includes the walls and glazing.

Formcraft specializes in energy efficient building solutions for the 21st century, and is the national supplier of energy efficient **FormPro® ICF** insulated concrete wall systems and **FormView®** double glazed windows and doors which are fully compliant with Australian Standards..

FormPro® ICF insulated concrete walls are:

- ◆ Better insulated (R = 3.5)
- ◆ Structurally stronger (25 mPa reinforced concrete)
- ◆ Built faster (100 m² / day)
- ◆ Safer – cyclone rated, fire rated, sound rated, effectively sealed
- ◆ Erected with built-in sub-frames for easy fitting of FormView® double glazed doors and windows
- ◆ More cost effective – installation savings and ongoing energy savings.



In an independent study that compared the energy efficiency of Formcraft ICF walls with brick veneer, double brick and framed walls in a range of climatic regions throughout Australia, Formcraft ICF walls were shown to be most energy efficient. A copy of the report is available from Formcraft Vic.

As the focus on use of energy-efficient and sustainable building systems ramps up around the world, insulated concrete form (ICF) walls are rapidly replacing other types of construction. Architects in increasing numbers are incorporating Formcraft ICF walls in “green focused” residential and commercial projects to achieve higher energy efficiency star ratings at affordable prices.

To complement its energy saving insulated concrete wall system, Formcraft offers its extensive range of affordable **FormView®** double glazed windows and doors. Double glazing reduces heat and sound transmission and creates a more energy efficient and comfortable environment within the home.

Formcraft Vic makes it easy. Its experienced team can assist with drawings, engineering, energy assessment, building approval and construction.

Let Formcraft Vic show you how easy and cost effective FormPro® ICF insulated concrete construction and FormView® double glazing can be. Simply call 1800 367 627 (1800 FORMCRAFT) or email admin@formcraftvic.com.au to arrange a free quote.



George, Mike & John (L to R)

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