

Build and Design event showcases world best

buildnz designex 2011 will be a huge showcase of the very best and latest on offer says XPO Exhibition's Rob Lavender.

"Held every second year, this is the ultimate event for anyone and everyone involved with building, design and interiors. buildnz designex 2011 will feature the best and brightest products and services for the building, design and construction sectors, including structural systems, hardware, tools, flooring, surface finishes, interiors, lighting, fine furnishings and textiles. This is clearly the key event for the industry, as evidenced by the Registered Master Builders Federation annual conference being co-located with us this year."

As in 2009 and earlier buildnz designex events, there are sector professional development opportunities and seminar presentations available to visitors. "These are very important and are supported by the main sector associations. In addition to Master Builders, buildnz designex is endorsed by the Certified Builders Association, NZ Institute of Architects, BRANZ, Designers Institute, Furniture Association and Lifemark."

Master Builders CEO Warwick Quinn says, "We are thrilled to be bringing these two industry leading events together. Having been a supporter of buildnz in the past we're well aware of the benefits to those involved in the industry who attend. We will be actively encouraging all RMBF members to be there."

XPO's Rob Lavender says, "Despite the tough times for some parts of the sector, industry suppliers are showing their commitment to this key part of New Zealand's economy and are turning out in force. There are very few places left and businesses thinking of exhibiting need to get in now. What's exciting too is the myriad of leading brands exhibiting at buildnz who have never been part of the show. Some have taken major sponsorship roles with the Master Builders conference, but are also taking advantage of prime exhibition space at the event."

Those in the trade are encouraged to register as visitors. "Just go to buildnz.com and fill in the visitor registration form. It's easy and free and you can print out your barcode for express entry to buildnz designex. People who visit the Ford stand have the chance to win a \$46,000 Ford Ranger XLT ute, thanks to show partners Ford and Radio Hauraki. The chance to win a new Ford ute is one more great reason for visitors to attend the event," says XPO's Rob Lavender. "We are expecting a great deal of interest from the trade, all wanting to go in the draw!"

Sustainability and health are strong themes at buildnz designex 2011. Lifemark™ is a new government-backed initiative in the building and design industry to improve the quality of design of New Zealand's housing stock. The Lifemark is awarded to homes which meet 33 design features including a level entry, widened doors and passageways, all aimed at making the house accessible for everyone and easy to adapt as residents' needs change over time.

General Manager Andrew Olsen says ACC and the Ministry of Health spend more than \$33 million a year to adapt existing houses for aging and infirm people. "That's projected to rise to hundreds of millions per annum as New Zealand's population ages. In addition over 250,000 people were injured in their own homes last year, with the social and ongoing costs in the billions. Lifemark™ is a sponsor of buildnz designex as well as having a stand, and we'll be running seminars daily about the Lifemark™ and commercial and competitive advantage it offers those building companies and designers that recognise the value of the wealthy, aging demographic."

Also among the more than 150 exhibitors is Blue Building Solutions. James Johnston says the company will be showcasing products that deliver healthy homes, sustainability, affordability and low maintenance and labour. "Visitors will be able to get hands on with our unique healthy home ventilation system, and will discover how we have created a breathable cavity around the entire building, whilst maintaining weather tightness. Condensation and mould can be eradicated from our homes, schools and other buildings making them much healthier. We'll also have imported UPVC building products, some of which are not currently available in New Zealand, show videos that display the ease of building with our products and the ease of maintaining them, and will explain how using BBS products is affordable for the average New Zealand home owner, government department or commercial property owner."

NALCO too is featuring innovative new product – some being launched at the show says Marketing Manager Mark Gilbert. "We're a multi award-winning aluminium business that is driven to provide great new product that meets market and environmental demands. Many people will know our Nulook and Bradnams brands and visitors to the NALCO stand will get a first look at a new environmentally friendly residential joinery suite, and be able to check-out the release of the SovereignSeries™. We'll also be showing the latest WeatherTight™ window joinery manufacturing techniques, and presenting new architectural resources including the latest in aluminium and its uses, from billet to bi-fold.

"We're particularly excited about the new environmentally friendly residential joinery suite. It's a first designed for standard residential homes and features patented jointing connections. It will be the first to be affordable to all residential segments of the market and is designed to reduce household heating and cooling costs, and improve home comfort and reduce condensation to a minimum. We will have technical experts on site to discuss the new break-through product line as well as all aspects of extrusion, rolled product, alloy properties, capabilities and supply, including die and system designs."

Those wanting wood instead of metal will also find something to stimulate their thinking at buildnz designex.

American Hardwood Export Council's (AHEC) Roderick Wiles says the wood could very well be the most environmentally friendly building material on the planet. "We believe American hardwood has an environmental profile that is hard to beat. In fact we're so confident of this claim that the industry is subjecting its production and distribution chain to independent environmental assessment. It also wants its major buyers around the world to impose tough measures requiring the removal of environmentally risky materials from supply chains.

"The stats speak for themselves. Between 1953 and 2007 the volume of hardwood standing in U.S. forests more than doubled from 5 billion cubic metres to 11.4 billion. Hardwoods represent 43% of the nation's forest growing stock. The U.S. contributes nearly one fifth of the world's production of hardwood saw and veneer logs. Long term management of U.S. hardwood forests for sustainable timber production makes a significant contribution to carbon storage. Come visit the stand and talk to us. We'll be showcasing the range of U.S. hardwood species and their end-use applications and distributing copies of our technical publications."

High-tech also features strongly at buildnz designex 2011. HPM Legrand, a global electrical manufacturer with over 150,000 product lines and 33,000 employees, will be showcasing the latest in its switchgear and automation for both residential and commercial applications.

"The designs incorporate not only the latest technology for home automation, including lighting control and sound diffusion, but also a never before seen collection of finishes in switchgear to both tempt and impress designers and end users alike," says National Sales Manager – Trade, Scott Boyd.

“We will be showcasing five different ranges of switchgear, home automation and lighting management, just to mention a tiny fraction of the HPM Legrand range. With an emphasis on quality and good value, the HPM Legrand stand will be well worth a stop.”

Technology and sustainability often go hand-in-hand these days and there will be a great deal on show at buildnz designex that will prove it. David Noyer of Quantum Eco Hot Water says, as Australia’s leading manufacturer of advanced renewable solar energy hot water, pool and building heating products, they’re looking forward to showing what can be done for buildings of any size. “We’re a leader in the field. With over 30 years of on-going product development and using a patented heat pump design, a Quantum heat pump water heater will significantly reduce energy costs compared with traditional methods. Heating hot water accounts for up to 30%-50% of a home’s energy bill, and businesses can spend a significant amount on water heating. Our products have delivered savings up to 75% in both home and business. As well as costing less, lower energy use lessens the impact on the environment through reduced electricity generation.”

Staying with the high-tech, Fodera will show what’s possible with quality architectural custom cladding and lining systems. “We have years of experience in the industrial and marine design and construction industries,” says Kieren Mallon. “We have developed a total system from design through to the final thermoforming all under one roof. This allows us to be very adaptable in meeting our clients’ needs. There are a huge range of textures and finishes available, and we can make your design come to life. We’ll be making the possibilities come to life on our stand.”

While building and construction tools might seem low-tech in comparison, the engineering and technology that goes into something the trade relies on all day every day is impressive. Terri Dey of Paslode says that its range of tools and fasteners meets the toughest demands of the industry. “People use the phrase ‘tools of the trade’ a lot and it has become a bit glib. In our case though, we live by it. We’ll have top-quality products, including the latest models from a range of manufacturers for visitors to check out. Anyone looking for framing, finishing, stapling, coil nailing or wall frame nailing tools and machinery should talk to us. We’ll be offering some attractive show-only deals as well.”

Hilti Corporation, a global leader in developing, manufacturing, and supplying value-added products and solutions for the construction industry will be at buildnz this year for the first time, says the company’s Falco Krutsch. “We’ll be showing Hilti’s market leading breakers, including a world first: the TE 3000-AVR, an electrical breaker that matches air breakers in performance. Visitors to our stand will find demos and hands-on trials of a range of Hilti’s latest breakthrough innovations, such as our brand new range of gas concrete cutters, and the latest cordless Li-Ion tool range.

buildnz designex 2011 will be held 26 to 28 June at Auckland’s ASB Showgrounds in Greenlane. The event is expected to attract more than 5,000 trade visitors.

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