

Budget is a win-win for tradies and homeowners

The 2015 Federal Budget will help homeowners, as tradies get the opportunity to tool up and skill up

SYDNEY, May 14, 2015: David Vitek, CEO of Australia's largest on-demand home services marketplace hipages.com.au, welcomes the focus of the budget on small businesses, and believes tradies and homeowners will benefit.

Mr Vitek comments, "With more than 300,000 small businesses servicing a home improvement sector worth \$140 billion, the budget is especially relevant for tradies in the building and construction industry"

The tax breaks outlined by Treasurer Joe Hockey include concessions for small businesses investing in new vehicles, machinery, tools or equipment. There is also additional funding for training and apprenticeships via the existing Industry Skills Fund and the Australian Apprenticeships Support Network.

"It is clear the budget will help our tradies not only tool up but skill up. Homeowners will be getting better resourced tradies working in their homes, because they can buy more equipment but also the apprentices coming through are going to be better trained. That is a win-win for all concerned" Mr Vitek continues.

The hipages team spent most of budget day (Wednesday 13 May), speaking directly with their tradies to discuss how the new policies may affect their businesses.

hipages.com.au builder James Mason, welcomed the tax deductions that allow small businesses to claim for assets such as vehicles, tools and equipment, "I think the tax break is particularly attractive for tradies starting out, who need to invest in tools and machinery, it gives them a leg up and allows them to get started in the industry" said Mr Mason.

hipages.com.au plumber Hans Dudink, was positive about the tax breaks for equipment, "Investing in my business will allow me to be more productive. My clients are obviously also going to see the benefits of this as I will be able to work more efficiently" said Mr Dudnik.

hipages.com.au landscape designer Paal Grant, also welcomed the tax breaks and cuts outlined in the budget, "These initiatives could help me employ more people and build my business. It is tough out there for any small business. Every year there are new regulations to comply with, so getting any help is always welcome" said Mr Grant.

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About hipages.com.au

hipages.com.au is Australia's no. 1 site for finding local tradespeople with over one million visitors to the site each month. With a network of over 40,000 businesses across more than 1,100 categories, hipages.com.au offers customers access on-demand to the best services and tradesmen in the industry.

Since being established in 2004, hipages.com.au has been recognised for a number of awards, including the Top 50 BRW Best Places to Work: 2009, 2010 & 2011 BRW Most Innovative Companies: 2012, 2013 ,

BRW Fast 100: 2009 & 2010 ,Deloitte Technology Fast 50 Australia: 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2014 ,BRW Fast Starters: 2007, 2008 & 2009.

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