

It has been a busy year for the Floor NZ team. Along with fielding technical enquiries, the two continuing key areas influenced by the government are in construction and immigration.

## Advocacy work

**Construction** - MBIE are busy prioritising projects with the intention of carrying out the government's plans to reduce building costs by removing barriers in importing overseas building products. Increased liability for Licensed Building Practitioners with self-certification being introduced and more uniformity with the building consenting process.

**Immigration** - The recent changes to immigration are a result of collective industries consulting with the government. There is another consultation in February. Latest Press release [Securing the skills and experience NZ needs | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

More information on <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/reforms-to-aewv-announced>

## Technical enquiries

Having the Best Practice Guides in hard copy has received very positive feedback from members and has been a useful problem-solving tool. More copies will be issued in next year's membership pack.

While building code enquiries have reduced over the year there has been a notable increase in moisture-related issues.

## Events for 2025

In 2025 we are looking at planning a programme to start a visit to main centres. This could involve a presentation provided around moisture testing and building code. We are also looking at organising workshops during the day on mitre forming and thermal welding of vinyl. There will be more information to come in the New Year. If you are interested in attending a presentation, or

the workshops, or have some ideas, please register your interest with [admin@floornz.org.nz](mailto:admin@floornz.org.nz)

## Training



Over the 2024 year, 25 block courses involving 210 apprentices were provided for the BCITO. Block courses for the upcoming 2025 year will reduce. This is due to the completions from the post-Covid-19 bump in new apprentices. The good news is current block courses allowed for the new intake of apprentices for 2025 has remained the same.



With an aging installer workforce, it is very important that we keep working together as an industry to increase installer numbers. Floor NZ will be working with the BCITO in the New Year on promoting apprentice training.

During the year the BCITO Business Development Advisors and Training Advisors visited Christchurch to see how block course training is delivered and to see first-hand the valuable support provided by Floor NZ members towards industry training.

A new contract has been signed with the BCITO to deliver block course training for the 2025 year. While the minister is still to announce the

changes for the organisational structure of training, it will not affect the day to day operations of apprenticeship training.

In September the flooring apprentice of the year course was held in Auckland with the BCITO for the first time since Covid-19.



This was a very successful evening with Floor NZ members enjoying the opportunity to catch up again.

Guest speaker David Letele (Brown Buttabeen professional boxer) delivered an inspiring presentation and had everyone out of their seats for an impromptu training session.



We are looking to grow this event next year. More information to come in 2025.

The Flooring Planning Design course is also available for the supply and retail sector. It is a 5 module, level 4 course with a duration of twelve to eighteen months. This is registered through the BCITO.

If you are interested in more information on apprentice training, visit [www.bcito.org.nz](http://www.bcito.org.nz) or contact [jeff@floornz.org.nz](mailto:jeff@floornz.org.nz).

Floor NZ provided 4 one day Flooring Fundamental courses in 2024. The next course dates in Auckland and Christchurch will be set in the New Year.

A number of upskill installer workshops were provided to members. We need a minimum of 6 people to run these courses.

If you are interested in these types of courses either individually or as a group, please register your interest with [admin@floornz.org.nz](mailto:admin@floornz.org.nz)

### Industry support for training

A big thank you to the following suppliers of materials, tools and assistance for block course training in 2024. Without this support, we would not be able to provide the necessary training for the flooring industry.

Ardex New Zealand

DGL Bondlast

Bremworth Wool Carpets

Dunlop Flooring

Gilt Edge

Godfrey Hirst

Hills Commercial Floors Christchurch

Inzide

Jacobsen

Carr - Leister welding equipment

Look Floors

Polyflor NZ

Robert Malcolm

Trade Floor Supplies

Uzin

From the Floor NZ team and the Board, we wish you all a Safe and Happy Christmas break.

If you have any information, or questions on any of the content in this newsletter, please contact [jeff@floornz.org.nz](mailto:jeff@floornz.org.nz)

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