



## Sunshine Coast Sunday Sunday 26/04/2009

Page: 34  
Section: General News  
Region: Sunshine Coast QLD, AU  
Circulation: 17000  
Type: Regional  
Size: 322.30 sq.cms.



press clip

# Coast design talent in state spotlight

EACH year the Sunshine Coast branch of the Building Designers Association of Queensland (BDAQ) honours outstanding efforts in the building design industry with the Queensland Building Design Awards.

The awards recognise it takes a special client, an excellent designer and a dedicated team of contractors to make an award-winning building.

Registered building designers enter completed projects into different categories including best custom-designed home, best renovations and best commercial buildings.

The awards are given to those building designers whose projects are both attractive in style and innovative in function, reflect Queensland living and are environmentally efficient.

BDAQ Sunshine Coast president, Eddie Baden said the association has seen an improvement in the industry during the past three years.

"I have seen a growth in the association and its membership, an improvement in

standard of training and an increase in people attending the professional development courses," he said.

"I have seen an increase in all facets of building design work."

Although he agreed there was a high quality of building designers Australia-wide, it's hard to go past local talent.

"I would believe the building design industry on the Sunshine Coast is the best in Queensland because it has a style of its own and that is displayed by the Sunshine Coast having won the national award last year," he said.

The category winners will continue on to the state and national awards.

The BDAQ formed in 1990 to give recognition to an important profession in the building industry, building designers.

It is estimated between 75-80% of dwellings and around 45% of commercial buildings are designed by building designers.

As part of the Queensland government's program to protect consumers in the

construction industry, building designers are licensed by the Building Services Authority. BDAQ has 11 branches covering from far-north Queensland to the Gold Coast.

As the name suggests, a building designer designs buildings ranging from a family home to a multi-storey commercial complex.

Building designers can design a building that is energy efficient and comfortable, provides value for money and is suitable for specific needs.

The designers take into account clients' lifestyle, budget, site conditions, potential resale and long term maintenance costs.

So how do you find the best building designer?

Nothing speaks louder than a first-hand experience, so that's why word-of-mouth recommendations are great.

The design is probably the most important part of the building project, so selecting the right designer is the key to success.

You need to find a building

designer who is someone you can communicate with easily, someone who listens to you and who will offer constructive advice which enhances what you have in mind.

It is also important to choose a designer who has the requisite skills and knowledge to complete the project.

Choosing a registered member of the Building Designers' Association of Queensland means your building designer is qualified, insured and experienced.

Building designers are constantly updating their skills and knowledge through regular meetings, supplier and manufacturer updates and professional skills development seminars.

Your project will incorporate the very latest technology and meet building codes and other regulation requirements.

You can obtain a list of qualified and registered building designers in your area by visiting [www.findadesigner.com.au](http://www.findadesigner.com.au).



**Chris Clout's design for the Saltwater House made him the youngest recipient of the National Design Excellence Award.**