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2007 – BCATS Development Year

Welcome to 2007 – which is gearing up to be a HUGE year for the Building, Construction and Allied Trade Skills initiative (BCATS).

This BCATS e-news is the first in a series of monthly updates that will be sent to you – having either expressed interest or as one of our accredited providers.

The development of the unit standards is well underway – as is the resource and assessment material that will form the package provided to schools and providers.

We will be running a pilot to trial the units and materials during term 2 of the school year. Pilot schools are currently being approached and we will let you know the lucky contenders in our next BCATS e-news.

Elementary Construction Skills

Until such time as the BCATS units, qualification and package is available (this will all be ready for the 2008 year), we will be continuing with our support of the current Elementary Construction Skills (ECS) qualification.

As such, we felt it timely that we undertake a revision of the materials currently provided on the original ECS CD and from 12 February, a new CD will be available for all accredited providers. There is just the one catch – you **MUST** hold an ECS licence in order to use these materials. It's not really a catch if you're a school – as there is no charge for this licence. (There is however a small licence fee for PTE's and Polytechnics using this material.)

If you accredited to deliver ECS and don't have a licence, we will contact you so that we can organise a licence agreement and new CD. If you do have a licence, we'll simply send you out the new CD to replace your old one.

The old ECS CD does not currently align to the unit standards on the framework and you need to be using the new one if you wish to meet the requirements for assessment and moderation.

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