

Speaker Profiles

Bill Irvine

Building Research Association

"I came off the tools, spent a period of time as a building inspector and have spent the last 18 years with the building research association as a technical advisor".

Bill joined BRANZ as a Technical Advisor in 1987 and is now the Auckland Regional Office representative for Building Research. After studying carpentry and joinery Bill completed a Trade certificate in drain laying and worked in the trade. He then moved to Local Government as a building inspector for 15 years.

Bill has gained a New Zealand Certificate in Building and a Graduate Diploma in Business studies (disputes resolution, arbitration, mediation and adjudication). He is an associate member of the Arbitrators & Mediators Institute of New Zealand, is a member of NZIOB and BOINZ and is a past president of the BOINZ Auckland branch. Bill is also Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Manukau Institute of Technology and a Board Member for Northern Region.

Neil Gerrish

BuildCon Solutions

"I have a passion for helping those come to grips with the legislation regarding building consents and CCCs. When I was with the BIA I was hampered in this passion so decided to resign from the BIA and go out and provide help on my own account."

Neil is the managing director of BuildCon Solutions Limited, a company that specialises in building controls, quality systems and best practice procedures and systems. Currently BuildCon Solutions is working with approximately 25% of the Councils throughout the country in relation to them gaining accreditation and registration as building consent authorities (BCAs) with the Department of Building and Housing (DBH).

Neil is a carpenter by trade and has been involved in building control for the past 24 years. About nine of those years was as a building control manager for a city council and a further 2½ years with the Building Industry Authority (BIA) prior to it being replaced by the DBH. The remaining time has been spent as a business and building control consultant. Prior to joining the BIA Neil was a member of the Government committee reviewing the Building Act, and when on staff at the BIA was involved in the weather tightness issues and the early development stages of the accreditation system for Councils. Neil brings to this trade seminar valuable knowledge and experience in relation to the changes imposed on us by the Building Act 2004.



Mark Buttimore

Hauraki District Council

“I believe we need to work together with the building industry to implement the new Act in a manner that achieves its aims by developing a common understanding of these aims.”



Mark is the Planning and Environmental Services manager for the Hauraki District Council and has been with the Council for 3 years. His role incorporates management of all Council's strategic and regulatory roles, including the Building Act.

Prior to that he held a similar role with the Waikato District Council where he was responsible for the implementation of the Building Act, 1991. He has also previously spent some time as an Industry consultant within local government and has been a member of various working parties considering Building Act compliance and implementation issues.

In 2003 Mark prepared a report for a group of 5 Waikato local authorities to identify methodologies for supply of common Building Act services .