

BETTER BUSINESS

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Design your home in 3D

New way to view your build project

IMAGINE building your new home and being able to view the planning stages in 3D, without even leaving your chair.

One local business is offering this unique service and all it takes is a smartphone and some 3D glasses.

Design Direct can take you on a virtual tour of every part of your building through its virtual reality software.

Although the technology is not new, it is becoming increasingly popular in the design and building sector. Design Direct co-owner Mat Sheppard said the business had taken the concept to the next level by incorporating their 3D models into virtual buildings.

"We are constantly looking for new technology to make it easier for our clients to understand their design and plans," he said.

"Through the use of virtual reality our clients



3D TECHNOLOGY: Design Direct owners Mat Sheppard and Tyson Lochwood offer clients a new way to picture their home design. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

can explore all areas of their building and are more informed and confident in what the final product will be.

"As far as we know, Design Direct is the only building design company in Queensland who is providing this service.

"We are really excited to be able to offer this to our

clients and hope that people will take advantage of this cutting edge technology."

Design Direct was established in 2009 by Mr Sheppard and Tyson Lochwood.

Over the years the duo have been making a name for themselves by designing unique personalised homes and viable commercial

developments.

"We can provide a complete building design and project management service, including all consultancy services, for Development Approvals, Building Approvals and Construction. We can look after everything," Mr Lochwood said.

Design Direct has recently

rebranded the business and created a new website with a gallery of photographs to showcase the quality of their work.

Head over to www.designdirect.net.au to view what the team has to offer.

For further information phone 4154 3911 or email info@designdirect.net.au

No time like the present for doing tax

WITH a suite of online tools that make lodging easier than ever before and the majority of pre-fill information now available, Tax Commissioner Chris Jordan says now is an ideal time to do tax returns.

"We have developed a suite of online services that have made it easier than ever before to get your tax return done, and now we have most pre-fill records such as wages, bank interest and dividends ready for taxpayers and agents to use. This means most of the work is done for you," Mr Jordan said.

"Your information can be accessed via myTax or can be uploaded by your agent. All you need to do is review the pre-filled information and add any deductions, it's that easy.

"We're finding that people who lodge their own return through myTax are finished in less than half an hour. It's one of the reasons why we have a 93% satisfaction rate with users."

Mr Jordan said 2017 was shaping up to be a record-breaking year for lodgment numbers.

"We've received almost five million returns already this year, which is an increase of 360,000 on this time last year," he said.

Taxpayers can lodge online using myTax or by going to a registered tax agent.

You can check your agent is registered through the Tax Practitioner's Board website.

If you are using an agent for the first time or using a different tax agent to last year, you need to contact them before October 31 to ensure you are on their lodgment program.



Vegetable industry body Ausveg has welcomed new legislation. PHOTO: UEUAPHOTO

Law to combat misuse of power

VEGETABLE industry body Ausveg has welcomed the legislation of amendments to strengthen Australia's competition laws.

Ausveg says it will provide a greater ability for the ACCC to take action against serious misuses of market power where they are uncovered and ensure an open and transparent business environment in the Australian fresh produce

industry.

Ausveg national manager for public affairs Jordan Brooke-Barnett said this reform, which involves the addition of the "effects test" to Section 46 of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010, will provide the ACCC with the ability to take action where the actions of a company have had the effect of causing a substantial reduction in

competition.

The reformed Section 46 will prohibit a corporation from engaging in conduct with the purpose, effect or likely effect of substantially lessening competition in a market in which it directly or indirectly participates, he said.

The additional amendments will come into effect once they have passed parliament.

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