



## MEDIA RELEASE

June 2013

### Rheem Australia launches 2013 Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants

Australia's apprentice plumbers have a second shot at financial assistance with the announcement that Rheem Australia is running its Apprentice Plumber Grants in 2013. This year there are 25 x \$1000 grants, which will be awarded to apprentice plumbers most in need of financial assistance and to help them pursue their chosen career.

"The inaugural Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants were very successful, with around 300 entries from apprentice plumbers from around Australia," says Rheem Australia ceo Matt Sexton. "We were overwhelmed by the response and by the number of heartfelt stories and amazing young and mature age apprentice plumbers out there, hence we wanted to implement a regular grants program."

In 2012 the judges were very impressed with the very high standard of applications.

"It's obvious there are a lot of apprentices, both young and mature age, who are committed to the plumbing industry, but might need a helping hand," Sexton says.

"Indeed, it's clear that many apprentices have made considerable financial and personal sacrifices to enter the trade and further their careers. With that in mind, we wanted to provide some assistance to help successful recipients in achieving their dreams and career objectives."

Judges for the 2013 Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants will be looking for applicants who require financial help, in addition to those who might also be helping in the community or have future plans to do so.

"For example, one of the 2012 recipients, Aaron Stephens from Warwick in Queensland, wants to get his helicopter's licence so he can offer plumbing services in remote communities where the closest plumber might be thousands of kilometres away," explains Sexton.

"Another worthy recipient, WA's Ben Devenish-Meares, wants to provide plumbing services to help third world countries. And there were scores of other applicants who want to finesse their skills and one day either start their own businesses or continue their family's businesses into the future."





## **About the 2013 Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants**

Applications for the 2013 Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants open on Monday 1 July 2013 and close on Saturday 31 August 2013, with recipients announced on Monday 30 September 2013. Apprentices can nominate themselves or their employer can nominate on their behalf. Application forms are available from to download on the Rheem website – [www.rheem.com.au](http://www.rheem.com.au) or by emailing [askrheem@rheem.com.au](mailto:askrheem@rheem.com.au)

There are no restrictions placed on the grant; successful recipients can decide how and when they use it – e.g. on tools, education, bills, or fuel to get to or from work. Recipients of the 2012 Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants are not eligible to enter.

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## **About Rheem Australia**

Rheem has been manufacturing in Australia since 1937 and is the largest manufacturer of water heaters in Australia. Its brands include Rheem, Solahart, Vulcan, Raypak, Accent Air and Everhot. It employs in excess of 1200 people in Australia in five manufacturing facilities in NSW, Victoria and Western Australia. It has additional subsidiary organisations in New Zealand, China and Europe. It is the worldwide market leader in Solar Thermal products. [www.rheem.com.au](http://www.rheem.com.au)

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