News Release – for immediate release
Thursday 1st April 2010

Sentiment survey reveals upward trend for construction market development in 2010/2011

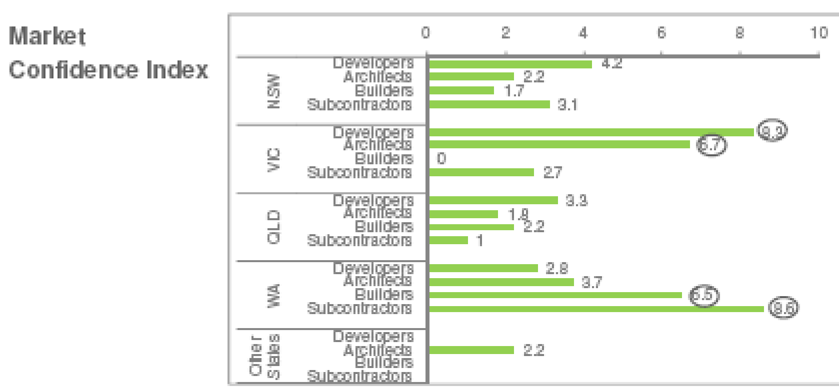
BCI Australia, the leading provider of project leads information in Australia & Southeast Asia, has released a report detailing the results of a market sentiment survey into the building and construction industry. The report summarises the results of a survey conducted by BCI Australia among 376 construction industry professionals (developers, architects, main contractors and subcontractors) in February 2010. It is an excerpt of BCI Australia's report: *"Exploring the Opportunities - Australian Construction Market Outlook 2010/2011",* to be released on 3 May 2010.

The report shows that, from an industry perspective, the Australian construction market has come out of the Global Financial Crisis alive and well. Industry stakeholders are predominantly happy about their current work load and confident about the market development for the 12 months ahead. With few exceptions stakeholders' sentiment has improved markedly since the date of the last survey conducted by BCI in July 2009.

The survey covers an assessment of their workload, the current workload compared to 12 months ago, expected market development, expected order situation in 12 months, staffing plans over the next 12 months and stakeholders' take on government initiatives.

CEO of BCI Group, Matthias Krups, commented: "We wanted to feel the pulse of the industry at a time when the much-feared recession has been avoided, but also when much of the government's stimulus spending has run its course. It's critical to gauge industry expectation now and for us to shed light on the expectations for the future of this industry'.

Extract:
Victoria is the most consistent frontrunner in terms of stakeholders' current work load levels (highest Current Activity Index). This is true for developers, architects and builders, while subcontractors appear busiest in Western Australia. Growth expectations vary in terms of time horizon: while developers and architects see the greatest promise for growth in Victoria, builders and subcontractors expect the most growth in Western Australia. Growth expectations for Queensland and New South Wales, while in positive territory, seem lacklustre. Compared to July 2009 industry sentiment is generally trending up, with stakeholders more positive in February 2010 about their next 12 months' work load than they were in July 2009. Notable exceptions to this were builders in NSW and VIC whose outlook has deteriorated from where it was seven months ago. Developers showed the greatest positive mood swings in VIC and WA, while architects saw the greatest improvements of their outlook in WA and outside the Eastern Seaboard states. On average across the states, the percentage of those seeing an improvement compared to a year ago increased by 27 percentage points.



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