

## Strong interest from industry for virtual masterclasses

The inaugural virtual masterclass held by the state building regulator has proven to be wildly popular, with more than 800 practitioners tuning in to hear from industry experts.

The session was the first in an online [education series](#) presented by the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) aimed at supporting the building industry by providing practical insights and useful resources.

Launching the masterclasses was a webinar from the VBA's Principal Fire Safety Engineer Dr Weng Poh, who discussed the requirements for the construction of fire rated elements in construction.

The VBA's State Building Surveyor Andrew Cialini said he was impressed by the significant turnout.

"To have 823 practitioners shows there's a strong interest in this education series, with practitioners keen to hear from subject matter experts," he said.

"We have more masterclasses running over the next four months so I expect numbers will rise even higher once the word gets out about this opportunity to gain valuable learnings."

Dr Poh focused on the need for designers to consider the essentials to ensure national construction code objectives are achieved and to improve the standard of fire safety design.

Feedback from practitioners has been positive, with one saying that it was the best masterclass they had attended to during his 23 years in the building industry.

Upcoming masterclasses include:

### April

- Bushfire audit findings – presented by VBA Acting Manager, Building Audit, Keesje Wassink
- Conflict of interest during design – presented by MinterEllison Partner Jeanette Barbaro

### May

- Cladding Safety Victoria update - presented by Cladding Safety Victoria CEO Dan O'Brien
- Site inspections and enforcement - presented by Weir Legal and Consulting Director Bronwyn Weir

### June

- Practical application of maintenance determinations and schedules - presented by VBA Senior Technical Advisor John Cutajar

### July

- Documentation and records management

To register for future masterclasses and watch any sessions you may have missed, visit the [VBA website](#).