

# How innovative are you?

**Some glaziers are among the property and construction industry's top innovators. This is one of the findings of the Innovation Survey run by the BRITE project of the Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation.**

Other results show that:

- 13% percent of glaziers are high innovators
- three glaziers introduced 'new-to-the-world' technological innovations
- 94% of glaziers said innovation increased profits
- 'in-house staff', 'suppliers' and 'trade associations' were their key sources of ideas about innovation.

On the other hand, half of glaziers were in the low innovators group. Glaziers said that the two most important obstacles to innovation were cost and insufficient time.

The survey report offers some suggestions for businesses wishing to improve their innovation performance. Dr. Karen Manley, the leader of the research project, said that these suggestions are based on what high innovators do, and include:

- employ apprentices/new graduates and provide training programs, rather than relying on recruiting experienced employees
- reduce clients' costs
- watch for developments internationally and in other related industries

- have formal systems to (i) include lessons from previous projects in work processes and (ii) encourage staff to share ideas
- formally evaluate success with advanced technologies and practices
- invest in Research and Development, possibly using the R&D tax concession to subsidise costs
- increase links with universities and other research institutions
- implement a broader range of the business strategies and advanced practices listed in the survey report
- consult a broader range of the sources of innovation ideas in the report.

You can read the full report at [www.brite.crcci.info](http://www.brite.crcci.info). This site also has case studies that show how innovations have been successfully implemented in a range of projects, and the benefits that were gained.