



THE HOME BUILDERS FEDERATION

Skills Research

HBF 2001 Employment Survey Results

- Of a total house building labour force of 180,000, two thirds were self-employed or employed by sub-contractors
- Over 35% of house builders were experiencing shortages of site managers/supervisors and design/technical staff
- 73% of companies felt the shortage of suitably skilled site operatives was impacting on their activities

Further Findings

- There are challenges in reaching the self-employed labour force with training and recruitment initiatives
- The age profile of the workforce has increased
- There has been insufficient awareness of possible career options in house building
- Recruitment and retention has been subject to direct competition from the demands caused by high activity levels in the rest of the construction industry
- HBF, CITB and company initiatives have responded to these challenges through a range of measures. HBF is looking to update its 2001 employment survey in conjunction with the Housing Forum.