



# Building Services Authority

# ***MEDIA STATEMENT***

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## **Kitchen company cops record fine for unlicensed contracting**

The Building Services Authority believes a record fine of \$235,000 for a company convicted of performing unlicensed building work would act as a strong deterrent to anyone planning to ignore licensing requirements.

Outback Products Pty Ltd, trading as Rethink Kitchens and Bathrooms, Rethink Kitchens, Bathrooms and Stones, Rethink Kitchens, Rethink Bathrooms and Rethink Stones was convicted and fined \$235,000 plus legal costs on 27 January.

General Manager of the BSA, Ian Jennings, said the charges included unlawful building work and failure to rectify defective or incomplete building work.

Cinnamon Developments Pty Ltd, trading as Rethink Darling Downs and Rethink Retail was also convicted and fined \$15,000 plus legal costs at the same hearing for unlawful building work and for an unlawful progress payment.

Mr Jennings said it was reassuring that the magistrate hearing this matter was particularly keen to deter the defendants and others from unscrupulous building activities, especially in light of the heightened need for consumer protection following the Queensland floods.

The companies have been operating from showrooms and warehouses in Toowoomba, Slacks Creek and Underwood.

They were charged in relation to building work for kitchen, bathroom, laundry and bar installations at homes in the Toowoomba area, and Dalby, Warwick, Plainland and Brisbane.

Mr Jennings said this case was another reminder why consumers should always ask contractors to show them their licence number and to then check the number on the Building Services Authority's free online licence search.

"Sadly, home owners were under the impression these jobs were being performed by licensed contractors, but they were not," he said.

"In the majority of cases, the work was not what consumers had paid for, was incomplete or defective, and all but two customers were not covered by the BSA's statutory home warranty scheme."

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