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ENERGY SAVING TIP #1

Switch to energy efficient compact fluorescent lights: Lighting accounts for around 5% of household greenhouse gas emissions, and compact fluorescent light bulbs use 75% less energy than an equivalent incandescent bulb. Although the bulbs cost more up-front, you will save money through the energy saved and extended life of the bulb.



Hot Off The Press!

2011 Housing Industry Association Queensland Housing Awards



Dean Costa accepting the HIA award of 'Queensland's best Townhouse/ Villa Development of the Year'

After taking out two prestigious awards at the HIA's 2011 Queensland Housing Awards, Costa has qualified to compete in the Housing Industry Association's Australian housing awards of 2012!
Costa achieved results of 'Best Display Home of the Year - Queensland' and 'Townhouse/Villa Development of the Year - Queensland'.

In other news this month...

Brightwater Billycart Cup:

This was a fun day out for everyone. All day the 'Costa Crew' was buzzing with excitement in anticipation for the final racing event (Builder's Category). There were some interesting competitor entries, but Costa effortlessly took out the big race with a brilliant billycart design!

This event, organised by Stockland was a successful and enjoyable event for the whole family.





Client Profile

Katrina Krigovsky is a very independent woman. She solely coordinated the construction of her family home with Costa while her husband Peter was working overseas. They own a beautiful home at the top of Buderim and are very happy with the lifestyle it has allowed them to lead.



Katrina Krigovsky: Five Star Review

"I would recommend others to build with Costa and I would certainly build with them again."

What do you love most about your home?

I love the staircase and entrance area. It's very individual and different from other homes with the curved staircase and the nice, open lighting. It's very airy. What I love most about the entire house is that it's bright and open.

Has it been designed to suit your lifestyle?

Yes, we have different areas to suit both the kids and the adults. There are different areas we can go to when visitors are over and it's great for entertaining. The adults can relax upstairs while the children play in the downstairs area.

What is your favourite room of the home and why?

The living/kitchen areas because it is open to all the views from every window. Being at the top of Buderim allows these picturesque views so we are very lucky. This is probably the room I'm in the most, too.

Apart from moving in, what was the most exciting part about the building process?

Every time I came to the house and saw all the different parts going up. The most exciting part was seeing it evolve.



How was the 'Costa' experience?

Excellent! It was fun, exciting and I had a ball; they were brilliant to work with. Especially because of the way our house is situated at the end of the driveway. The build interfered with our neighbours which caused a little bit of conflict at times, but Costa even dealt with them and managed the situation. They were very good.

Was it as good in real life as you expected?

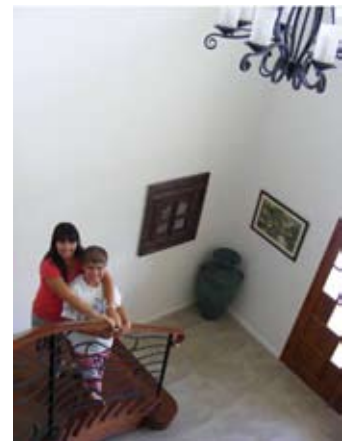
Yes, it was. There were some changes made along the way to better suit our needs. We had issues with our designer - and we didn't use Costa's designer which we regret. We had already drawn up our design and then found Costa. Costa helped to make changes to the windows so that more view could be seen.

Did Costa keep you sufficiently informed along the way and did they meet all your expectations?

Very much so - there's no improvements that need to be made. I'm very happy.

How many stars out of five would you rate your home and Costa as a builder?

Definitely five stars. I would recommend others to build with Costa and I would certainly build with them again.



Katrina and her son.

ENERGY SAVING TIP #2

Cool your home efficiently:

An external blind, pergola or deciduous vine can be used to keep out the sun in summer.

Well-designed eaves shade summer sun while allowing winter sun in. It is important to externally shade east and west windows in summer.





Word on the Street

Facebook

Remember to visit and 'like' our facebook page!

(Costa - Excellence - Luxury - Lifestyle)

Keep informed with what's going on within Costa and check out our event photos. Photos are now up from the Brightwater Billycart Cup.

* If you are aware of someone who is planning to build and you refer them to Costa, you will be rewarded **\$2000 cash** (Upon entering contract). The same goes for clients wishing to build with Costa - A **\$2000 discount** will apply.

(Offer only available for supporters of the Costa).



'Vee' Display Home - Queensland's BEST in 2011

You are invited to come visit us at Vee - Costa's award winning display home. Since the opening night in November 2010 this display has been stirring a lot of excitement and gaining much deserved recognition within the building industry.

Vee is now **for sale**. (8 Sweep Court - Birtinya Island) For more information or to make an inquiry please contact Frank Gentile on 0412 728 770.

Industry News

James Hardie function: 'Unlock the Potential of...'. Costa attended this event. Held on Wednesday 16th November, 2011 at the Roof Terrace - Gallery of Modern Art (South Bank, Brisbane), this function was delivered by industry recognised guest speakers with a focus on **stylish and affordable construction**.



James Hardie
A smarter way to build

Interest rates: Congratulations Sunshine Coast builders: the Reserve Bank has decreased rates as projected. There was a noticeable sigh of relief in the building industry this month!

Stockland news: Stockland have announced an exciting new Sunshine Coast residential area to be built. *Bell's Reach* is perfectly positioned to take advantage of all that the Sunshine Coast has to offer. Over 30% of the area has been dedicated to preserving green space and it is minutes from the Caloundra business centre and beaches. This estate has been set up to be a 'true village community'.



Stockland

ENERGY SAVING TIP #3

Ceilings can account for 20-35 per cent of heat loss in winter, so it is important to place insulation close to the ceiling to help reduce this.





Supplier Profile

1) When did you begin working with Costa?

I've had a working relationship with Costa since 2009 with another company, but I've worked with Costa through Audio Connection since the start of 2010.

2) What do you like about working with Costa?

They are an approachable builder. Our line of work is all about integrating many different facets of the home. We do intercoms, security, lighting control, audio control, speakers, and many other different subsystems of the home, so in my personal experience I've found Costa to be very flexible - if we need to discuss or modify something they are more than happy to sit down and work through it with us, unlike other builders where the scope of work is fixed and can't be changed.

3) What sets your business apart from others in the audio-visual industry?

The products we use. We use quality products of the same brand for homes of all values. We also vary our products to best suit the client's budget.

4) How does Audio Connection work in conjunction with Costa to bring buildings to life from beginning to completion? Where does Audio Connection fit in?

At the early/planning phases of the design, we sit down with the client and Costa to go through the wish list with the client. We then develop a proposal and submit it to the client. That process keeps going back and fourth until they're happy with it. We then sit down with Costa to discuss the construction and architectural side of things so everyone's on the same page.



**Brent Chapman -
Audio Connection**

Brent Chapman: Audio Visual and Home Automation Consultant Audio Connection has served as Australia's High End Audio-Visual Needs since 1987. What was once one man's hobby has grown into one of Australia's leading electronic home entertainment businesses.

5) As a business, what are the key elements you continuously aim to implement into the building designs? Why is this so important?

Ease of use for the end user. There's no use having something the client has spent money on and can't use. When we pitch the proposal to them we explain the technology. Audio Connection assisted in the construction of Costa's display home, Vee, and have included our products into it so that clients can see the technology displayed in the flesh.

6) How do you get job satisfaction from what you do?

That would definitely be seeing our clients happy at the end of the building process.

7) Do you, or have you ever worked for other builders? Does Costa do anything differently or better in the building process?

Costa are extremely approachable and flexible. If a client comes to us wanting to make changes to their plan we call Costa and they are always completely happy to make changes and analyse the domino effects. In my opinion, this makes them different from other builders.

8) What's it like working with Dean Costa?

Dean's great because he's an on-site contact as well as a go-to for business information and communication. For example, something needed to be changed in one of our current plans and we had a practical meeting on site, measuring things and reconstructing the plans. We were able to make the necessary changes then and there.



"Costa are extremely approachable and flexible."

"...different from other builders."

"...they are always happy to make changes."