

READERPEN™



Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO Te Pūkenga)

The Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO Te Pūkenga) is New Zealand's largest training provider for the construction industry. The training organisation is committed to improving equity and participation in the sector, particularly for disabled learners.

Working as a qualified tradesperson in the building and construction industry not only requires sound technical skills, but a strong ability to comprehend and utilise words, numbers and other sources of information. Apprentices must undertake a rigorous programme of theory to demonstrate they can build the homes and infrastructure that the community needs.

BCITO Te Pūkenga has provided 16 of its apprentices and training advisers with the C-Pen Reader. These state-of-the-art devices scan and read out words in a natural voice. They can also define words and do not require an internet connection. The devices have proved so popular that BCITO Te Pūkenga has ordered an additional 16 C-Pens.

"The C-Pen is a valuable tool to use when I need help reading text. I have introduced it to several of my apprentices with dyslexia, who have had a massive jump in self-confidence. It has really helped people that would have otherwise fallen through the gaps."

- Rhys Williams, BCITO Te Pūkenga training adviser

"It has made a massive difference. I use the C-Pen for studying theory and reading building plans. It has allowed me to be much more independent and confident in my work."

- Manton Parker-Knight, BCITO Te Pūkenga carpentry apprentice

Source: Bay of Plenty Times / NZ Herald (March 2023)