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## **BUILDING MATERIAL & TRADE SUPPLY AND COST ISSUES**

Across Queensland, our industry is experiencing sudden price hikes on building materials, driven by the increases to fuel prices and the disrupted the trade of several critical raw materials essential to the manufacture of a wide range of building products.

The current crisis is driving higher transport and manufacturing costs and disrupting freight logistics across many essential building materials. This is contributing directly to price hikes and unexpected constraints across the building supply chain.

These price hikes are significant and broad ranging. From early on, Master Builders members have reported that suppliers have notified them of immediate price increases ranging from 5 per cent to 50 per cent for materials including PVC pipe, concrete, building equipment, and copper products. These prices have only continued to increase.

With the current geopolitical uncertainty, it remains difficult to predict how long these conditions will persist and whether the cost increases and delays will intensify further.

While we are working hard with government and other industry stakeholders on solutions and strategies, the reality is that delays and price increases are unavoidable and will need to be factored into build times and contract pricing.

We urge builders and contractors to work closely with their clients to best navigate these challenging times and to identify and consider risks when pricing projects.

Paul Bidwell  
**CEO**