



Our Industry

The Building Services Industry

Building services have been called “the systems that bring buildings to life” – these are the air conditioning, ventilation, lighting, power, water, waste and fire and life safety systems.

What is the Building Services Industry?



In Australia, the Building Services industry is a multi-billion-dollar part of the economy that nationally employs tens of thousands of people. Building services have been called “the systems that bring buildings to life” – these are the air conditioning, ventilation, lighting, power, water, waste and fire and life safety systems. Virtually every facet of modern life depends in one way or another on building services. The quality and safety of the food we eat and water we drink, public health, hospitals and sanitation, banking and commerce, industrial production, arts and entertainment, communications, transportation and our comfort and safety in our homes, and places of work and entertainment all depend on building services.

If you're new to the industry and keen to find out more, this is what you should know.

Why are building Services Important?

Homes, office buildings, industrial plants, schools, public and government facilities and computer technology all rely on building services systems to create and maintain safe, healthy and comfortable living and working environments.

Many industrial, medical, technical and commercial processes depend on sophisticated heating, cooling and ventilating systems for their operation. Most buildings rely on fire and life safety systems to protect their occupants and assets in case of fire. Building Services people are problem solvers; experts who contribute to making equipment work better, more efficiently, quicker and less expensively.



What jobs are in the Building Services Industry?

Engineers

Conceive and design building services systems based on functional requirements and the need to conserve energy and water. They are also problem solvers and ensure that systems are maintained correctly and operate efficiently. They address areas including thermodynamics, electrical theory, fluid mechanicals, mechanical design, materials technology and regulatory and code compliance.

Plumbers

Fabricate, install and repair pipe and ductwork systems that carry fluids such as heating and cooling water and air for air conditioning and ventilation throughout buildings. They also install the plant and equipment that heats and cools and pumps the fluids, and heats and cools and moves the air.

Computer Modellers & Draftspersons

Use sophisticated Building Information Modelling (BIM) computer-aided design and drawing systems together with technical knowledge and skills to design and document HVAC and other building services systems for manufacture and installation.

Electricians

Install, maintain, service, repair and troubleshoot lighting and power systems.

Service Technicians

Install, maintain, service, repair and troubleshoot HVAC equipment and other building services using diverse knowledge of electrical components, motors, control systems, air flow, piping design, thermodynamics and refrigeration systems.

Commissioning Technicians

Carry out the setting up and tuning of new HVAC systems and complex building services.

Controls Technicians

Install, maintain, service, repair and troubleshoot the sophisticated computerised Building Management and Controls Systems (BMCS) that control the efficient operation of HVAC, electrical and fire and life safety systems in modern buildings.

Alarm Technicians

Install, maintain, service, repair and troubleshoot complex fire and life safety monitoring and alarm systems that help protect building occupants and buildings from the effects of fire.

Where do Building Services people work?

Building Services people work everywhere! Some examples of where you will find them:

- + Office Buildings including large city buildings
- + Hospitals and medical facilities
- + Schools and Universities
- + Computer Data Centres
- + Arts and Entertainment Complexes
- + Airports
- + Factories and industrial plants
- + Shopping Centres
- + Sporting facilities
- + Power stations and water utilities

What are the educational requirements?

To get started in the building services field, you should think about taking subjects in the following areas (dependant on your role):

- + Mathematics
- + Science
- + Physics
- + Information Systems and Technology
- + Technology and Technology Applications
- + Design
- + Materials
- + Electrical and Electronics
- + Mechanical drawing
- + CAD – Computer Aided Design
- + Business
- + Building and Construction





Where can I get more information?

More information can be found on the following websites:

amca.com.au

Air Conditioning & Mechanical Contractors Association

fpaa.com.au

Fire Protection Association of Australia

neca.asn.au

National Electrical and Communications Association

australianapprenticeships.gov.au

Commonwealth Government

yourcareerguide.com.au/categories/news

Career information and guidance

03 9248 2700

www.agcoombs.com.au

VIC | NSW | QLD | ACT

Interested in a career at A.G. Coombs?

For more information, or if you are interested in pursuing any of the apprenticeship or graduate programs currently offered by A.G. Coombs, please email:

Human Resources

A.G. Coombs Group Pty Ltd

recruitment@agcoombs.com.au

Or visit:

agcoombs.com.au/learning-development

