

1. GOVERNANCE

Finances

The 31st October Financial Report has been prepared and circulated to the Board.

Action – Remaining Precaster members to return fee type/turnover declaration.

Resources

Daniel Hall is still working part time due to illness. Advertising has commenced for a new Technical Services Co-ordinator (initial 6 month contract) to undertake technical work and new initiatives.

Director positions

Andrew Nearhos from Austral and Bill Wright from MJB have both submitted nominations. Nominations have been received from all other existing Directors.

Office relocation

The National Precast office will be moving to Suite 2, 13 Brighton Road, Glenelg during December. The new office will provide storage space as well as space for an additional staff member. One office space is available for sub-lease (which is being advertised) – interested members should contact Sarah.

2. MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER SERVICES

Membership categories

As the first year of the new membership category Industry Partner rolls out, the board is reviewing services offered, considering possible exclusivity by sponsorship opportunity instead of by Product Type and reworked Additional Services.

Membership applications & resignations

Applications – received from Euro Precast (Precaster), Vision Precast and Outback Sleepers Australia (Provisional Precaster) and University of Adelaide (Tertiary Institution), Concrete Institute of Australia (Association).

Resignations – received from Bostik (intend to rejoin when construction manager appointed).

Member recruitment

Contact re membership has been made with the following precasters: Outback Sleepers, RCPA, GRC Industries Australia, Monolithic Structures, Hewnstone (precasters) and with Building Point (supplier). Duracast and Bianco have also both been followed up. Information has also been provided to the following suppliers: Keim Mineral Paints, Building Point, Wall-tie and Newforma.

Members' meetings

February meeting – venue, agenda, presentations

The February meeting is being held at Hobart Function & Conference Centre from 25th to 27th February. Speakers TBA. Dinner will be at Rockwall Bar & Grill. The Saturday event is a possible 3 hour sailing trip (number dependent).

Action – Members to nominate project presentations, Precasters' Forum topics and Spotlight interviewee.

May meeting

The May meeting is being held in Melbourne on 26-28th May with a venue still being sought.

November meeting

This meeting marks NP's 25th anniversary. Initial discussions have been had with PCNZ to hold a joint meeting as part of this event. The meeting will be held in Sydney.

Meeting/dinner/social venues are currently being researched for the remainder of the 2016 events.

Member communications

The following Member electronic newsletters have been sent since the last meeting:

- Representation & Advocacy September (AS 3850 published, AS/NZS 2425 published).
- Meetings & Events September (Meeting highlights, November meeting info, 2016 events, new members, member news).
- Representation & Advocacy September (Calls for expressions of interest: National Precast representative – Working Group 1, BD-043, AS 3610 Formwork).
- Meetings & Events September (Fancy yourself a sailor? February Hobart Yacht Social information).
- Representation & Advocacy September (WA Coroner's Court considering extension of AS 3850 to civil works).
- Meetings & Events September (November meeting reminder, February meeting reminder, 2016 events, concrete cracks CIA workshop).
- Representation & Advocacy September (AS 1314:2003 Prestressing anchorages URGENT FEEDBACK NEEDED - Does it need review?).
- Marketing & Communications September (Member advertising opportunity, latest member case studies, precast abroad).
- Representation & Advocacy September (Concrete piling standards – do reviewing? AS 3600 review).
- Work Health & Safety September (National, state, and international relevant work health and safety stories).
- Representation & Advocacy September (Draft 3.0 of MRTS70 *Concrete* released for comment).
- Meetings & Events September (November meeting reminder, February meeting reminder, 2016 events, August meeting presentations).
- Tender Request October (Mid Coast Water WPS, NSW).
- Meetings & Events October (November meeting reminder, ACRS steel compliance seminars).
- Tender Request October (Castlereagh Street, Liverpool, NSW).
- Tender Request October (Aston Entry Reserve, VIC).
- Representation & Advocacy (AS 3850 Survey).
- Meetings & Events October (November meeting reminder, notice of new NP email addresses).
- Legal & Commercial October (Aus Construction Activity report, construction EBA wage hikes, construction index 11 month high, precast is the future, is PIM the answer to BIM?, tendering, trade shortages, apartment construction boom, commercial property, PPPs, standard recommended contract).
- Representation & Advocacy November (AS 3850 Survey reminder).
- Meetings & Events November (November meeting reminder, notice of new NP email addresses).
- Representation & Advocacy November (GECA Cement & Concrete Products Standard rep).

Member services

NP partnered with Make it Cheaper to offer members savings in power usage, with 20% of Make it Cheaper's commission (which is paid by the retailers) to be paid to NP. A gift voucher is being offered by Make it Cheaper for the first member to save money on a power bill. No members have made contact regarding the offer.

Action – All members are urged to consider the offer.

3. EXTERNAL PR/COMMS

Website

The new website is now complete and is due to go live asap. All members will be advised by email and asked to check their details on the site. New application forms have been made for Tertiary, Government, Professional Associate (Student), Professional Associate (Individual), Professional Associate (Organisation), and Association memberships.

New content

Case studies

The following case studies have been written and uploaded to the website since the last report:

- Seventh Avenue – Delta Corporation.
- Launceston Flood Levee – Duggans.
- Legacy Way Tunnel – Humes.
- North Yarra Sewer – Humes.
- Trinity Hill Housing – Duggans.

- Cloisters on Hay – Delta Corporation.
- Sir William Goodman Bridge – SA Precast.
- Cameron Close Sorrento – Hollow Core Concrete.

Case studies are continuing to be uploaded onto the new website.

Action: All members are asked to supply project information so that case studies can be written and used for promotional purposes.

Articles

The following articles have been written since the last meeting:

- What will bolster Australia's economy?
- The oft-overlooked virtues of precast concrete.
- The right infrastructure investment will pay off.
- Construction Engineering Australia partners with National Precast.
- Standard now reflects increased use of precast.
- A new era in precast.
- National Precast announces first Industry Partner.
- Halo on Mount case study (Austral)
- Popularity of precast concrete housing

Member profiles

The following member profiles have been written since the last meeting:

- Hollow Core Concrete.
- Duggans Precast.

Action: All members invited to have their profile written for publication.

Videos

Flooring project videos:

Curtin University has been finalised since the last report.

Action: Austral/Humes to nominate a project to showcase Tranfloor/AustralDeck/Humeslab. Hanson and SA Precast to nominate flooring projects.

General project videos:

A general project video on Curtin University has been produced. The Porsche dealership video has been finalised since the last report and shows the benefits of a total precast approach. Nan Tien is being finalised.

Exposure

Website

New content covered on our website since the last meeting includes:

- Europe's largest precast industry event (September).
- Call for Feds to encourage more prefabrication (October).
- National Precast is hiring! New SA position in national office. (November).
- All new case studies and new content: Why use a National Precast member?

Non-member precasters

The following has been sent to non-member precasters since the last meeting:

- Construction Engineering Australia magazine (August issue), with letter and application form, 10th September.
- Construction Engineering Australia magazine (October issue).
- Non-member Precaster enews October.
- Non-member Precaster enews November (Survey reminder).

Architect/engineer/builder Web Users

The following newsletters have been sent since the last meeting:

- Architects enews October.
- Builders enews October.
- Engineers enews October.
- Builders enews November (Survey reminder).
- Engineers enews November (Survey reminder).

Linkedin/Facebook

Linkedin - 283 members (272 members at last quarter).

Facebook - 434 likes (393 likes at last quarter).

Content - Various posts have been added/shared since the last report.

Industry publications

Agreements with Sourceable, Concrete Engineering Australia magazine (EPC), Roads & Civil Australia magazine (Prime Creative Media), Engineers Australia (Mahlab Media) are now in place and material is being supplied to all publications.

The following content has been covered in industry publications since the last report:

Sourceable

- Exciting times for construction but can we build smarter? (Oct).

Roads Civil Australia

- Legacy Way case study – Humes (Aug/Sep).
- Gateway WA case study – Humes (Aug/Sep).
- The right infrastructure investment will pay off – (Aug/Sep).
- Launceston Flood Levee case study –Duggans (Oct/Nov).
- GMK Industrial Development case study – Humes (Oct/Nov).
- Seventh Avenue Bridge – Delta (Oct/Nov).
- Gregory Hill Corporate Park case study – Humes (Oct enews weekly).

Roads Civil Australia enews (July, August):

- Various projects, National Precast banners.

Construction Engineering Australia (August/Sept)

- A new era in precast – (Aug)
- About National Precast – (Aug)
- Standard now reflects increased use of precast – (Aug)
- 'Precast... the tools' brochure – (Aug)
- Halo on Mount case study – Austral (Aug)
- Member profile: Hollow Core – (Aug)
- National Precast announces first Industry Partner – Reid (Aug)
- Precast housing: growing in popularity in Australia – (Aug)
- The 4 Ps of sustainability – (Oct)
- Trinity Hill case study – Duggans (Oct)
- Member profile: Duggans Precast – (Oct)
- 'Precast... the publications' brochure – (Oct)
- Cloisters on Hay case study – Delta (Oct)
- Cameron Close case study – Hollow Core Concrete (Oct)
- Sir William Goodman Bridge case study – SA Precast (Oct)

These will be shown at the meeting.

DesignBUILD

Internal planning will soon be commencing for next year's exhibition, being held at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre on 4-6th May 2016. The show is expected to be 20% bigger than Sydney 2015 and 75% bigger than Melbourne 2014. The overall theme is collaboration, focusing on compliance, sustainability and innovation.

Conferences

Thanks to Peter Healy who presented on total precast at the prefabAUS conference in Melbourne in September.

4. EDUCATION

Joint CIA/NP precast design workshop

A joint NP/CIA precast workshop was held Thursday 3rd September after Concrete 2015. Thanks Jeff Stratford, Kevin Crompton and Peter Healy for presenting.

Joint EA Newcastle/NP AS 3850 workshop

A joint NP/CIA precast workshop was held Thursday 3rd September after Concrete 2015. Thanks to Jeff Stratford and Kevin Crompton for presenting.

Joint NP/CIA/EA AS 3850 seminars

Plans are underway to hold seminars on the revised AS 3850 in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart in Feb/March 2016. Thanks to Jeff Stratford and Kevin Crompton for agreeing to speak.

5. PUBLICATIONS

Publication sales

The next SAI campaign will focus on the Precast Concrete Handbook.

Precast design educational material

Olivia Mirza from UWS is reviewing our current publications (including the new fib *Planning and design handbook on precast building structures*), and will recommend a way ahead in relation to developing improved precast design educational material.

Precast Concrete Handbook edition 3

With the new AS 3850 published, work should commence on an update to edition 2 of the Precast Concrete Handbook within the next six months (as soon as the Technical Services Co-ordinator commences). John Woodside has offered to be involved in the review.

Action – Form working group to commence Handbook review.

Norwegian design manuals

Update to be provided by Peter Healy on the translation of the manuals into English at the meeting.

fib Planning and design handbook on precast building structures

CPI and fib have provided NP with a copy of this new guide, and are inviting allied organisations (including NP) to place co-branded bulk orders (actual cost: 100+ approx. \$72/copy; 200+ approx. \$47/copy; 500+ \$32/copy). Chapters 1-7 have been placed in a DropBox folder and may be reviewed. Pending the response from Olivia Mirza on whether NP should produce similar educational material, NP will invite orders from members and non-members (which would be co-branded NP), which they may then provide to their clients.

6. REPRESENTATION/ADVOCACY

TWU application for lorry owner drivers (NSW)

NP and NSW members assisted MBA NSW with feedback/support on a TWU application attempting to impose additional onerous conditions and higher rates on lorry owner drivers who transport precast (that currently apply to those transporting general freight). A meeting was held in September. Hanson, Austral and Advanced Precast have since provided statements to MBA, for the hearing which is listed for 16-20th November.

ACRS Australasian Certification Authority for Reinforcing & Structural Steels

National Precast representative Bob Connell ITW

ACRS continues to focus on expanding its acceptance and specification rate, via the free seminars it ran during October (which NP promoted). Bob is attending an ACRS board meeting just prior to the November Members' Meeting and will provide a full update at the meeting.

Action – Bob to continue to report on ACRS developments.

Steel Processor Working Group

Participants: Sarah Bachmann (NP), John Bergin (Humes), Graham Underwood (Rocla), Peter Webb (Hanson), Faiz Al-Sammak (Austral), Graeme Underwood (OneSteel), Andrew Ruffles (CPAA).

A meeting of the group was held in August, and there has been communication via email since. A draft position paper has been prepared (which incorporates the technical paper explaining the reasoning behind the NP positions) and is expected to be approved by the Group at a meeting immediately following the Board meeting. At this meeting, an action plan will be determined. The position paper and details of the action plan will then be circulated to the Board for approval.

AEFAC Australian Engineered Fasteners and Anchors Council

National Precast representative **Ian Ferrier** **Reid Construction Systems**

The AEFAC Standard will be an Australian Technical Standard and has been unofficially accepted for inclusion as a reference in the 2016 NCC. There are some matters requiring finalisation prior to publication including editorial modifications and compliance with Standards Australia's protocols.

Action – Ian to continue to report on AEFAC developments.

WHS Authorities

Safe Work Australia: National Code of Practice for Precast, Tilt-up and Concrete Elements in Building Construction

Following contact by NP, Jane Teasey from SWA advised that with AS 3850 now published, SWA was considering how best to progress a revised code/guide. Emily Hall from SWA has subsequently advised that Jane has resigned from SWA and that she has been tasked to undertake the review. SWA is still unsure whether the revised document will be a code or a guide. NP offered to assist SWA with information, reviewing documents, factory and site tours.

Roads Authorities

TMR

MRTS70 Concrete – TMR has reviewed draft 2 of MRTS70NP and has issued draft 3, inviting NP member comment. This was circulated to members. NP will be meeting with TMR to discuss feedback.

New precast category: Austroads National Prequalification System

Craig Smith (TMR and project manager for the new precast category in the Austroads National Prequalification System) has advised that the new category has been approved by the Austroads Board. The national prequalification group is meeting in early November to discuss implementation, which was expected to take place on 1 January 2016 but is likely to be delayed given that industry consultation has not yet occurred and to allow participating jurisdictions to update their systems.

NCC (BCA) Proposal for Change (PFC) – Mass Enhanced R-value & R-value Calculators

The development of brick and block calculators is almost complete, following which the royalty can apply and PFC prepared.

Action – Continue to liaise with TBA and CMAA on progress of brick and block calculators; follow up payment of royalty; finalise PFC and Industry Standard for submission to the ABCB.

Australian Standards

Standards Australia aged standards

Standards Australia has been assessing all standards which are more than 10 years old. NP invited member input and has advised Standards that the following standards should be reconfirmed:

- AS 1314:2003 Prestressing anchorages
- AS 2159 SUPP 1-1996: Piling – Design & installation guidelines
- AS 3735-2001: Concrete structures retaining liquids
- AS 4678-2002 incl amdt 1&2: Earth-retaining structures.

AS 3600 Concrete Structures

National Precast representative

BD-02 Committee

Nagesh Kanapathy

Hanson Precast

CCAA has submitted a proposal to revise the standard and Standards has been collecting feedback on the proposal from nominating organisations including NP. NP has indicated support for the scope contained within the proposal. The first committee meeting was held mid-September to discuss the workplan and workload. At the meeting it was advised that *HB84:2006 Guide to Concrete – Repair and Protection* will be updated and BD-02 committee member Vute Sirivatnanon was selected to liaise with the Guide's working group during the update. Also at the meeting, the need for inclusion in the Guide was identified for guidelines on repairs to precast and its fixtures (eg lifters, ferrules, patching) and for recognized and trained personnel to undertake such repairs. Nagesh will participate in the working group for the Guide's revision.

Action - Nagesh to monitor committee communication.

AS3610 Formwork

BD-043 Committee

BD-043 Main Committee and Working Group 2

National Precast representative

Alan Morrison

Ultrafloor

Main committee update - A new BD-043 Project Manager has been appointed (same project manager as BD-032). No meetings of the three working groups have been held since late July and meetings are scheduled for early December.

Working Group 2 update – Kevin Huff (Ultrafloor's Design Manager and NP rep on AS 2327 Composite Structures) has been liaising with the CIA rep on design loadings, whereby a significant increase in the design loads for formwork under wet concrete is being considered. If adopted, this will unreasonably penalise precast flooring in terms of an increased temporary propping requirement. **Note – refer related report on AS 2327 below.

Action – Flooring members to provide input to Alan on impact of change to design loads.

BD-043 Working Group 1

National Precast representative

Peter Webb

Hanson Precast

Peter Webb has been appointed as NP representative and is due to attend his first meeting of the Working Group in early December. Peter is seeking input from members as to whether precast should be differentiated within the standard in relation to surface finishes and this will be discussed at the members' meeting with the view of determining an NP position.

Action – Peter to represent NP on Working Group one. Members' meeting to determine NP position.

AS 2327 Composite Structures

BD-032 Committee

National Precast representative

Kevin Huff

Ultrafloor

A committee meeting was held in early November. Discussion about design loadings culminated in a decision for the need for communication between BD-032 and BD-043. The proposed changes to increase design loads for formwork under wet concrete will lessen unpropped span lengths for all flooring products and specific feedback is sought from flooring members.

Action – All NP flooring members to provide input.

AS 1379 Specification and Supply of Concrete

BD-049 Committee

National Precast representative

Mark Jedy

Rocla

No report since the last meeting.

Action – Mark to continue representing NP on this Standard.

AS 3850 Tilt-up Concrete Construction

BD-066 Committee

National Precast representatives

Kevin Crompton

Ultrafloor

Jeff Stratford

ITW

The standard was published in early September. Members and non-member precasters as well as engineers and builders have been surveyed on several questions which have arisen since the standard was published. Results will be discussed at the members' meeting with the view of determining an NP position on each. This will include a discussion on whether the standard should be amended and extended to cover civil works, something which is being considered as part of a WA Coroner's inquest (NP has been asked to provide input to the Coroner).

Action – All NP members to adopt the revised AS3850. Members' meeting to discuss survey results and determine NP position.

AS/NZS 4671 & AS/NZS 4672 Steel Reinforcement & Prestressing

BD-084 Committee

BD-084 Main Committee

National Precast representative

Gary Connah

Ancon

A proposal to undertake a full update on AS 4671 has been submitted to Standards Australia for their consideration.

Action – Gary to monitor activities.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 1 Steel Reinforcement

National Precast representative

Andrew Barraclough

ITW

As reported above. Pending decision by Standards for review. The proposal to revise AS3600 to include 700MPa under N class ductility is likely to be approved to start early 2016, hence the AS/NZS 4671 revision is highly likely shortly thereafter.

Action – Andrew to monitor committee communication.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 2
National Precast representative
BD-084 Sub-Committee 3, AS 2425
National Precast representative
No report.

Action – NP members to adopt AS2425.

Prestressing
None
Bar Chair for Steel Reinforcement
Leonard Samuel Actech

AS 1546.3 Domestic Wastewater Treatment

National Precast representative

WS-040

Tony Kruf

Central Coast Septics

The revised document is still in drafting stage and then will go to public comment.

Action – Tony to continue representing NP on this Standard.

Note: Tony Kruf has been contacted twice regarding his non-attendance of meetings but no reply has been received.

Note - the following committees have National Precast representation but are not currently active:

CE026 Committee	AS 1597 Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts
FP020 Committee	AS 3859 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas
Solid Construction Committee (Kevin Crompton).	

Sarah Bachmann, CEO, 10th November 2015