



Industry Incident Notification Update

November 2016

Manslaughter Charges Laid



As we have previously advised, two construction workers, Ashley Morrie, 34 and Humberto Leite, 55, were crushed by concrete panels on 6th October at Brisbane's Eagle Farm Racecourse.

On 16th November, Queensland construction supervisor Claudio D'Alessandro was arrested at Brisbane international Airport prior to departing for a family holiday to the Philippines. He was charged with two counts of manslaughter as a result of alleged negligence and granted bail.

Read about the [Series of Events](#) as reported by the [ABC](#).

Read information regarding the [Charges](#): [Sky News](#) and [Sydney Morning Herald](#).

Read Moray & Agnew's [Legal](#) Update [here](#).

WorkCover QLD Issues Safety Alert

Following this incident, WorkCover Queensland put out a Safety Alert regarding concrete wall panels, highlighting key risks and hazards for workplaces or work situations. This alert can be viewed [here](#).

Imperative to Comply with Revised AS 3850

In the case of construction that involves precast and site-cast concrete elements, a thorough understanding of the requirements of parts 1 and 2 of the revised *AS 3850 Prefabricated concrete elements* (and its implications on safe practices), is imperative.

What about civil construction?

AS 3850 applies to the construction of buildings, however National Precast recommends that where relevant, the standard be used in civil construction also. A new Part 3 of the standard which will apply to civil construction will be

drafted in due course.

Isn't there a National Code of Practice?

Yes there is, however National Precast has withdrawn its support of the National Code because it is now out-dated - and in fact conflicts - with the revised AS 3850. State codes also exist in some states, and these too, are now likely to be out of date and in conflict with the standard. Notwithstanding this, the documents contain a lot of valuable information and those practices in the code that are not in conflict with AS 3850, should be followed.

What can you do now?

There are three things you should do:

1. Buy a copy of AS 3850

AS 3850.1:2015 and AS 3850.2:2015 can be purchased using the following links:

[AS 3850.1:2015 - Prefabricated concrete elements - General requirements](#)

[AS 3850.2:2015 - Prefabricated concrete elements - Building construction.](#)

2. Watch the webinar

National Precast recently held seminars for precasters, builders and engineers on the revised AS 3850 and its implications on safety. The seminar is now available as a **webinar** [here](#). Watch it and spread the word.

3. Download a copy of your relevant Code of Practice (whilst these might be out of date, they still include some good information):

National Code -

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/cp200802precasttiltupandconcreteelements>

Victorian code – https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/13028/tilt_up.pdf

Queensland code – https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/58200/tilt-up-pre-cast-cop-2003.pdf

Whether working in a buildings or civil construction environment, we urge everyone who has involvement with precast to get involved with National Precast, and to purchase both the standard and the webinar and familiarise themselves with their obligation.



Phone: (08) 8294 0833 • Email: info@nationalprecast.com.au

Suite 2, 13 Brighton Road, Glenelg SA 5045

[Facebook](#) • [LinkedIn](#)

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