

1. GOVERNANCE

Finances

All members have paid 2015/16 fees and have been invoiced for 2016/17.

Action – Precaster members return Fee Type Declarations and organise payment.

Resources

Existing Staff

Total resource capability is down but workload is at an all time high. In addition to Sarah Bachmann (full time), Amy Brandoli is working 31.5 hours/week and Daniel Hall continues to work mostly 1 day/week.

Recruitment

The search for a technical recruit continues. Board consideration is also being given to succession planning for Sarah's role, to reduce risk to the organisation, and to our marketing/comms resources.

Action – Board to consider resources. Appoint additional resources.

Director positions

The Board is considering Board nominees for 2016/17. Nominations have been received from several existing Board members. Brent Hardy has indicated he will not be renominating. A nomination has also been received from Graham Underwood from Rocla, and from Jeff Stratford from ramsetreid who has requested that Industry Partner representation on the Board be considered.

Action – Board to consider Board nominations. Sarah to present nominations to AGM.

NP Representatives

The Board is considering fixed terms for NP representatives on Standards and other committees, to enable NP to change a representative and/or enable other member staff to participate.

Action – Board to decide on representative terms. Continue to oversee and liaise with reps.

2. MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER SERVICES

Membership numbers

Current member numbers are as follows:

Member type	Number of Members		Number of recipients	
	May 16	Aug 16	May 16	Aug 16
Precaster	21	22	66	67
Provisional Precaster	4	4	15	17
Industry Partner	1	2	6	26
Industry Supplier	19	20	57	55
Association	11	11	11	11
Prof Assoc Individual	5	7	5	7
Prof Assoc Organisation	4	3	7	4
Prof Assoc Student	2	1	2	1
Tertiary Institution	5	5	5	5
Total	72	75	174	193

Comments: Member numbers are continuing to grow steadily and further growth will be pending appointment of additional resources.

Free website subscribers (selected categories)	Feb 2016	May 2016	Aug 2016
Architects	112	134	136
Engineers	143	179	183
Builders	45	54	55
Developers	12	13	13
Students	89	92	96
Academics	16	19	19
Erectors	1	2	2
Industry Suppliers	39	39	43
Total (ALL categories)	960	991	944

Comments: Web user growth in selected categories has continued to slowly increase. Total fallen due to clean-up of records.

Membership applications & resignations

Applications

The Board has approved the following:

- MILCast – Provisional Precaster (inspection completed by Peter Healy)
- Combilift – Industry Partner
- Konnect – Industry Supplier
- Global Asset Technologies – Industry Supplier
- Robert Tapiolas – Professional Associate – Individual (Engineer QLD)
- AML Equipment (ShuttleLift/Pace Cranes) – Industry Supplier
- Nina Zundel – Professional Associate - Individual (Engineer VIC).

Resignations

The Board has accepted the following:

- Active Minerals – Industry Supplier
- BJS Insurance – Professional Associate Organisation.

Both Active Minerals and BJS Insurance have resigned due to no uptake of their products by members.

Membership recruitment

All non-member precasters were mailed invitations to register for the AS 3850 seminars and accompanying the invitations was a letter encouraging membership. An enews was also sent.

Action – Continue to communicate with non-member precasters. A proactive recruitment drive is pending appointment of additional resources.

Members' meetings

November meeting / 25 year celebration dinner

Logistics: Entertainment, decorations etc have been finalised for the 25 year celebration dinner and all event information has been uploaded to the website.

Sponsorship: Additional sponsors have been confirmed. Thanks to supporters which now include ramsetreid as Event Partner and Ancon, Moray & Agnew and Konnect as Supporting Sponsors.

Promotion: Invitations are being prepared and members are asked to proactively help promote the event. Precaster members are asked to use the dinner as a marketing opportunity and book a table for key staff and clients. Supplier members will be asked to book a table and invite non-member precasters.

Construction Engineering Australia - Editorial has been written for the August issue. Material is also being prepared for a 25 year celebration feature in the October issue. This issue will also include the following member ads - Waeger Precast (half page), Stresscrete (half page), Hollow Core (half page), Ultrafloor (half page), Precast Concrete Products (full page) and Austral (full page) at \$1000/page, \$500/half page ex GST. Erico and BJS will be advertising also at \$1500/page. NP has booked the front cover.

CEA is still offering members reduced price advertising and details will be distributed at the meeting.

Roads & Civil Australia - the Aug/Sept issue includes a brief story on the event. RCA is also offering members reduced price advertising and details will be distributed at the meeting.

The event will be further promoted by website News stories, media releases to other industry publications, direct mail to members, non-member precasters, engineers, architects and builders.

Action – Finalise all details for the November events. Members help promote the dinner (Precaster members asked to invite staff and engineers/architects/builders; Suppliers asked to invite non-member precasters). Members consider advertising opportunities with CEA and RCA magazines.

February meeting – venue, agenda, presentations

The February meeting is being held at the Mayfair Adelaide from 9-11th February. The Thursday Members' Dinner will be at Adelaide Oval and will include a tour prior. The informal Friday night dinner is likely to be held at the Apothecary, with a cooking class and lunch likely to be offered on Saturday.

Action – Finalise details.

Member communications

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

- Tender – May (Bankstown, NSW townhouses)
- Meetings & Events – June (May Meeting outcomes, Melbourne & Sydney info)
- Representation & Advocacy – June (GECA & Austroads)
- Manufacturing & Technology – June (Photocatalytic coatings, green concrete, Austroads updates, Maku holdings seeks precast partner in PNG)
- Workplace Health & Safety – June (National news, Incidents, UK safe precast site)
- Tender – June (Brunswick, Vic – Melville House)
- Legal & Commercial – June (NCC 2016, VIC: New rules on building sites, Construction industry forecasts etc)
- 25th Anniversary – June
- AS 3850 – June (invitation and seminar details)
- Meetings & Events – June (August & Nov events, nominate for Board, NP Partner, The Wonderful world of precast)
- Tender – 30 June (Nadi International Airport Fiji)
- 25th Anniversary – June (announcing Moray & Agnew Supporting Sponsor)
- AS 3850 – June (invitation and seminar details)
- Tender – July (Residential – Darlinghurst NSW)
- Meetings & Events – July (reminder to register for August Event)
- AS 3850 – Aug (reminder to register)
- AS 3850 – Aug (request to invite engineers and builders)
- Meetings & Events – Aug (reminder to register for August Event)
- 25th Anniversary – Aug (announcing Konnect Supporting Sponsor)
- Tender – Railway Place (Civil – West Melbourne)
- Meetings & Events – Aug (August meeting papers).

Action – Continue to generate member communications.

Member services

2017 wall planners are being printed.

Action – Distribute wall planners. Investigate printing of case studies to give to Precaster members (pending appointment of additional resources).

3. EXTERNAL PR/COMMS

Website Statistics

Website statistics are as follows:

View type	Feb 2016	May 2016	Aug 2016
Total site views	16,622	12,394	13,520
Individual users	3,969	2278	3318

Percentage of first time visitors	71.41%	66.49%	75.37%
Average pages visited	3.45	3.85	3.18
Average viewing time (minutes)	03:12	03:59	02:54

Most popular pages	Views Mar-May 16	Views Jun-Aug 16
Home page	3079	3001
Member only content	520	1092
Member login	499	597
Fact sheets	451	529
Find a precaster	387	480
Member events / login	381	455
Resources - publications	327	408
Member directory	313	397
Precast products	310	320
Find a precaster – building elements	300	309

Comments:

- The website views have started to again increase as the website is slowly making its way up in Google rankings.
- Discussions are being held with Google regarding NP having 2 profiles and the need to delete one showing our old contact details.
- The drop in Home page views but increase in other page views, suggests people are bookmarking individual pages and returning to them.

New content

The following new content has been **generated** since the last report:

Case studies

- Tassal Hatchery tanks – Duggans
- Dalrymple Rd Bridges – Humes
- Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre – Delta
- GE Headquarters – Austral
- Vibe Apartments – Austral
- Geelong Library – Asurco
- Perth Stadium seating plats – PERMAcast
- Perth Stadium walling – Delta
- Williams Bridge Wollombi – Waeger
- Westmead CMRI
- iFly – Austral
- Wat Dhammatharo Thai Buddhist Temple – Asurco
- Westfield Garden City Mt Gravatt – Austral
- Warringah Mall - Humes

General Articles

- “Will new Gov’t give the construction sector what it needs?”
- “Setting the standard: after the recent changes to AS 3850 – Prefabricated concrete elements, the question is being asked: how do the changes affect civil precast construction?”
- “National Precast celebrates 25 years in style”

Member profiles

- PERMAcast

Product Profiles

- Box Culverts
- Noise Walls
- GRC

Videos

Commonwealth Games Village has been filmed and is in draft stage and one of ramsetreid’s 2015-16 membership year Partner videos has been filmed.

An Austral flooring project video (courtesy flooring project contributor Humes) has been filmed and production of the generic Transfloor/Humeslab/Austral Deck video is in draft stage.

Hanson and SA Precast are the remaining members still to have videos produced. Hanson has been granted an extension to the May 2015 deadline to have a suitable project filmed.

Action – Finalise Commonwealth games Village video. Finalise ramsetreid's video. Finalise generic Transfloor/Humeslab/Austral Deck video. Continue to generate editorial material. All Precaster members urged to submit project information and material for general articles/member profiles.

Exposure

NP has had the following PR **exposure** since the last report:

Via NP Website

- We are hiring! Marketing and Communications full time position – Jun
- Attention precasters, builders, engineers – Changes to AS3850 Seminars – Jun
- Check out our latest member case studies – Jun
- Do you supply the precast industry? Industry Partner Membership info – Jun
- Read the latest CEA – Jul
- Will the new gov't give the construction sector what is so desperately needs? - Jul

To non-member precasters

- Mailing: Letter (joining NP, 25 year celebrations) + AS 3850 seminar invitations + June CEA magazine – June
- Enews: AS 3850 seminars – Aug.

To architect/engineer/builder web subscribers

- Architects' enews - May.
- Builders' enews: AS 3850 seminars – Aug.
- Engineers' enews: AS 3850 seminars – Aug.

Via LinkedIn

Statistics - 347 members (327 members at last quarter). Various posts have been added/shared since the last report.

Via Facebook

Statistics – 621 members (558 likes at last quarter). Various posts have been added/shared since the last report.

Via industry publications

Material is being prepared and supplied for Sourceable, Concrete Engineering Australia magazine (CEA) and Roads & Civil Australia magazine (Prime Creative Media). CEA is now also being distributed to all CIA members and affiliates.

The following content has been covered in industry publications since the last report (these will be shown at the meeting):

Sourceable

- "Will new Gov't give the construction sector what it needs?"

Roads Civil Australia – June/July

- Tassal hatchery expansion
- Infrastructure for the future – Dalrymple road bridges
- The precast culvert solution

Roads Civil Australia – Aug/Sept

- "Setting the standard: after the recent changes to AS 3850 – Prefabricated concrete elements, the question is being asked: how do the changes affect civil precast construction?"
- Perth Stadium seating plats – PERMAcast
- PERMAcast member profile

Roads Civil Australia enews - various

- Various projects, National Precast banners.

Construction Engineering Australia - June

- New Provisional Precaster membership proves successful
- AS3850 seminar full page ad
- State of the art sustainable design – GE Headquarters, QLD
- Australia dives head first into marine research – Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre, WA
- Landmark building changes Geelong landscape – Geelong Library and heritage centre
- No downside to precast flooring says builder – Vibe on Wellington Apartments

Action – Continue to ensure new content is generated and included in the above. Commence providing content for Highway Engineering Australia (pending appointment of marketing/comms resource).

DesignBUILD

DesignBUILD 2017 will be located in the new Sydney Convention Centre and will be co-located with the AIA's national conference, so should promise good visitor numbers. Sarah continues to participate on the DesignBUILD Advisory Panel.

Action – Organise NP stand for DesignBUILD. Members consider exhibiting at DesignBUILD 2017.

4. EDUCATION

AS3850:2015 seminars

Seminars were organised by NP/ CIA on the revised AS3850 in Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane/Adelaide/Perth/Hobart in August. Sincere thanks to Ultrafloor and ramsetreid who sponsored the seminars by contributing Jeff Stratford and Kevin Crompton's time, flights, accommodation and other costs, and to Jeff and Kevin for their high calibre presentations. Numbers were difficult to obtain and members required significant follow up. The following results however, were achieved:

Perth – 38

Adelaide -9

Brisbane – 35

Hobart – 22

Melbourne – 62

Sydney – 65

TOTAL: 231

All attendees will be added as Web Users to the website. The seminar is being produced as a webinar available for sale.

Action – Add attendees to website. Finalise webinar and finances with CIA.

Leaders Rule Change (LRC) leadership training

LRC Communications has been asked to provide state-by-state financial implication information for potential participating members.

Action – Provide financial information to members on receipt.

5. PUBLICATIONS

Publication sales

Sales figures have been included in the monthly financial reports (latest attached).

SAI Global is working on a new ecommerce platform and discussions are to be held regarding the possible discontinuation of SAI as exclusive distributor. Discussions first need to be held with CEOs of other associations.

Action – Determine publication arrangements for other associations and negotiate with SAI.

Precast Concrete Handbook edition 2/3

Additional copies of the Handbook have been distributed to some members. Very few have provided engineer/architect/builder contact details.

Action – Supply additional copies on request.

Norwegian design manuals

The manual has been shared via Dropbox with Board members.

Action – Possible NP action is pending appointment of technical resource.

fib Planning and design handbook on precast building structures

24 copies of the handbook have been supplied to each of the 7 contributing flooring members (SA Precast, Humes, Ultrafloor, Hanson, Precast Concrete Products, Delta, Hollow Core), for distribution to engineer contacts. Remaining copies are available for sale and/or to be used as gifts.

Action – Sell handbooks to members on request.

6. REPRESENTATION/ADVOCACY

TWU application for lorry owner drivers (NSW)

While hearings are ongoing, MBANSW has been successful with its application to exempt the precast industry and others in the construction industry from the operation of the Transport Industry General Carriers Contract Determination. Thanks to NP members who provided input.

Australasian Certification Authority for Reinforcing & Structural Steels (ACRS)

National Precast representative	Bob Connell	ITW
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Following industry complaints about the value of ACRS, an internal review is being undertaken. This will include independent consultation with all stakeholders, including precasters.

Action – Philip Sanders (ACRS CEO) and Nicholas Hill (ACRS Board Member) to seek precast industry feedback at the NP August Members' Meeting.

Steel Processor Working Group

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

Sarah has progressed some work on the draft position paper and provided Group members with a copy of Gary Connah's report (refer report on AS 4671 below). Working Group members have been requested to consider volunteering to take over the Group co-ordination role to expedite finalisation of the position paper.

Action – Appoint Group co-ordinator. Position paper to be completed ASAP.

Good Environmental Choice Australia (GECA) Cement & Concrete Products Standard Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

National Precast representatives	Alan Morrison	Ultrafloor
	Steve Bratan	Lanxess
	Brett Foster	Advanced Precast

The work of the TAG has been completed.

Action – Brett, Alan and Steve to continue representing NP.

Emissions Reduction Fund Technical Working Group for Cement & Concrete

National Precast representative	Mathew de Groen	Austral Precast
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All work by the Emissions Reduction Fund Technical Working Group was put on hold due to the Federal election.

Action – Mathew to continue representing NP and report back.

ACRA Guide to Concrete Repair and Protection (precast section) Working Group

National Precast representative	Trent Alexander	Austral Precast
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Trent reviewed draft material provided by the Australian Precast Concrete Repair Association and provided feedback.

Action - Trent to continue to represent NP and report back.

WHS Authorities

Safe Work Australia: 2008 National Code of Practice

Because WorkCover Qld is currently reviewing its own precast/tilt-up guidance material, the review of national material will now be undertaken by WorkCover Qld. Contact has been attempted on two occasions. Jeff Stratford recommends NP consideration of adopting Appendix H of the draft revised National Code of Practice that was produced by BD-066.

Action – Discuss adoption of Appendix H. Obtain contact with WorkCover Qld. Form small working group to assist in reviewing the 2008 National Code.

Roads Authorities

TMR

Following NP initiating discussions with TMR, TMR's invitation to a workshop to discuss MRTS70 on 24th June was retracted. Ross Pritchard is no longer with TMR and Lex Vanderstaay has been moved to another division. A very encouraging meeting was held in Brisbane with Sarah, Graham Underwood, Glenn Degenhardt, Andrew Ruffles (CPAA) and Noel Dwyer, Owen Aarndt and Narelle Dobson (TMR). A subsequent meeting is being held on 21st September. Feedback is being sought from members on TMR standard deck units.

Action – Provide TMR with feedback no deck units (members to contact Sarah for information). Continue to liaise with CPAA and TMR.

Main Roads WA

PERMAcast has advised that Main Roads WA is undertaking a major review of specifications and has requested NP involvement.

Action – Liaise with and provide feedback to MRWA.

National Austroads Prequalification System: Guidelines for Supply of Precast Concrete Components

Feedback has been provided to Austroads on the draft Guidelines and Richard Edwards, chair of the Austroads Prequalification & Contract Liaison group, has responded. Development of Austroads specifications for precast and insitu concrete has been proposed by Richard, for Austroads' consideration. NP has offered to provide ongoing representation to Austroads and Richard has agreed in principle.

Action – Members requiring a copy of the prequalification system feedback should contact Sarah. Continue to liaise with Austroads.

R-value Calculators: Think Brick, Concrete Masonry Association

Work on the NCC (BCA) Proposal for Change (PFC) is for discussion with TBA/CMAA.

Action – Liaise with TBA/CMAA re PFC, pending appointment of technical resource.

Australian Standards

AS 3600 Concrete Structures

National Precast representative

BD-02 Committee

Nagesh Kanapathy

Hanson Precast

Nagesh attended two BD002 meetings - in June (attended in person at their office) and July (via phone hook-up). The names of the various BD002 sub-committee chairs were finalised in the June meeting. For both meetings the main aim was to formulate a finalised revised scope for revision of AS3600 2009 and getting this "reapproved" by ABCB. The committee feels that some important subject areas were not covered the original approved scope.

Action – Nagesh to continue to represent NP and report back.

AS3610 Formwork

BD-043 Main Committee and Working Group 2

National Precast representative

BD-043 Committee

Alan Morrison

Ultrafloor

No activity from Working Group 2, as AS3610.2 and AS3610.3 have been placed on hold until AS3610.1 is finalised for public comment.

BD-043 Working Group 1

National Precast representative

Peter Webb

Hanson Precast

Peter attended the first day of a 2 day meeting of Working Group 1 in Sydney in July. The purpose of the meeting was to review feedback from the other working groups and to finalise a draft for submission to Standards Australia by 19 August 2016. It is anticipated that this draft will be approved for public comment in September.

Peter has provided input on Section 2 Documentation and Section 3 Architectural Requirements. A new way of specifying concrete colour tonal range for concrete has been included and more informative content in the body of the Standard has been included. Also, an extensive Appendix D has been added, providing further information on the application of concrete classes, physical quality and the evaluation of off-form concrete.

Action – Peter to provide further explanation at the August Members' Meeting - for input/comment by members. Alan and Peter to continue to represent NP.

AS 2327 Composite Structures

National Precast representative

BD-032 Committee

Kevin Huff

Ultrafloor

Standards Australia is making some minor changes to the document. It will then go out for public comment.

Action – Kevin to continue to represent NP. Kevin to advise when the Public Comment period commences to enable member comment.

AS 1379 Specification and Supply of Concrete

National Precast representative

BD-049 Committee

Mark Jedy

Rocla

No committee activities to report.

Action – Mark to continue to represent NP and report back.

AS 3850 Tilt-up Concrete Construction
National Precast representatives

BD-066 Committee
Kevin Crompton
Jeff Stratford

Ultrafloor
ramsetreid

Seminars were held during August and the extension of the standard is likely to cover civil construction.

Action – Jeff and Kevin to provide feedback from the seminars at the August Members' Meeting. Contact CCF regarding possible future application to civil sector.

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

BD-084 Committee

BD-084 Main Committee

National Precast representative

Gary Connah

per Ancon

Nothing to report.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 1 Steel Reinforcement

National Precast representative

Andrew Barraclough

ramsetreid

Nothing to report.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 2

Prestressing

National Precast representative

None

Members of the Steep Processor Working Group have been circulated a request from Gary to provide input and on the revision of AS 4671 which is likely to be expedited given recent NZ experiences and associated concerns relating to quality. All members are invited to provide input on both the definition of 'steel processor' and on the wider standard, and are invited to contact Sarah for further details.

Action – Steel Processor Working Group and other members to provide feedback to Gary. Gary and Andrew to continue to represent NP and report back.

AS 1546.3 Domestic Wastewater Treatment

WS-040

National Precast representative

Tony Kruf

Central Coast Septics

Styling is now complete and the document will now proceed to editing. The final edited version will be circulated to committee members before the commencement of the ballot.

Action – Tony to continue to represent NP and report back.

Inactive committees with National Precast representation:

CE-026 Committee

AS 1597 Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts

FP-020 Committee

AS 3859 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas

Sub-committee 3, BD-084 Committee

AS 2425 Bar Chairs in Reinforced Concrete (Leonard Samuel)

Solid Construction Committee (Kevin Crompton)

AEFAC (Ian Ferrier).