

MEMBERS' REPORT
For National Precast Members' Meeting
9.00am, Friday 10th February 2017



1. GOVERNANCE

Finances

Outstanding Precaster member *Fee Type Declarations* and fee payments are being followed up.

Action – All members are asked to follow up outstanding *Fee Type Declarations*/fee payments.

Resources

Existing Staff

Amy Brandoli is working part-time across 5 days and Sean O’Gorman commenced as Technical Services Manager on Monday 21st November.

2. MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER SERVICES

Membership numbers

Current member numbers are as follows:

Member type	Number of Members		Number of recipients	
	Nov 16	Feb 17	Nov 16	Feb 17
Precaster	22	24	71	79
Provisional Precaster	5	7	16	26
Industry Partner	2	2	27	31
Industry Supplier	19	19	59	59
Association	12	13	12	14
Prof Assoc Individual	8	9	8	9
Prof Assoc Organisation	2	2	3	4
Prof Assoc Student	1	1	1	1
Tertiary Institution	5	6	5	6
Total	76	83	202	229

* In addition to the above, applications are in progress for one Provisional Precaster and one Industry Partner.

Free website subscribers (selected categories)	May 2016	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	Feb 2017
Architects	134	136	140	142
Engineers	179	183	196	200
Builders	54	55	57	60
Developers	13	13	14	14
Students	92	96	98	100
Academics	19	19	19	19
Erectors	2	2	2	2
Industry Suppliers	39	43	45	47
Total (ALL categories)	991	944	981	903

Membership changes, applications & resignations

Changes: John Hewitt has accepted another position within Hanson Precast and has been replaced by Nicole Bartels, ex Holcim.

Applications:

- Kevin Campbell – Professional Associate Individual
- Dayton Superior – Industry Partner
- Alpha Precast – Provisional Precaster (Sarah & Sean to conduct inspection in early March)
- Massey University – Tertiary

Resignations:

- Nil

Membership recruitment

All non-member precasters have been regularly mailed and emailed.

Refer report in *Member Services* regarding review of the Precaster entrance criteria.

Members' meetings

May 2017 Members' Event – venue, agenda, presentations

The May Members' Event is being held at the Sydney International Convention Centre from 4-6th May. Further details TBA. Accommodation will be available at Novotel Darling Harbour or Parkroyal. Members will be notified when registrations are open.

Dates for 2017

Aug – 17-19 Aug, Brisbane. Venue: Brisbane Marriott. Dinner: TBA.

Nov – 16-18 Nov, Melbourne. Venue/Dinner TBA.

Member communications

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

- Meeting & Events – November (Meeting outcomes etc)
- WHS Special edition – November (Industry Incident Notification)
- Marketing & Comms – December (Facebook and LinkedIn promotion)
- Individual emails to each member administrator in order to update our database - December.
- Meeting & Events – December (Adelaide event, Precast Show USA etc)
- RFI – December (New service announcement, RFI from FSMA Architecture , West Melbourne)
- Marketing & Comms – December (call for case studies)
- Meeting & Events – December (call for interest for The Precast Show 2017)
- Meetings & Events – January (Adelaide Members Event & Precast Show)
- RFI – January (VIC Metro Tunnel)
- Rep & Advocacy – January (CE-029 Manhole Covers and Road Gully Gratings)
- Marketing & Comms – January (links to publications and new case studies)
- Meetings & Events – January (reminder x2)
- RFI – January (Dynamic Projects – Crows Nest)
- Meetings & Events – February (reminder)
- WHS – January (general WHS issues)

Member services

Read-only standards

Initial discussions are being held with SAI Global about the provision of a read-only service for Precaster members for a range of Australian Standards.

Certification (incl Precaster membership criteria)

Initial discussions have been held with Greg Francis from EQAS regarding the enhancement of NP's Precaster membership certification criteria, and the development of a suite of standard industry product/state specific documentation and certification system. Greg will be presenting at the Members' Meeting and members will be asked to complete a questionnaire.

3. EXTERNAL PR/COMMS

Website Statistics

Website statistics are as follows:

View type	May 2016	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	Feb 2017
Total site views	12,394	13,520	15,707	12,351
Individual users	2278	3318	3881	3295
Percentage of first time visitors	66.49%	75.37%	75.03%	75.72%
Average pages visited	3.85	3.18	3.14	2.95
Average viewing time	03:59	02:54	02:48	02:40

(minutes)					
Most popular pages		Views Sep-Nov 16	Most popular pages		Views Nov – Jan 17
Home page		3115	Home Page		2693
R Value Calculator		1539	R Value Calculator		1001
Resources/Publications		750	Resources/Publications		598
Precast products		571	Precast products		494
Precast products/buildings		564	Precast products/buildings		477
Find a Precaster		495	Find a Precaster 2		381
Membership info/directory		391	About us/contact us		330
About us/contact us		386	Precast products/landscaping		270
Finishes		381	Precast products/civil		256
Precast Products Civil		333	Find a precaster		255

New content

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

Case studies

- Wat Dhammadharo Thai Buddhist Temple – Asurco Contracting
- iFly Penrith – Austral Precast
- Westfield Garden City – Austral Precast
- Perth Stadium Seating – Delta Corporation
- Warringah Mall – Humes
- Capestone Arch Bridge – Humes
- Williams Bridge, Wollombi – Waeger Precast

General Articles

- Concrete lessons from the bridge experience
- Designer concrete

Member profiles

- Nil.

Product Profiles

- Nil.

Videos

The video to promote precast flooring is being produced.

Action – All Precaster members are 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

- Wow, what a night – link to photos from 25th Opera House dinner
- Hear what our Members say – link to new National Precast video featuring members
- Check out the latest CEA magazine

To non-member precasters

- WHS Special edition – Industry Incident Notification
- Marketing & Comms – Facebook and LinkedIn promotion
- Special Invite to Adelaide non-members to attend the February Members Event 2017
- Precaster edition – January (Member case studies, publications and Adelaide Members' Event)

To architect/engineer/builder web subscribers

- WHS Special edition – Industry Incident Notification
- Marketing & Comms – Facebook and LinkedIn promotion

Via LinkedIn

- Nil

Via Facebook

- Wow! What a night – check out the photos from our 25th Anniversary – November
- Cape River Bridge piles (Industry Qld) – November – Stresscrete
- The Precast Show (NPCA US) – November

- Construction of Sydney Opera House (NPCA US) – December
- National Precast video – December
- Why isn't timber being replaced with timber? (Sourceable) – December
- Christmas video – December
- Precast for flood mitigation (Roads & Civil) – December - Humes
- Modularised precast (Designboom) – December
- Precast sleepers – December – Outback Sleepers
- Modularised precast (ArchiBlox) – December
- Smart concrete (NPCA US) – January
- Meet Sean O'Gorman – January
- Read the latest CEA magazine – January
- Geelong Library wins award – January – Asurco Contracting
- Latest videos – January

Via industry publications

Sourceable

- Concrete lessons from the bridge experience – December – 15,112 views

Roads Civil Australia – Dec/Jan

- Oh what a night!
- Urban walkway in precast concrete (The Goods Line) – Hanson
- Precast concrete for flood prevention (Warringah Mall) – Humes
- Making a statement (Capestone arch) – Humes
- Future-proofing against floods (Wollombi Bridge) – Waeger

Roads Civil Australia enews - various

- Various projects, National Precast banners.

Construction Engineering Australia – December

- 25 years strong and still counting
- Precast concrete...Absorbing CO₂
- Exploring material selection trends: The timber bridge experience
- World class stadium in Perth (Perth Stadium) – Delta Corporation
- Westmead hospital: Children's medical research institute – Hanson Precast
- A new era for justice (Newcastle Courthouse) – Asurco

Built Offsite – Issue 02

- Precast concrete: building a sustainable Australia – December

DesignBUILD

DesignBUILD 2017 will be located in the new Sydney Convention Centre and will be co-located with the AIA's national conference, so promises good visitor numbers.

Presentations by Sarah, Jeff Stratford and Colin Ginger have been approved as part of the seminar programme.

Sarah continues to participate on the DesignBUILD Advisory Panel.

Action – Members to consider participating in the NP stand and exhibiting at DesignBUILD 2017.

External conferences

NP has been asked to present at:

- Sydney Build (March, Sydney)
- CIA NSW event (February, Sydney) – Kevin Crompton presenting
- Women in Rail, Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Leadership Summit (May, Sydney)

Action – Members should contact Sarah if interested in presenting.

4. EDUCATION

AS3850:2015 August 2016 seminars

The seminars on the revised standard that were held in August are available as a webinar at

<https://www.concreteinstitute.com.au/Online-Learning-Portal/Webinar-List/Changes-to-Australian-Standard-AS-3850-Prefabricat>.

Action – Members encouraged to promote the webinar to staff and clients.

Safe Precast Erection training

Initial discussions were held with the Crane Industry Council of Australia regarding development of safe precast erection training material. Agreed that this would be best developed after the National Code is revised.

Action – Nil; pending National Code review.

5. PUBLICATIONS

Publication sales

Sales of NP publications continue through SAI Global, the contract with whom is due for renegotiation.

Precast Concrete Handbook edition 3

It was previously agreed that updating edition 2 will be postponed until the National Code is updated and AS3850 and the Code are extended to cover civil construction.

6. REPRESENTATION/ADVOCACY

Australasian Certification Authority for Reinforcing & Structural Steels (ACRS)

National Precast representative

Bob Connell

ITW

The ARCS board accepted in principle the independent report and there is a genuine prospect that there will be a complete restructure of the company and scheme rules. These changes would seek to:

- Improve its relevance to the broader community of stakeholders;
- Move to be and act visibly more independent from the steel industry;
- Address some governance issues and the functioning of the board and management of the company;
- Expand the scheme's scope to cover other compliance auditing and oversight requirements being requested by industry stakeholders; and
- Attract new certificate holders from a broader range of supplier types.

Because there is not unanimous agreement on all changes and some board members are affected more than others, the change process is likely to be slower than many stakeholders would like. It should be completed by the end of 2017.

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).

No progress since last report. Sarah has prepared an initial revised draft which is pending input from selected Group members, following which all Group members will be asked to provide input. Sean O'Gorman has assumed the Group co-ordination role to expedite finalisation of the position paper.

Action – Position paper to be completed ASAP and provided to Gary Connah.

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

National Precast representatives

**Alan Morrison
Steve Bratan
Brett Foster**

**Ultrafloor
Lanxess
Advanced Precast**

This has now been finalised and approved for release.

Emissions Reduction Fund Technical Working Group for Cement & Concrete

National Precast representative

Sean O'Gorman

National Precast

Mathew has resigned his position and is no longer active on this working group. Due to the loose ties to precast, Sean O'Gorman will cover this position for the foreseeable future. The working group's project manager has requested feedback on a proposal to reduce the amount of clinker produced in Australia. The aim of the proposal sees Australian cement producers being "pushed" via financial penalties to import more clinker, thus reducing Australia's energy / emissions during the cement making process – this method has been terminated due to feedback. As many of the cement manufactures in Australia already import clinker, there would be no foreseeable negative effect on the precast industry. As NP supports local manufacturing, it has been suggested that the working group look at a proposal that would assist

cement manufactures in reducing emissions via investment in alternative fuel and raw materials rather than simply exporting emissions and jobs to another country in return for clinker.

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

National Precast representative **Trent Alexander** **Austral Precast**

No update since previous report, when Trent had reviewed draft material provided by the Australian Precast Concrete Repair Association.

WHS Authorities

Safe Work Australia (SWA): 2008 National Code of Practice

Progress has taken a “many pronged” approach. NP has been in discussion with SWA and Standards Australia in relation to the ownership of The “*DRAFT NCoP, Tilt-up and Precast Concrete in Building Construction*” dated 7th December, 2012 including Appendix H. While the issue of ownership still hasn’t been resolved, the Acting Director for SWA, Stephanie Creagh has acknowledged that the NCoP, 2008 is now out of date. Stephanie is briefing the SWA executive on the need to expedite an update, noting however, that there will be difficulty in any new document carrying weight in WA and Vic who have not adopted the model legislation. As such, she is supportive of NP making contact with state workcover contacts (in particular the Victorian and Qld members of the SWA Strategic Issues Group), to reinforce the need for the Code/Guide update to be expedited.

Roads’ Authorities

TMR

There has been ongoing liaison with TMR on standard and skew deck units. This is being considered and TMR will advise once this process is completed.

NP will be organising a meeting with TMR for a postponed date in late March/early April.

Main Roads WA

PERMAcast has advised that Main Roads WA is undertaking a major review of specifications and has requested NP involvement - no progress on this item to report.

Australian Standards

AS 3600 Concrete Structures

BD-002 Committee

National Precast representative

Nagesh Kanapathy

Hanson Precast

Members of the working group held a meeting early December. The areas of fire, earthquake, serviceability and construction were the key topic areas covered. As part of this revision process, section 17 – Construction and Materials has scope to include content related to precast. A copy of section 17 will be provided shortly for review and comment from NP members.

Action – Nagesh to provide section 17 for member review.

AS3610 Formwork

BD-043 Committee

BD-043 Main Committee and Working Group 1 & 2

National Precast representatives

**Main Committee/WG2
WG1**

**Alan Morrison
Peter Webb**

**Ultrafloor
Hanson Precast**

The activities of BD-043 Working Groups for Parts 2 & 3 of AS3610 were placed on hold in early 2016 to allow Part 1 to be progressed and put out for public comment. Part 1 will be going out for public comment in February. This is a 9-week process and the next meeting will be scheduled 1-2 weeks after the comment period has closed. It is proposed that WG2 & WG3 reconvene late March 2017, which is a re-schedule of the meeting that was originally planned for late January / early February. It is still the intention that NP produce a 10-tone plastic colour chart showing 10 tones for off-form precast, using Pantone colours as its basis. While the chart will show grey colour tones, it will be able to be used to determine tonal variations for any colour of off-form concrete.

Action – Alan commence involvement with work on parts 2 and 3.

Develop colour tone chart.

AS 2327 Composite Structures

BD-032 Committee

National Precast representative

Kevin Huff

Ultrafloor

Public comment finished on 24th January 2017.

Action – Kevin to advise results from public comments.

AS 1379 Specification and Supply of Concrete
National Precast representative
No committee activities to report.

BD-049 Committee
Mark Jedy

Rocla

AS 3850 Tilt-up Concrete Construction
National Precast representatives

BD-066 Committee
Kevin Crompton
Jeff Stratford

Ultrafloor
ramsetreid

NP has drafted project proposal for the development of a part 3 pertaining to civil construction. Letters of support are have been provided by the CCF and the WA Coroner's Court, and a similar letter is being sought from CICA. The draft will be finalised by the end of January and submitted to Standards Australia for review.

Action – NP to submit project proposal to SA.

AS/NZS 4671 & AS/NZS 4672 Steel Reinforcement & Prestressing **BD-084 Committee**

BD-084 Main Committee

National Precast representative

Gary Connah

per Ancon

As with the November 2016 report, Gary is seeking input on both the definition of 'steel processor' and on the wider standard, in preparation for the impending revision of AS 4671.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 1 Steel Reinforcement

National Precast representative

Andrew Barraclough

ramsetreid

Nothing to report.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 2

National Precast representative

Prestressing
None

Nothing to report.

Action – Steel Processor Working Group and other members to provide input to Gary.

AS 1546.3 Domestic Wastewater Treatment

National Precast representative

No report received.

WS-040

Tony Kruf

Central Coast Septics

Inactive committees with National Precast representation:

CE-026 Committee

FP-020 Committee

Sub-committee 3, BD-084 Committee

AEFAC (Ian Ferrier, ramsetreid)

AS 1597 Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts

AS 3859 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas

AS 2425 Bar Chairs in Reinforced Concrete (Leonard Samuel, Actech)

Solid Construction Committee (Kevin Crompton)

Sarah Bachmann, CEO

2nd February 2017