

CONCRETE

This chapter provides information on:

ADDITIVES
ADMIXTURES
CONTRACTORS

DECORATIVE CONCRETE
REINFORCING
STENCIL/STAMPED PATTERN
SUPPLIERS

NATIONAL PRECAST CONCRETE ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

Who is National Precast?

As the peak body for the precast concrete industry, National Precast influences, connects people and knowledge, and facilitates solutions for the benefit of the construction industry. When you use one of our Members to supply your next project, you will discover the amazing design flexibility offered by precast, whilst minimising your construction and investment risk.

Members' Products

- Walling
- Flooring
- Columns, beams, service cores, stairs
- Marine elements
- Retaining walls, noise walls
- Monuments
- Stormwater and drainage products e.g. pipes, culverts, tanks, pits
- Civil products e.g. bridge beams, arches, piles, safety barriers
- Street furniture and planter boxes

Why use Precast?

Precast concrete is a high performance construction material that provides significant benefits in terms of Quality, Design, Construction, Strength and Sustainability.

Prestige - Precast is recognised and awarded by numerous national and international architectural bodies for its timeless form and function. Because of its design versatility, almost any shape, colour and texture can be achieved. State and national awards such as those run by the Australian Institute of Architects regularly feature precast projects.

Precision - Highly controlled factory conditions and professionally constructed moulds allow for the manufacture of an incredibly high quality and accurate product, with sharp detailing and the potential for elaborate, highly articulated finishes.

Form - Custom moulds can facilitate the production of elements for even the most architecturally ambitious projects. Expert

manufacturing, specialist mould-makers and high-tech materials result in a product that can be utilised for everything from heavy duty structural elements through to light-weight slender componentry.

Strength - Precast's inherent properties allow it to hold its shape and size over time unlike many other construction materials. These same properties when combined with techniques such as pre-stressing and reinforcing allow for the production of very long spans that require minimal support.

Integration - Blending seamlessly with existing structures, precast is mouldable to replicate patterns, shapes, and even other materials like brick, timber or stone. Historic or contemporary, precast ensures that a project is sympathetic to its surroundings.

Bespoke - Manufactured in a seemingly infinite array of colours, patterns and textures precast grants designers the freedom to produce highly individualistic projects that create vision without compromise.

Sustainability - A range of sustainability benefits can be realised through use of precast. Full precast construction sites easily achieve at least a 35% reduction in build time, have less vibration and greatly reduced noise-generating processes. Precast decreases the site impact of a project, providing a substantially quicker and quieter construction with a shorter period of disturbance for surrounding properties.

Safety - Precast reduces risk and increases site safety through well established codes of practice. There is a sizeable reduction in onsite activity, with less people, materials, equipment like scaffolding and waste. Precast structures provide easy access during construction, reducing the need for potentially dangerous scaffolding. Compliance with health and safety regulations and the management of a project's risk profile are made simpler by the use of precast.

Cost - Project time savings of up to 30 per cent are indeed not something to be overlooked for a fully precast structure. Precast speeds up erection and reduces vulnerability to weather all while providing significantly reduced facility, supervision, equipment

hire and wage costs. Minimal propping for flooring allows subsequent trades earlier access. Waste removal costs are eliminated.

Quality – National Precast Members ensure that their product meets and exceeds expectations. Produced in factories with strictly controlled processes for moulding, batching, casting and finishing, precast is a consistent, high quality construction material.

Reliability - Produced in factories, by skilled workers, precast provides a level of reliability that many other construction materials simply do not. The combination of large factories, dedicated workforces, reduced weather vulnerability and impressive quality control standards ensures the production and delivery of a consistent, high quality product, day after day for even the largest projects.

Manufactured off-site – Made off-site under controlled factory conditions means that problems associated with lack of site space, noise, wet weather and waste disposal are no longer an issue for the contractor. Quality and reliability are improved.

Why use a Member?

Our Members are experienced industry leaders with proven track records in the Australian construction industry and the advantages of drawing upon their experience and expertise are considerable.

All National Precast Members have:

- A minimum of two years' manufacturing experience
- Purpose-built manufacturing facilities
- QA procedures
- OH&S systems

- Technical and engineering competence
- Financial stability
- Environmental compliance

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Further Contact & Information:

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