

MEMBERS' REPORT

For National Precast Members' Meeting

9.00am, Thursday 8th February 2018

Sarah Bachmann, CEO



1. GOVERNANCE

Fees

Several Precaster members have not yet returned completed Fee Type Declaration forms and are asked to do so urgently.

Resources

Adrienne Goode has been appointed as a part-time employee as Communications Co-ordinator.

Strategy

The Board is reviewing a precaster membership growth strategy paper prepared by the CEO.

2. MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER SERVICES

Membership numbers

Current member numbers are as follows:

Member type	Number of Members		Number of recipients	
	Nov 17	Feb 18	Nov 17	Feb 18
Precaster	25	26	99	109
Provisional Precaster	6	6	24	25
Industry Partner	2	2	26	25
Industry Supplier	17	17	66	58
Association	11	11	16	16
Prof Assoc Individual	11	10	11	10
Prof Assoc Organisation	4	4	8	7
Prof Assoc Student	4	4	4	4
Tertiary Institution	6	6	7	7
Total	86	86	261	261

Free website subscribers (selected categories)	May 2017	Aug 2017	Nov 2017	Feb 2018
Precasters	200	197	198	198
Architects	141	144	145	145
Engineers	202	207	216	219
Builders	64	68	73	74
Developers	15	15	17	17
Students	106	109	116	120
Academics	23	24	25	26
Industry Suppliers	51	57	58	63
Other (Draftsperson, Journalist, Erector, Council)	131	129	137	139
Total (ALL categories)	933	950	985	1001

Membership changes, applications & resignations

Changes

- Parchem - will recommence membership in June/July

Applications

- RCPA – have changed application from Provisional to Precaster; approved
- Caccia Recruitment – Professional Associate, approved

Resignations

- Nil

Membership recruitment

Sarah attended a QDTMR workshop in late January to meet with non-member precasters and demonstrate NP's improved relationships with senior QDTMR staff and our ongoing commitment to working with them on specifications issues.

Andrew Gorman CEO and Bob Lyons Engineering Manager of Dencona will be attending the Perth Members' Dinner as guests.

Meetings & events

2018 Members' Meetings

Meetings for the remainder of the year will be held in Melbourne (note date change to Thurs 24 May/Fri 25 May), Queenstown NZ (Wed 14 Aug/Thurs 15 Aug) and Sydney (Thurs 14 Nov/Fri 15 Nov).

DesignBUILD

Sean will attend DesignBUILD 2018, being held in Melbourne 2-4th May. Sarah continues to participate on the DesignBUILD Advisory Panel.

Member communications

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

- Marketing & Comms – November (reminder advertising in CEA special member discount)
- Work, Health & Safety – November edition
- Meetings & Events – Meeting Papers
- Tender – November (Greenvale)
- Work, Health & Safety – November (Industry incident update)
- Meetings & Events – Outcomes from Nov meeting
- Rep & Advocacy – November (ABCB call for SMEs)
- Rep & Advocacy – November (proposed changes to AS 3850 – ferrules and bolts)
- Work, Health & Safety – November (industry incident update)
- Tender – December (Broken Hill)
- Rep & Advocacy – December (AS 5216 & ME 029)
- Christmas email – December
- Rep & Advocacy – December (AS/NZS 2327:2017)
- Meetings & Events – January (Perth meeting)
- Meeting & Events – January (Supplier opportunity to speak at next meeting)
- Tender notification – January (Port Bottany, bollards)
- Meetings & Events – January (reminder Perth & change of date May)
- News Flash – January (Dec/Jan CEA)
- Rep & Advocacy – January (Urgent call for reps for AS 3850.3)
- News Flash – January (Roads & Infrastructure Australia, Built Offsite, Build Australia)

Member services

Read-only standards

NP has restarted discussions with SAI Global about the possibility of Precaster members being able to access 12 read-only standards (AS/AS/NZS: 1379, 1597, 2327, 3600, 3610, 3735, 3850, 4198, 4672, 4678, 5100, 5216).

Standard contract

Sean O'Sullivan has prepared a draft standard contract and this will be presented and discussed at the February Members' Meeting.

Certification System

The Board is considering the development of a NP certification system, which could be developed in conjunction with the possible introduction of a Master Precaster membership category.

3. EXTERNAL PR/COMMS

Website Statistics

Website statistics are as follows:

View type	Feb 2017	May 2017	Aug 2017	Nov 2017	Feb 2018
Total site views	12,351	13,050	16600	13604	7576
Individual users	3295	3538	4546	3928	2415
Percentage of first time visitors	75.72%	79.13%	78.12%	79.30%	87.00%
Average pages visited	2.95	3.01	2.95	2.83	2:56
Average viewing time (minutes)	02:40	2:34	02:37	02:32	02:43

Most popular pages	Views Aug-Nov 17	Most popular pages	Views Dec-Feb 18
Home Page	2563	Home Page	1725
R Value Calculator	1553	R Value Calculator	647
Resources/Publications	736	Resources/Publications	365
Precast products/buildings	580	Precast products	282
Precast products	554	Precast products/buildings	266
Finishes	446	About us/contact us	248
About us/contact us	382	Tools/find a precaster	243
Tools/find a precaster	370	What is precast?	193
Precast Products/Civil	342	Finishes	179
Precast products/Landscaping	340	Precast products/Civil	178

New content & exposure

Material is being prepared and supplied, on average, every two months for Sourceable, Concrete Engineering Australia magazine, Roads & Infrastructure Australia magazine and Built Offsite magazine. CEA is also distributed to all CIA members and affiliates.

From January 2018, material will also be included in Highway Engineering Australia magazine, Waste & Water Management magazine and Build Australia magazine.

Other publications are also supplied with material on a more ad hoc basis.

As a result, NP will be published in a minimum of **38 individual issues** across these **seven publications** excluding the ad hoc contributions.

In 2017 NP was published in **17 issues** across **four publications**, doubling our exposure.

Details of NP's PR/Comms work are as follows:

Videos

The flooring video has been produced and uploaded and is being promoted.

A brief version of the video promoting precast is being produced, and a short video about the Association and industry will also be produced. Both will be able to be shown in presentations.

NP Website

- Seasons Greetings

Linkedin

- Nil

Facebook (925 followers)

- Seasons greetings
- CEA promotional video

Sourceable

Nothing this Qtr however Sarah's articles have had a total of 151,800 views (up from 145,600 views November Qtr).

Roads & Infrastructure Australia – December/January

- Oils ain't oils – Dayton Superior
- What lies beneath the Westfield Carousel – MJB Industries

Roads & Infrastructure Australia e-news – various
Construction Engineering Australia – Dec/Jan

- Cover feature
- Precast wins top prize at national awards – SA Precast & John Woodside
- A total precast solution for Cawarra Road – Alpha Precast
- The award-winning Wynyard Walk – Asurco Contracting
- Member Profile – Concrete Products Australia
- Vital link connecting Sydney's radials

Built Offsite – Issue 07

- Prefab + precast: a formidable duo

Built Offsite – Issue 08

- Big box stores adopt precast

Build Australia – January

- Precast concrete forms extravagant architecture – Euro Precast

Outdoor DESIGN source 2018

- Industry listing (January 2018)

ALL Free Subscribers' (enews)

- Work, Health & Safety – November (Industry incident update)
- News Flash – January (Dec/Jan CEA)
- News Flash – January (Roads & Infrastructure Australia, Built Offsite, Build Australia)

Non-member precasters' (enews)

- Special Invitation – January (to WA Non-Member precasters for Perth members dinner)

External conferences

Nothing to report.

4. EDUCATION

No report.

5. PUBLICATIONS

Publication sales

SAI Global continues to sell NP publications.

Precast Concrete Handbook Edition 3

John Woodside has provided a broad overview of areas requiring updating. This will occur after the National Code is updated and AS3850 and the Code are extended to cover civil construction.

Norwegian Design Manual

The Board is discussing whether to continue the work already done to translate this document into English.

6. REPRESENTATION/ADVOCACY

Australasian Certification Authority for Reinforcing & Structural Steels (ACRS)

National Precast representative

Bob Connell

ITW

AGM and board position elections were held in December 2017. There was an attempt to vote out 'the old guards' but this was unsuccessful as there wasn't enough support. A new constitution draft was provided to all board members for review, with feedback due before the February board meeting. This draft will not be provided externally. The momentum for change and more rapid progress is increasing, which could result in some significant change during 2018.

Steel Processor Working Group

Participants: Sean O'Gorman (Coordinator, NP), Graham Underwood (Rocla), Peter Webb (Hanson), Faiz Al-Sammak (Austral), Graeme McGregor (OneSteel), Andrew Ruffles (CPAA).

The group will closely monitor the proposal/s from the committee looking after AS 4671.

Minerals Training Package Review

National Precast representative

Jason Walsh

Delta Corp

The work done by this committee was open for public comment between 6th November and 1st December. The Technical Advisory Committee will reconvene on Tuesday 6th February to discuss the outcomes from the public review. The committee is likely to meet once more this year before the courses are offered to Registered Training Organisations.

WHS Authorities

Safe Work Australia (SWA): Guide / National Code of Practice Working Group

Participants: Sarah Bachmann (NP), Sean O’Gorman (NP), Peter Webb (Hanson), Geoff Fletcher (Euro Precast), Kevin Crompton (Ultrafloor), Rod Mackay-Sim, Nicole Bartels (Hanson)

SWA presented the draft guide to their Strategic Issues Group (SIG) for review in mid Oct. A wider consultation group (comprised of representatives of SWA members) together with SWA (with direct input from NP) will work on simplifying the guide and deleting duplication with the Standard, aiming to produce a more practical guide by early May. The revised document will be presented to SIG members in June for review and a suite of guidance materials will be produced. The package will then be endorsed by SWA members and published in August.

The Board is discussing contracting the possible preparation of a Manufacturer’s Certificate of Compliance.

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland

NP is following up earlier contact with the Queensland Dept of Justice regarding involvement in the review of the Qld code.

Roads’ Authorities

QDTMR

As previously reported, NP and CPAA Members undertook an initial review of MRTS 70. This review has been done prior to any public consultation, giving NP Members an exclusive opportunity for input. As part of this process QDTMR exclusively invited NP and CPAA to an executive level meeting to review our comments in detail. Of the 54 concerns raised by our members all except three have been resolved. This is a significant outcome for precasters supplying to QDTMR projects.

Sarah attended the MRTS 24 workshop and met with Julie Mitchell and Mike Whitehead.

Austroroads

Austroroads have prematurely published their guide to prequalification for precast products. There are still a number of outstanding issues that have not been addressed. Our request for them to withdraw this document has been rejected by the project manager. NP will soon prepare a submission to the CEO of Austroroads outlining our concerns.

Local Government Authorities

NP has been advised by RCPA that the WA government asset owners may have been accepting pipes and culverts from at least one WA manufacturer, that may not have been manufactured and tested in accordance with AS/NZS 4058 Precast concrete pipes (pressure and non-pressure). A letter has been drafted to Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and a WALGA representative has been invited to the February Members’ Meeting. Editorials advocating compliant product will also be drafted and published in relevant industry journals.

Australian Standards

AS 1379 Specification and Supply of Concrete &

AS 3648 Specification and Methods of Test for Packaged

Concrete Mixed

National Precast representative

BD-032 has been accepted by SAI Global and will be published on 20/12/17.

BD-049 Committee

Amin Noushini

Rocla

AS 1597.1 Precast reinforced box culverts Small culverts

National Precast representative

At the CE-026 committee it was agreed that AS 1597.1-2010 Table 2.5 should be amended to include 8 additional sizes of small box culverts. The additional sizes are: 1200x450, 1200x750, 900x900, 900x750, 900x450, 600x600, 600x225 & 450x225. Due to this increased size range, the committee also agreed to delete Note 2 from below Table 2.5 which removes the option of other sizes. The plan is to produce a draft of AS 1597.1 with this amendment by the end of February for the committee to review before going to public comment, starting mid to late March (yet to be confirmed).

CE-026

Mike Eadie

Rocla

AS 2327 Composite Structures
National Precast representative

BD-032 Committee
Kevin Huff

Ultrafloor

The ABCB (Australian Building Codes Board) reviewed the final document as developed by the committee and requested two minor changes which have since been made. Following this process, the committee held a ballot which is now closed. This ballot resulted in a few more issues being raised that will likely need resolving prior to publication. While this standard is noted as AS 2327:2017 there is certainly no guarantee this will be the case.

AS 3600 Concrete Structures
National Precast representative

BD-002 Committee
Nagesh Kanapathy

Hanson Precast

As previously reported, AS 3600 has been open for public comment and during this period there were over 500 comments. The BD-002 committee undertook the process of reviewing the comments in late January. At this stage it is likely that there will be a second public comment period due to the high volume of comments.

AS3610 Formwork

BD-043 Committee

BD-043 Main Committee and Sub-Committees 1 & 2

National Precast representatives

Main Committee/WG2
WG1

Alan Morrison
Peter Webb

Ultrafloor
Hanson Precast

AS 3610.1: There are two more ballots pending, before publication (SafeWork NSW and Concrete Institute of Australia).

AS 3610.2: The draft will soon be ready for committee review. The proposed plan is for public comment by March 2018. If there are matters which cannot be addressed before then, they will be addressed in a future revision.

AS 3610.3: It was proposed that it was in the best interest of the committee to concentrate on the work for AS 3610.2 and cancel AS 3610.3. After publication of AS 3610.2, the committee will be in a better position to make a decision if Part 3 standard is needed at all.

AS 3850 Tilt-up Concrete Construction
National Precast representatives

BD-066 Committee
Kevin Crompton

Ultrafloor

At the last Members' meeting in Melbourne, we discussed proposed changes regarding threaded inserts. As a result of the passionate debate in that meeting, NP re-formed the technical walling committee. Committee members were asked for their position on the proposed changes. The clear consensus was that the proposed changes should be rejected, however, at the BD-066 meeting these changes were accepted.

The development of AS3850.3 was also discussed at the last meeting and given the 'go-ahead'. Several members have expressed interest in participating in four working groups, namely prestressed/post-tensioned concrete products, pipe-like products, large reinforced precast units and miscellaneous precast items.

The issue of bracing into low strength concrete is still to be resolved at the next meeting.

AS 3996 Access Covers and Grates

CE-029

National Precast FIO representative (for information only)

Sean O'Gorman

National Precast

Nothing to report.

AS 4198 Precast Sewer Access Chambers

WS-006

National Precast representative

Mark Edwards

Humes

The review of this standard is progressing slowly. There has not been another meeting since the initial start-up meeting. Standards Australia has been successful in obtaining representatives from state water authorities, however no indication as to when the next meeting might be.

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

BD-084 Committee

BD-084 Main Committee

National Precast representative

Hugo Duque

Austral

The committee is waiting on a response from Standards Australia for the proposal to recommence the committee. There has since been a change in Project Manager for this committee which could signal the intent of Standards Australia to begin the project. No meeting has been scheduled.

BD-084 Sub-Committee 1

National Precast representative

Steel Reinforcement

Andrew Barraclough

ramsetreid

BD-084 Sub-Committee 2

National Precast representative

Prestressing

None

Nothing to report.

**AS 5100 Bridge Design
National Precast representative**

BD-090
Marcus Edwards
Vas Haitas
Humes
ramsetreid

The NP Board has appointed Marcus Edwards as the participating committee member (voting member) and Vas Haitas as the co-opted member (non-voting) to BD-090. Marcus has a strong operational and manufacturing background across a wide range of bridge elements. Vas brings a wealth of knowledge from a componentry perspective. No projects are currently operational within this committee.

AS 5216 Design of post-installed and cast-in fastening in concrete
National Precast representative
ME-029
Vas Haitas
ramsetreid

The ME-029 committee meeting was held on 19/01/2018. The draft of AS 5216 is well progressed. The committee is reviewing the 134 comments received during the public comment period. Of the 134 comments, 131 were editorial from AEFAC and 3 technical from a member of the public. It is expected that the standard will be published in April.

Inactive committees with National Precast representation:

GECA Cement & Concrete Products Standard TAG (Alan Morrison, Ultrafloor; Steve Bratan, Lanxess; Brett Foster, Advanced Precast)
AEFAC (Ian Ferrier, ramsetreid)
ACRA Guide to Concrete Repair and Protection (precast section) Working Group Vacant
Solid Construction Committee (Kevin Crompton, Ultrafloor)
AS 1546.3 Domestic Wastewater Treatment WS-040 Committee
AS 1597 Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts CE-026 Committee
AS 2425 Bar Chairs in Reinforced Concrete Sub-committee 3, BD-084 Committee (Leonard Samuel, Actech)
AS 3859 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas FP-020 Committee
AS 5204 Fibre-Reinforced Polymer Bar BD-108 Committee Leonard Samuel Actech