

# NEW PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR PEAK PRECAST BODY

National Precast Concrete Association Australia has a new Board of Directors and Jeff Stratford, General Manager of Euro Precast in Queensland, has been elected President for 2022-24.

According to CEO Sarah Bachmann, Stratford takes the reins from Michael Waeger of Waeger Constructions, who has stepped down as President after three years in the role.

"Michael led the organisation through significant change and during the difficult Covid years, and Jeff steps up ready to take the organisation to the next level," Bachmann says.

"Our last strategic plan positioned

us to improve our value proposition for members and the broader precast industry, by introducing new services and reducing fees for precasters. We are now ready to make more precasters aware of what we do and the value the Association can bring to their business."

"Jeff, as he leads the remainder of the Board – many of whom are new – is keen to make further changes and is enthusiastic about realising the planned growth in membership and strengthening our voice on behalf of the industry," she adds.

With a long involvement with National Precast, Stratford is stepping up to the role of President having served on the Board while General Manager of Euro Precast's

Queensland operations, and having previously spent many years working for Reid Construction Systems.

Also remaining on the Board is Michael Waeger, as Immediate Past President. He and Stratford are joined by existing Board members who have been reappointed – Alberto Ferraro from PERMAcast and Riccardo Musella from Reinforced Earth.

Peter Healy, Hollow Core Concrete's Managing Director has stepped down from the Board, and his son, General Manager Joe Healy, has been appointed. Also newly appointed to the Board are Brett Foster from Advanced Precast, Michael Hudson from Hudson Civil, Chris Kouris from Reid Construction Systems, and Professional Associate Individual Members with a long precast history, Bob Connell and Simon Hughes.

"We sincerely thank retiring Board members Craig Zinn from Stresscrete for his many years served on the Board and as President, Jason Walsh from Delta Corporation and John Cole from Austral Precast," Bachmann says. ■

"OUR LAST STRATEGIC PLAN POSITIONED US TO IMPROVE OUR VALUE PROPOSITION FOR MEMBERS AND THE BROADER PRECAST INDUSTRY, BY INTRODUCING NEW SERVICES AND REDUCING FEES FOR PRECASTERS. WE ARE NOW READY TO MAKE MORE PRECASTERS AWARE OF WHAT WE DO AND THE VALUE THE ASSOCIATION CAN BRING TO THEIR BUSINESS."

Leading the helm of National Precast for the next two years is newly elected President Jeff Stratford, Euro Precast Queensland's General Manager, along with longstanding CEO Sarah Bachmann.



# NATIONAL PRECAST MEMBER PROFILE

ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE SITS DOWN WITH THE NATIONAL COMMERCIAL MANAGER OF ONE OF NATIONAL PRECAST'S INDUSTRY PARTNER MEMBERS, DULUX ACRATEX, TO DISCUSS HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE PRECAST INDUSTRY. HERE, PAUL AUGELLO PROVIDES AN INSIGHT INTO HIS EXPERIENCES.

**HOW AND WHY DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN THE PRECAST INDUSTRY?**  
At Dulux Acratex we have supplied acrylic textured coatings, decorative and protective coatings for concrete protection for over 45 years. More recently we have introduced a new product specifically for the precast industry. Naturally we wanted the industry to become aware of the product and so we joined National Precast as an Industry Partner. Acratilt is a mid-build flexible decorative protective coating that can be applied for a smooth paint look finish and/or as a lightly textured finish that ensures long term protection with greater colour consistency.



Paul Augello, Dulux Acratex National Commercial Manager.

**WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE AND WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?**  
As Acratex National Commercial Manager I lead a team which provides façade decorative and protective coating solutions to new construction and remediation projects. We assist all parties with project facilitation – from concept to completion – to help deliver project objectives for all project stakeholders.

**WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE?**  
Providing clients and their clients with technical support for façade solutions to provide long term protection to their assets and investment.

**WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT IN THE INDUSTRY?**  
The opportunity to assist industry professionals with façade solutions across Australia, Southeast Asia, New Zealand and China over number of decades.

**WHAT IS A RECENT CHANGE YOU HAVE SEEN IN THE INDUSTRY AND HOW ARE YOU/THE COMPANY PREPARED FOR THAT?**  
NCC (National Construction Code) Compliance is now at the forefront

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of a lot of what we do because of the combustible cladding issues that have caused such devastation. Surveyors now are wanting NCC compliant solutions for coatings, however the real challenge that remains is providing compliance and a warrantable fit for purpose coating solution.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MOST INTERESTING ABOUT THE PRECAST INDUSTRY?**  
The variety of members and their passion for the industry – we are keen to better understand their manufacturing processes and objectives so that we can work together to deliver better outcomes for clients. ■

