

[RESEARCH]

Construction 2020 – a vision for the future

Looking to the future is an important stage in the development of any industry.

The last report on the state of the Australian property and construction industry was the Action Agenda process of the late 1990s. To update and expand on this, a comprehensive national study of broader issues impacting the industry was needed.

The national initiative, Construction 2020 achieved this great step forward for the industry by establishing a vision for the future of research and innovation in the property and construction industry. Through consultation with industry leaders and members around Australia, the Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation (CRC CI) identified nine key themes for the future of the property and construction industry. These visions describe the major concerns of the industry and the improved future working environment favoured by its stakeholders.

Broadly speaking, the visions encompass the issues of sustainable development, business and working environments, design and communication and process and manufacture. The visions provide a framework for the development of a research and industry program in Australia that maximises the nation's ability to perform more competitively at an international level.

Dr Keith Hampson, CEO of the CRC CI, sees Construction 2020 as a way of engaging with the industry and ensuring a continuing focus of research on delivering real business outcomes.

The report resulting from the industry consultation is Construction 2020 - A Vision for Australia's Property and Construction Industry. It will be launched by two federal ministers at Parliament House in Canberra on Wednesday 23 June 2004. Industry leaders and members are invited to attend the launch.

After the launch, a series of free workshops around Australia will provide an opportunity for the CRC CI to share the report findings and further develop these into a robust and effective action and research agenda for the future of the property and construction industry. The Brisbane workshop is on 13 July.

Further information on the Construction 2020 initiative and details of the official launch and workshops can be found at www.construction2020.construction-innovation.info or contact the Construction 2020 Project Officer Carolyn Hall on Tel: (07) 3832 6193 or c.hall@construction-innovation.info.