Industry support for lifetime predictions >>

By **Dr Keith Hampson**, CEO for the Cooperative Research Centre for *Construction Innovation*

A reliable and accurate estimate of expected service life for building components is important when considering the whole-of-life of our built assets.

For this reason, the CRC for Construction Innovation anticipates strong industry interest in a new database developed by one of our research teams of predicted lifetimes for metallic building components. We would like to hear from organisations interested in supporting promotion and running short courses on the database and its use.

The information in the database was collated from expert opinions, mainly those of surveying builders and architects. It incorporates a representative subset of 30 building components (e.g. gutters, nails, ducting, door handles) made from a range of metals located in various environments (marine, industrial and benign) and includes both residential and commercial applications. Those surveyed estimated service life (with and without regular maintenance), aesthetic life and time to first maintenance.

The database has a variety of applications including use in lifecycle and environmental impact tools that assist in lifecycle costing, eco-efficiency assessments and building maintenance optimisation. It is most suited for use where it is one possible source of input information into life prediction and is balanced against other sources. The data is not recommended for use as an input into determination of the structural reliability of a building. Industry professionals including lifecycle analysts, maintenance managers, designers, architects and infrastructure managers will be interested in this database. Participants in this research project were John Holland, Queensland Department of Public Works, CSIRO and The University of Newcastle. **BA**

If your organisation or association would like to get involved with these 2005 short courses in acting as an industry leader in this area, please contact Yvonne Gilbert on 07 3864 9294 or email y.gilbert@construction-innovation.info