

BUILDING INNOVATIONS

Launch of new BRITE innovation case studies



By Dr Keith Hampson,
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for Construction
Innovation

INNOVATION is the key to better productivity and profitability in construction. Increasing innovation in our industry, which employs more than 730,000 people in Australia, contributes to economic growth, as well as benefiting individual businesses.

Next month, the Cooperative Research Centre for *Construction Innovation* will proudly launch the 2005 BRITE Innovation Case Studies of the property and construction industry.

The BRITE Project (one of Construction Innovation's numerous research projects) aims to increase the rate and quality of innovation in our industry. The project researches successful innovations and publishes case studies focusing on the benefits offered by an innovation, how it was implemented, how difficulties were overcome, and the lessons that we can apply to our own efforts at improving performance.

The six case studies being published this year show that innovation is widespread – they come from Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales. Earlier studies covered Queensland and Victoria. Many of the innovations have been developed by small to medium-sized enterprises. An additional six were published in 2004.

The Imago Site Remediation in Perth,

one of this year's studies, demonstrates how a number of incremental innovations were adopted by the contractor and the environmental consultant, and how they delivered significant savings for the client. The innovations were largely designed in-house.

The case study of the Adelaide Oval Redevelopment project examines the innovative procurement process that provided the high level of cooperation necessary to extensively redevelop the Adelaide Oval within a highly compressed timeframe and on budget. The project delivery process supported a range of innovations, including advanced use of 3D CAD.

Another case study describes a new way of dealing with urban stormwater runoff, which facilitates more sustainable use of water resources. Rain storage gutters with an infiltration system offer benefits to building owners and occupants, the community, and the environment.

I strongly encourage you to attend the launch – an excellent opportunity to network with leading innovators and supporters of innovation.

Speakers will be a mix of innovators (contractors and consultants), and clients including Michael Deare, the chief executive of the South Australian Cricket Association. The innovators will describe how they have overcome obstacles to innovation. The clients will speak about how they have encouraged innovation. All speakers will share the lessons they've learned on construction projects.



I look forward to seeing you at the launch to be held from 5–7pm on Wednesday November 2, 2005, in the Auditorium at 111 George Street, Brisbane. The event is free of charge. To register, email m.coillet@qut.edu.au or phone Michelle Coillet on (07) 3864 9146.

The CRC for *Construction Innovation* is a national research, development and

implementation centre focused on the needs of the Australian property, design, construction and facility management industry. *Construction Innovation* undertakes applied research to produce industry-relevant results for our partners and the whole industry.

Log onto www.constructioninnovation.info for further information. ■