On 13 October 2009, in Brussels, Belgium, our CRC for Construction Innovation Chair, John V. McCarthy AO, was voted by the international board of the CIB (International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction) to take over the Presidency of the global group from May 2010 for three years. The vote is expected to be ratified by World Building Congress delegates in May 2010, and will be the first time an Australian has held this prestigious CIB Presidency.

As many of you will know, John has a distinguished record of industry leadership in Australia, including as a member of the Built Environment Industry Innovation Council advising the Australian Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and Director on the Australian Building Codes Board. John is currently Chairing the interim Board for our incoming Sustainable Built Environment National Research Centre as the successor for the CRC for Construction Innovation, which he has chaired for almost the last eight years.

John’s energy and focus will deliver clear benefits for expansion of the CIB’s international research role and coincidentally bring the 2013 World Building Congress to Australia ... stay tuned!