

Update

Newsletter - October 2009

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From the CEO's Desk

Virtual Built Environment CRC Application

Our partners have received the very welcome news over this last week that our current Round 12 application to the Australian Government for a *Virtual Built Environment* CRC has been shortlisted to progress to interview. Securing funding through this new CRC will enable world-class digital modelling research for a more sustainable Australian built environment industry. We are currently working to finalise key research project proposals for submission to the CRC Program as part of our Stage 2 application, and will present the VBE vision to the CRC Committee in Canberra in early December. I look forward to updating you on further progress with our application soon.



Sustainable Built Environment NRC Update

We are well advanced in the process of establishing the *Sustainable Built Environment* National Research Centre towards a January 2010 start date. Centre agreements for foundation members are currently being drafted, and work is already underway in developing key projects to begin in the new year. This new centre, also to be based at QUT, will provide a strong but flexible framework for building Australia's future sustainability R&D program, and we look forward to the involvement of key industry, government and research partners in the new national centre's activities.

Events

Seminars on *Guide to Leading Practice for Dispute Avoidance and Resolution*

Mr John McCarthy AO, Chair, CRC for *Construction Innovation* and Mr Tony Barry, Chair, Dispute Avoidance and Resolution Taskforce invite you to attend an industry seminar on: *Guide to Leading Practice for Dispute Avoidance and Resolution.*

This Guide (which will be launched in Canberra on 17th November) is focused on helping organisations and people in Australia's building and construction industry to identify the leadership issues and best practice strategies to avoid

disputes and implement effective issue resolution strategies. The CRC for *Construction Innovation* provided the industry research leadership in coordinating and funding for this key project.

Vital to the success of this project has been the involvement and consultation with major national industry association stakeholders: Association of Consulting Engineers Australia, Australian Constructors Association, Australian Procurement and Construction Council, Civil Contractors Federation, Queensland Transport and Main Roads and Main Roads Western Australia.

Seminars will be held around Australia in late November and early December, to register CLICK HERE.

CIB W099 - Safety and Health in Construction

The upcoming CIB W099 Working Together Conference - Planning, Designing and Building a Healthy and Safe Construction Industry on 21 October in Melbourne will provide another opportunity for those in the construction and engineering industries to discuss industry-specific OHS issues. The conference will include a new national *OHS in Design* workshop run by Engineers Australia, with speakers to include: the Hon. Tim Pallas, Victorian Minister for Roads and Ports; Peter Godfrey, Engineers Australia; Bill Wild, Leighton Holdings; Peter Scott, Sinclair Knight Merz; Peter Verwer, Property Council of Australia; and Peter Scuderi, CRC for *Construction Innovation*. Register online for the conference at www.constructionsafety2009.com.au.

I look forward to continuing our communications with you as we work together to ensure our applied research service to Australian industry is maintained.

Best regards,

Dr Keith Hampson

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