



CRC Construction Innovation

# Update

newsletter – May 2008

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

www.construction-innovation.info

## Conference papers available

**Construction Innovation's** Third International Conference, Clients Driving Innovation: Benefiting from Innovation, proved a huge hit with over 200 delegates and conference presentations are now available for [download](#).

## Maximising public good outcomes in construction



Dr Siobhan Austin,  
Curtin University  
of Technology

Research undertaken by the CRC for **Construction Innovation** has found that government policies which attempt to leverage social outcomes on public construction contracts achieve mixed results in the delivery of net social benefits.

[More details](#)

## Taking the risk out of eContracting



A new report investigating the legal and security risks of electronic contract administration for the construction industry has been published by **Construction Innovation**.

[More details](#)

## Star rating system mooted for safety



Dr Verena Marshall  
& Dr Kerry Pedigo,  
Curtin University  
of Technology

Two Curtin University of Technology academics who participated in **Construction Innovation's** Safer Construction project have mooted a star rating system as a way of incorporating safety into construction projects.

[More details](#)

## Council offers financial incentives for developers



Brisbane City Council is offering substantial financial incentives to developers who build best practice sustainable office buildings. The Council's grants are an Australian first, designed to partially offset the additional costs of building a sustainable development.

[More details](#)

## How to value a sustainable commercial building

**Construction Innovation**, in partnership with ASBEC, will run a series of half-day sustainability workshops in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne in May which will outline broad valuation concepts with regards to commercial buildings.

[More details](#)

## From the CEO's desk



### Achieving 2020 vision for Australia's construction industry

The Australia **2020 Summit** has galvanised calls for action on a number of important issues and long-term challenges critical for Australia's future.

The CRC for *Construction Innovation* undertook a similar process in the development of its **Construction 2020** initiative, which established a vision for the future of Australia's construction and property industry. Construction 2020 involved a series of workshops held in every capital city of Australia that sought the views of hundreds of industry leaders and members on their vision of the future.

Environmentally sustainable construction was a key goal listed by stakeholders for the year 2020 and it was pleasing to see this message strongly reinforced by the 2020 summit delegates last month. The summit called for a whole-of-government approach to sustainability and a proposal for all new buildings constructed beyond 2020 to be carbon neutral.

Another key vision from the CRC's Construction 2020 initiative was the goal of a harmonised regulatory financial and procurement framework. Similarly, the Australia 2020 Summit's Future of the Australian Economy stream focused on the need for regulatory reform to improve productivity, remove barriers to competitiveness and reduce the cost of doing business for companies in Australia. [More details](#)

## Key Upcoming Conferences

**Ideaction:** 7-9 May, Gold Coast, hosted by FMA Australia

**2008 CRCA Conference:** 21-23 May, Sydney

**3rd Annual Metropolitan Planning & Design Conference:** 26-27 May, Sydney, hosted by Informa Australia

**World Sustainable Building Conference (SB08):** 21-25 Sept, keynote speakers confirmed—Dr Greg Foliente, Rosario Marin, Prof Bill Rees, Douglas Durst, Nils Larsson, Prof Thomas Luetzkendorf, Bruce Fowle, Joe Van Bellegham, and Rick Fedrizi will be among the line-up. Details of each Speaker and other special forum convenors are on the Conference Web site at [www.sb08.org](http://www.sb08.org)

[Click here for more upcoming events](#)

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