

SAND & STONE

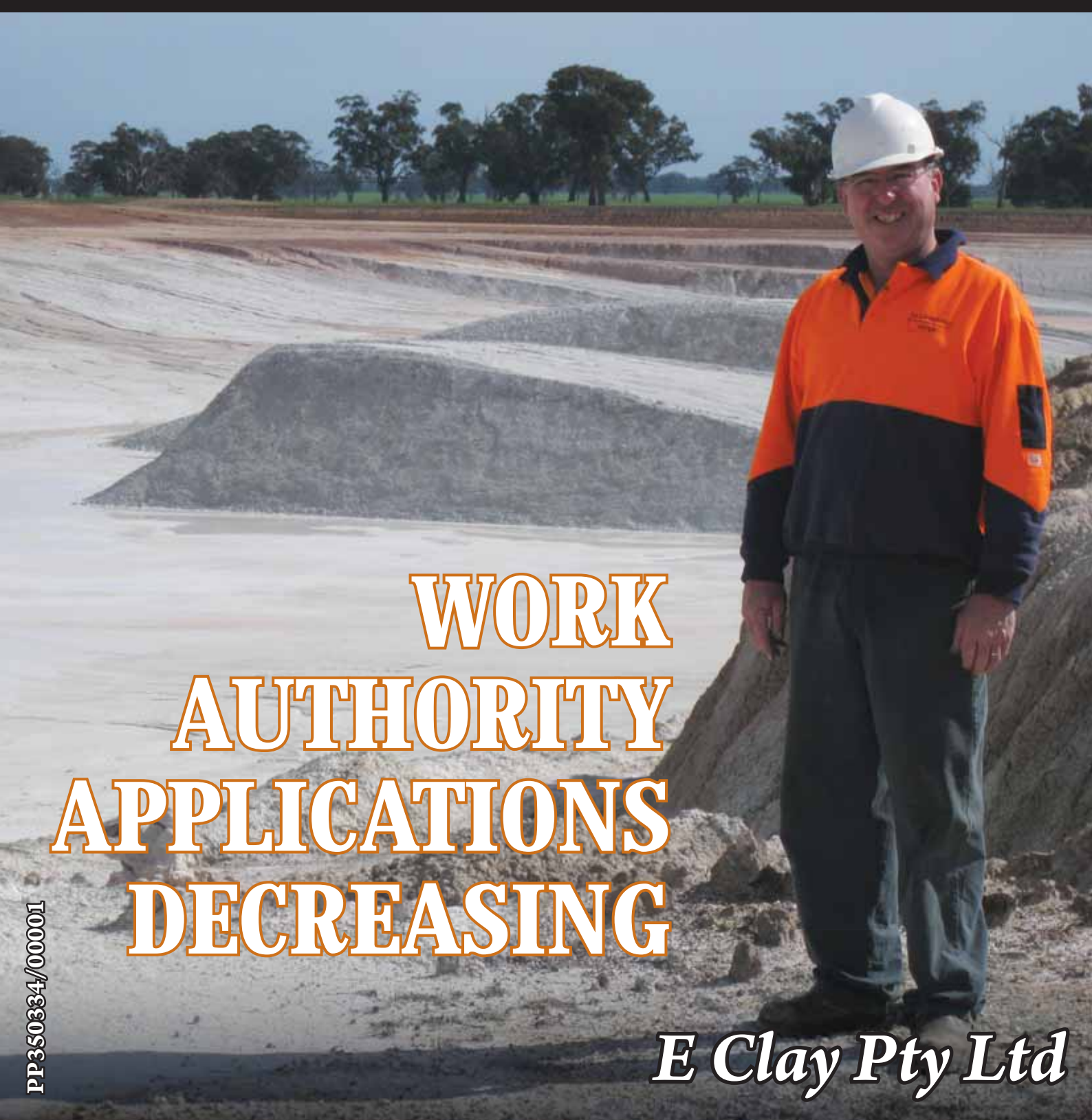
The official magazine of the CMPA

- THE YEAR IN REVIEW
- USE OF CABLE TIES

- NEW VIC. STATE GOVERNMENT
- VIC ROADS SPEC. CHANGE

ISSUE 54

Dec/Jan 2010



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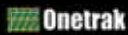
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The Year in Reflection

CMPA Chairman, TIM BIRD, reflects on the past twelve months of the CMPA.

WELCOME to 2011 and thank-you for taking the time to read our *Sand & Stone*.

The beginning of a new year is an opportune time to revisit the challenges faced by the association and its members during the past twelve months.

January 2010 marked the commencement of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*.

At the same time, the new modern *Quarry Award 2010* together with the new *National Employment Standard* came into effect.

The renewal of Shotfirer's Explosives Licenses was of a high priority, with a series of refresher training and assessments held at Box Hill Institute of TAFE in March, May and November 2010.

In March 2010, the CMPA held a Member's Day in Bendigo. The day was sponsored by Astec Australia and involved a site visit to Allstone Quarries, a Guarding Workshop and a General Meeting of CMPA Members at the All Seasons Hotel. Members listened to presentations from Vic Roads, DPI, Associate Members Mead Partners and CMPA Development Officer Adrian Town.

The CMPA prepared a submission to DPI regarding the *Proposal for Statutory Endorsement of Extractive Work Plans*.

The Environment & Natural Resources Committee held an *Inquiry into the Environmental Effects Statement process in Victoria*. The CMPA put together a submission re-iterating the issues highlighted in *An Unsustainable Future* report from last year.

May 2010 was a busy month with the departure of Roger Buckley to the CCAA. The CMPA produced the 50th issue of *Sand & Stone*. Comments were made to DPI regarding the draft *Extractive Industry Work Plan Guidelines*.

The *Resources Super Profits Tax* became a big issue leading into the Federal Election. The CMPA held a historic truck rally on June 18th 2010 through the streets of Bendigo to protest against the quarries inclusion with the mining sector under this proposed tax.

An OH&S Workshop was held at William Adams, Laverton to make Health & Safety

Representatives aware of their obligations onsite and to also identify common issues and risks faced by workers at quarries.

The *Code of Practice for Small Quarries*, published by the DPI came into effect in June 2010.

Both the associate and management committees accepted new participants who were endorsed at the 2010 CMPA AGM held at the RACV Club in Melbourne. This was followed by a great night at the Annual Dinner celebrating the events of the past year.

In October 2010, the CMPA welcomed Bruce McClure to the fold as the new CMPA General Manager.

A Blast Management Workshop was held at Tullamarine to look at the proposed changes to the *Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulations 2011*.

The CMPA provided input to the VCEC inquiry into *Victoria's Regulatory Framework* as well as a review of the *Urban Growth Boundary in Victoria*.

Overall in the last 12 months the CMPA has been yet again instrumental in guiding our members through the ever changing and challenging environment that we operate in; be it through training, communicating changes in regulation, conducting workshops to assist in setting standards and meeting regulation or offering advice and liaising with Members. The CMPA has been there assisting Members all the way as can be seen by the numerous submissions that have been made to government to put forward our Member's views.

In the coming years there is a still lot to achieve; we have a vital role to play in the shaping of our industry into the future.

We have a great team of people at the CMPA with an immense amount of knowledge on all aspects of our industry and it is up to us to make sure that the correct information and the message of our Members is getting through to the various levels of government. ■



SLOPE STABILITY

Following the recent tragic accident at a quarry south of Melbourne in November last year when it appears that a quarry face collapsed, it was decided that it would be appropriate early this year for the CMPA to run a Workshop on Slope Stability of quarry faces, sedimentation pond walls and material stockpiles within sites.

Both the Department of Primary Industry and WorkSafe are very supportive of this initiative which will be held on Thursday 17 February 2011.

It is hoped that the workshop will be held at a location in the north east of the Melbourne metropolitan area but this will be confirmed shortly.

The workshop will comprise a formal presentation on stability issues followed by a visit to a local quarry to confirm a number of the points discussed at the workshop.

Date: Thursday 17th Feb. 2011

Location: TBA

Time: 10.30am – 2.30pm
(includes lunch)

Cost: CMPA Members \$40
CMPA Non-Members \$60



CMPA NEWS

By **CMPA SECRETARIAT**

CMPA Secretariat provides an update of the latest news and happenings.

RECENT EVENTS

Secretariat met with Alan Beacom from WorkSafe Victoria to discuss safety issues concerning the industry.

Shotfirer's Refresher Training was held at Box Hill Institute of TAFE.

Secretariat attended an Extractive Industries Forum at Box Hill Institute of TAFE to discuss new training initiatives being delivered in 2011.

Bruce McClure attended a Geotechnical Information session held at Latrobe University in Bundoora.

Associates Committee Meeting was held at WAM Australia in Kilsyth followed by a brief site visit of their warehouse.

Secretariat conducted site visits to eleven Associate Members throughout eastern Melbourne.

Bruce McClure attended the EPA Community Forum in Melbourne.

Secretariat attended DPI function, discussing the achievements in 2010 and the visions for 2011.

Bruce McClure attended a DPI Workshop on Low Impact Exploration.

Tim Bird, Ron Kerr and Bruce McClure met with Paul Kennett (Executive Director) from Manufacturing and Engineering Skills Advisory Board (MESAB) to discuss education and training.

DOCUMENT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The CMPA has recently appointed Sean Kinder to the role of Document Development Officer. He is currently studying a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and Business at Swinburne University in Melbourne. He comes to us with experience and knowledge of the industry and the association through his work in the family business, Kinder & Co (Associate Members) in Braeside.

Sean's key role in the short term is to undertake a review of the following Reference Manuals *Perform Basic Cutting & Welding*, *Work Safely* and *Service & Maintain: Conveyors, Bins & Hoppers* and map them to the new course competencies.

He will also be liaising with CMPA Members conducting interviews and taking site photos in relation to the update.

We wish Sean all the best as he assists with the writing of the next series of CMPA Reference Manuals.

CMPA ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEETING

In early December the CMPA Associate Committee held its latest meeting. Discussions included issues around the next AGM and Annual Dinner to be held in Echuca/Moama. Items discussed included, sponsorship, entertainment and activities to make the event a fun filled weekend.

The growth and development of *Sand & Stone* was discussed and the importance of Associate Member contributions in the form of editorial, advertorials and staff profiles to help keep the content interesting for all readers.

The CMPA Website needs to keep being developed and utilised by Members not only as a resource but as a key marketing tool for the association and the industry. Other sponsorship opportunities for 2011 are being investigated including regional trade shows in conjunction with workshops.

A Survey has been circulated to gain an understanding of member needs, please complete and return to the Secretariat.

ASSOCIATE VISITS BY SECRETARIAT

The coming months will see Gavin Moreira visit Associate Members to not only say hello and put faces to names but obtain valuable information on how the CMPA is travelling and how we can better help your company grow.

The first two visits were held in the eastern part of Melbourne on Thursday 2nd and Monday 13th December. This involved site visits of eleven Associate Members.

The Associates were very happy with the presentation, content and advertising opportunities in both CMPA publications *Sand & Stone* and the *Associates Reference Manual*. They also acknowledged the numerous networking opportunities associated with sponsoring the AGM and dinner, the General Meeting of Members and other workshops and training days throughout the year.

There is great anticipation of the 2011 AGM & Dinner in Echuca / Moama, which looks to be a very fun-filled weekend.

It was great to hear that all Associates were very appreciative of what the CMPA does for its Members. The CMPA's attitude towards safety and compliance is a major plus and draw card towards attracting membership. The Associates are all looking and hoping to get more involved with quarrying in the New Year to improve and expand their businesses.

Thank you to all the members recently visited by Gavin for taking the time to show him around your site and providing him with valuable information.

CMPA 2011 AGM & DINNER

Sponsorship for the 2011 AGM & Dinner at the Moama Bowling Club in Moama has opened.

All Associates were emailed a copy of the Sponsorship Flyer back on the 16th December 2010. At present we have commitment from six Associate Members at different sponsorship levels.

Get in early to avoid disappointment!

EPA COMMUNITY FORUM

On 2 December 2010 the CMPA attended the inaugural Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Community Forum held by the EPA in Melbourne. The forum was opened by John Merritt Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the EPA who stated that this Community forum will be first of several proposed and that they will be held on a regular basis. The forum was open to the general community.

It was stated that the EPA is committed to establishing an ongoing conversation with Victorian communities through these forums. It wants to hear the communities' views on the protection of Victoria's environment and wants to provide all community members who attend these forums with an insight into the work of the EPA and its ongoing transformation into a modern environmental regulator. To help it achieve the above the EPA has joined forces with Environment Victoria.

The CEO highlighted that the following projects are taking priority at present. These include:

- The Tullamarine Land Fill
- The HRL-Dual Gas Power Station
- The Climate Change Act – 20% reductions in Green House Gases by 2020
- The Dandenong South Health Study
- The Maddingley Land Fill

Comment was also made about the EPA's Compliance and Enforcement review. The final report will be completed by the 30 December 2010. There were twenty eight submissions from organizations (including the CMPA) plus ten individual submissions. The CMPA will review the report once it has been published and open for comment.

The final activity at the forum was for the attendees to put forward topics that they wanted discussed at future community forums. The forum was well attended but I am concerned at the lack of Industry representatives present.

There were a number of people present who were there to bring attention to a single current issue that obviously was of major concern to them but it tended to hijack the forum discussion at times.

In future forums there will obviously be a number of issues that directly relate and/or may impact on the Extractives Industry and therefore it will be vital that the CMPA is in a position to counter or at least become aware of these issues and then quickly address them by ensuring attendance of CMPA Members and/or the Secretariat at future forums.

LOW IMPACT EXPLORATION DEFINITION CHANGE

In July 2009 the Victorian Government in response to a Competition and Efficiency Commission (VCEC) report (*'A Sustainable Future for Victoria: Getting Environmental Regulation Right'*) supported a recommendation from VCEC to review and agree to administrative changes to the definition of "low level exploration" based on environmental impact rather than the use of mechanical equipment.

Following on from this, VCEC in July 2009 recommended that the Department of Primary Industry (DPI) and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) review the definition of "low impact exploration" in the *Mineral Resources (Sustainability Development) Act 1990* and to propose a legislative amendment to this definition based on environmental impact and drawing on the work of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.

Although this proposed change to the definition does not impact directly on the Extractives Industry, advice from CMPA Members is that we need to ensure that this remains the case and that any changes to the legislation or to any other explanatory details do not impact directly on CMPA Members in the future.

There is a strong push within DPI and DSE to keep the regulations developed as non-proscriptive as possible and use a Code of Practice produced for "low level exploration" as the means of explaining the process and requirements.

The Secretariat will monitor this proposed legislative change over the months ahead.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The CMPA website holds a wealth of information on your Association. It has recently been updated with the latest information on:

- the suppliers who support the CMPA,
- details of available reference manuals,
- back copies of *Sand & Stone* magazine,
- complete copy of the CMPA report, *An Unsustainable Future: The prohibitive costs of securing access to construction material resources in Victoria*,
- copies of all the CMPA submissions to Government representing members views
- latest training and events

The CMPA is your association, make the most of your membership and use the available services.

SHOT FIRERS REFRESHER TRAINING & ASSESSMENT

Is your Shot Firers licence near the end of its 5 year term? Have you received a request from WorkSafe to renew your Shot Firers licence?

If so, you need to attend the 1 day CMPA organised refresher training course for currently licensed Shot Firers, presented by Box Hill Institute of TAFE.

The training will be conducted in the morning and followed in the afternoon by the Victorian WorkCover Authority examination for the Use of Blasting Explosives.

The event details are:

- Date:** Wednesday 2nd March 2011
Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm
Venue: Box Hill Institute of TAFE, Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill
Cost: 400 Members, \$500 Non Members, (includes \$150 WorkSafe fee)

EXPLOSIVES ACT PACK

Compilation of relevant explosives regulations & Australian Standards. Suggested pre examination reading and a great reference to have in the lunch room.

Cost is \$250 for CMPA Members and \$400 for Non Members.

Contact the CMPA Secretariat for more information on 1300 267 222 or enquiries@cmpavic.asn.au



Work Authority Applications Decreasing in Numbers

Continuing our discussion on statistics produced by the Department of Primary Industries, in this edition the CMPA General Manager, BRUCE McCLURE, comments on the fact that the number of Work Authority applications has decreased significantly over the last twelve years and the ramifications of this trend.

THE sign of a healthy extractives industry in Victoria is not only the continual increase in tonnes of quarry products produced across the state but also the industries reinvestment in plant and equipment and probably most important of all, its investment in new sources of raw materials.

The graph below shows clearly that there has been a very significant drop in Work Authority (WA) applications in Victoria over the last twelve years. In fact, there has been an 87% decrease in applications over that period. This drop in applications is of concern and should be causing alarm bells to sound at the DPI.

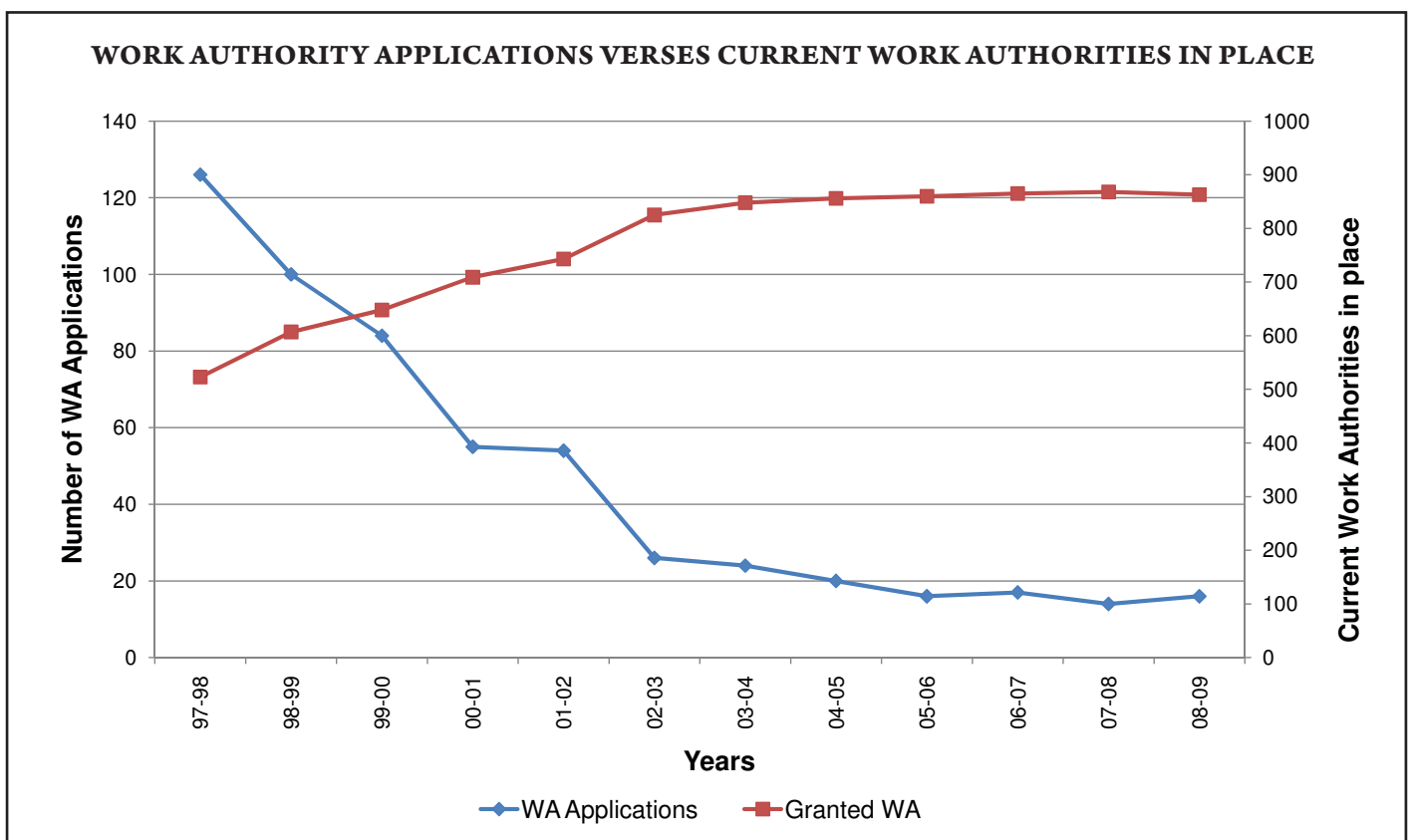
The CMPA has maintained for a considerable time but has been finally able to produce conclusive evidence in its report "An Unsustainable Future" that the prohibitive costs and time consuming hurdles in place to secure construction materials resources in Victoria has serious ramifications for the future of all Victorians unless Government and Industry work together to develop an extractive industry framework which will deliver a sustainable and secure future for the industry.

The unfortunate side of the extractives industry is that it is not an in your face, touchy feely, direct employer of thousands of people producing glamorous products. Most quarry operations involve the use of expensive plant and equipment that is big, produces rock, dust and noise. It employs Victorians totalling in the low thousands (in excess of 2,500 people directly employed) and yet its impact on the economy of this State is profound. No building, house, road, park, playground is built in Victoria without using a quarry product.

Entry into the extractive industry in Victoria is restricted by a myriad of legislative measures enacted by Local, State and Federal Governments. There is no single regulating body that has particular responsibility for the industry and each Government sector looks at the other when criticism is levelled at the overall impact of regulation.

Without doubt the following points are the main factors contributing to the decrease in investment in the extractives industry. The costs shown are based on real data from surveyed member's experiences:

A significant drop in Work Authority applications in Victoria.





A competitive, vibrant extractive industry is essential for maintaining cost effective public infrastructure projects and housing affordability.

- Cost of the approval process. The regulatory compliance cost of the WA process is largely dependent on the complexity of the issues and site and the time taken to gain a decision. Costs ranging from \$10,000 to \$1.25 million for planning permit approval and \$1.9 to \$5.1 million for an EES approval. Costs for the almost inevitable VCAT hearing range from \$149,800 to \$558,251.
- Time Taken to Gain a Work Authority. For standard proposals an average of 2 years from the initial site meeting to the granting of a Work Authority. For more contentious projects involving appeals to VCAT, an average time of at nearly 4 years from initial site meeting to granting of a Work Authority. A project that requires an EES could be expected to take on average 5.75 years.
- Increasing complexity of Native Vegetation requirements. The CMPA report highlights that the current native vegetation framework effectively sterilizes significant resources of sand and stone in the Melbourne area. It is also resulting in major costs across Victoria where substantial vegetation offsets can be required. At present the approximate rule of thumb is that for every acre of habitat proposed to be removed, 5 hectares of other land is permanently offset through caveats and future management and upkeep is required. This must be arranged prior to the approval of the WA.
- Increasing costs and time for undertaking Cultural Heritage surveys of sites and, if needed, the production of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan. In Victoria the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (AH Act) came into effect on 28 May 2007. Controls are no longer based on a Memorandum of Understanding and/or an archaeological report, but now through a "Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) required by the AH Act. These requirements are far more demanding, time consuming to obtain and difficult to predict the result. The regulatory apparatus is still relatively young and therefore both regulators and regulated parties are unsure of the potential depth and scope of the regulatory requirements. Significant cost increases have occurred due to the current cultural heritage requirements.

The above are not all the issues but they highlight the current areas where major change is needed. It should be recognised by all that no one will invest in new business ventures in the extractive industry unless there is a real and ongoing return on investment. Sadly that is not the case at present. ■



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Proposed Changes to VicRoads Specification for Aggregate for Bituminous Sealing

BRUCE McCLURE, CMPA's General Manager reports on proposed changes by VicRoads to their Section 831 – Aggregate for Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing Specification.

VICROADS is proposing a number of changes to their Specification Section 831 – “Aggregate for Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing”. These changes, if implemented, will impact on those members who produce sealing aggregate. Following discussion with a number of members who are involved with the production of sealing aggregate, the CMPA has responded to VicRoads with comments and suggestions.

The main changes proposed relate to the “Testing and Acceptance of Aggregate” section of the specification. The changes proposed include an increase in lot size, changes to unsound and marginal stone, flakiness index and grading including specified size and tolerances (specifically for the size 7 mm aggregate). Some of the other changes proposed will rationalise the text and make the section easier to understand and work through.

The CMPA understands VicRoads concern is particularly with the 7 mm aggregate. In some instances the material being supplied under the current specification contains too much material at the lower end of the grading curve. This has resulted in issues for the contractors using the aggregate on sealing projects with problems such as bitumen flushing arising.

One of the major concerns expressed by Members with the proposed tightening of the specified particle size distribution limits for 7mm aggregate is that there will be an adverse impact on the production rate or yield of 7 mm aggregate produced per tonne of source rock crushed. The reality is that a production rates reduction and a consequential increase in potentially non marketable 5mm minus yield will increase the cost base for some Members in the order of at least 25% on 7mm product. The obvious consequence of the above is that material production cost will increase considerably and there may be more waste products to be dealt with.

It has been also suggested by CMPA members that the revised specification could adopt a ‘single array of compliance



7mm grading samples

criteria’, rather than the ‘individual’ and ‘mean of lot’ model currently specified. VicRoads proposed revised criteria for individual tests under the current model of ‘individual’ and ‘mean of lot’ criteria, could be adopted to apply to all tests under a ‘single criteria’ model.

As such, the single criteria values would be a compromise between the existing specification and VicRoads proposed changes. Changing to an ‘individual criteria’ model would bring the VicRoads specification in line with the current Road Traffic Authority (RTA) specification in New South Wales.

The photograph above highlights the differences between the current VicRoads and the RTA specification requirements for size 7 aggregate, at the small side of the respective particle size distribution envelope.

Another change proposed is the increase of the size of a lot. VicRoads is effectively proposing to change the size of a lot to 500 tonnes (and up to 1000 tonnes with Superintendent approval).

Three test samples are required and compliance based on the mean of the lot sample results. Increasing the lot size to 500 or 1000 tonne may be advantageous for some of the bigger quarries but a 500 or 1000 tonne lot may represent for some quarries, in excess of 5 or 10 days production respectively.

The concern is that samples and results obtained at the commencement of a 1000 tonne lot may not be representative of the aggregate produced to complete the 1000 tonne lot. Due to the size of a 1000 tonne lot, it is also possible that in small quarries the production of a 1000 tonne lot may not be continuous. Many small rural quarries alternate between the production of crushed rock and aggregate.

The objective in increasing lot size is surely to reduce the amount of tests required to demonstrate compliance. Consequently a number of members have suggested that VicRoads adopt a procedure similar to the RTA where only one test is required for a lot size up to 250 cubic metres (300 – 375 tonne). Adopting this removes concerns

with increasing the lot size to 1000 tonne and also removes the need to retain the 'individual' and 'mean of lot' criteria model. It is considered that a quarries contractual risk would be minimised by adopting the above.

A further change proposed by VicRoads is to remove the Acceptance of Aggregate "Reduced Rate" Formula that is currently in the specification. The CMPA supports this initiative. Industry should not encourage these type of existing clauses to be utilised as a means of dealing with the supply of 'non compliant' product. Typically, quarries today do not have direct contract with VicRoads and therefore our industry shouldn't facilitate a process that enables our customers to negotiate with VicRoads regarding reductions in payment/s for the supply of aggregate. The reduction formula is a hangover from the past when VicRoads purchased aggregate directly from quarries and also performed QC testing through their own laboratories.

With the proposed changes to the unsound stone and marginal stone, flakiness index, average least dimension and the grading for the 7 mm, a number of members suggested that VicRoads may consider allowing the use of granite and river gravel as Class A aggregate. To allow their use VicRoads may also need to consider additional testing relating to strength, adhesive and Polished Stone Value qualities of the stone and this was not seen as a disincentive by Members.

A number of CMPA Members have expressed concern with the current lack of engineering knowledge being used when specifying the quarry product to be used on different projects by state, and local government authorities. In many instances VicRoads sealing contracts typically specify Class A aggregate for all roads, irrespective of projected traffic volume or road classification. It is considered that VicRoads should encourage and educate their own staff and local municipalities to specify the appropriate class of aggregate applicable

to traffic volume and road classifications. Many municipalities for example blatantly follow VicRoads specifications without any consideration of the possible options available and savings in material and funds. VicRoads should discourage the simple specification of Class A aggregate for all roads, where Class B or even Class C may be suitable. This step could result in considerable savings to the authorities involved and consequently, to the tax and rate payers who actually pay the costs.

The CMPA will be meeting with VicRoads shortly to discuss the proposed changes to Section 831 and there will no doubt be the need to seek further comments from Members as discussions progress. The CMPA will report back to our Members and give an up date on these proposed changes in future editions of *Sand and Stone*. ■

Many thanks to Craig James, E. B. Mawson & Sons Pty Ltd for the photograph of the 7mm grading samples.



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E CLAY PTY LTD

PETER ELVEY, Operations Manager of E Clay Pty Ltd reports on the history and growth of the business. (as per the front cover).

We are a small family business, which was founded by our parents in 1957 under the name of M.R. & M. Elvey.

In 1958 a lifelong partnership was formed with Roderick Osterfield, who had purchased the mining right to land at Axedale now known as "The Pit". On 12th May 1958, M.R. & M. Elvey transported the first load of clay from Axedale to Fowlers Pottery at Thomastown, Melbourne.

In 1994 the Elvey children established M.R. & M. Elvey Pty Ltd, to carry on the family business and is currently owned by three family members.

In April 2002 E Clay Pty Ltd was formed to purchase and operate "The Pit" at Axedale and it was at this time we also became a member of the CMPA and have found the benefits of membership and its associated services extremely valuable to our business.

Peter Elvey is the Operations Manager of both E Clay and M.R. & M. Elvey and oversees the day to day operation of both businesses. We have two full time staff employed at the Pit and a part time office administration employee



Peter Elvey "The Pit" at Axedale

for both companies. In the summer months the pit employees are fully engaged in the removal of clay for the rebuilding of our stockpiles to carry over the winter months when we are unable to do any extractive work in the pit.

Since purchasing the Pit our improvements include the installation of power to the site, a full length B Double Weighbridge, both essential to the operation, and in keeping with OH&S requirements.

Our products are used in the production of bricks, tiles for outdoor areas, sanitary and bathroomware and more recently, used in the making of heat beads.

Our combined companies supply and transport brick and ceramic clay to the Melbourne metropolitan area and to brickworks throughout country Victoria. We have regular contractors who supply our products interstate, north to Sydney and areas of NSW and west to Adelaide.

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Work Safe Position on the use of Cable Ties in Quarries

BRUCE McCLURE, CMPA's General Manager reports on WorkSafe's position on the use of cable ties.

A number of CMPA members have expressed interest in using Nylon cable ties in specific locations at their quarries. In some instances the use of cables ties as a temporary measure for securing some guarding near plant which was undergoing repairs, alterations or maintenance works is seen as a practical safe alternative.

To their credit WorkSafe have been very positive on the use of cable ties and have produced a statement that clarifies their position on the use of cable ties. The WorkSafe position is shown below.

“Regulation 3.5.25 (2) of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007 states that if an employer uses guarding as a measure to control risk in relation to plant, the employer must ensure that:

- if access to the area of the plant requiring guarding is not necessary during operation, maintenance or cleaning of the plant, the guarding is a permanently fixed physical barrier; or
- if access to the area of the plant requiring guarding is necessary during operation, maintenance or cleaning of the plant, the guarding is an interlocked physical barrier that allows access to the area being guarded at times when that area does not present a risk and prevents access to that area at any other time; or
- if it is not reasonably practicable to use guarding referred to in paragraph (a) or (b), the guarding used is a physical barrier that can only be altered or removed by the use of tools;

The possible alternative arrangements for the securing of guards to plant that may require removal to enable access include:

- nuts and bolts (suitably treated eg: galvanising, stainless steel etc),
- bolts with a head requiring a specialised tool,
- a bracket seat with a bolt
- any other bolt, pin or similar arrangement that requires the use of a tool to remove
- padlocks
- lockout key system

If there are guards being used on plant that don't include the use of any of the above attaching mechanisms, then a process should be in place to review and change the current guards to ensure that the guards can be secured by means of any of the above attaching arrangements.

Cable tie must be a minimum width of 7mm



Heavy Duty, UV Resistant Cable Tie

During this interim period where guards are being changed, cable ties may be used for guarding of fixed plant at quarries only under the following conditions:

- Cable ties must be a Heavy Duty, UV resistant cable tie with a minimum width of 7.0mm.
- Cable ties must be designed so as the cable tie cannot be removed by hand, i.e. the securing toggle is to be recessed.
- The tails of the cable ties must be cut flush with the securing toggle.
- Heavy Duty UV cable ties may only be used in areas such as perimeter guarding around plant and conveyor guarding.
- Heavy Duty UV cable ties may be used in other areas only as a temporary/short term attachment until maintenance or other works are completed.
- When a cable tie is removed, it must be immediately replaced with a new cable tie when the guard is re-fitted.
- A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) is to be developed detailing the use of cable ties, auditing of their condition and ensuring cable ties are in place.

It is not acceptable practice for cable ties to be used in the following circumstances:

- In load bearing situations e.g. to support a guard.
- In high risk areas of the plant where the guards are being used to protect drive mechanisms, e.g. around tail drum and flywheels.
- In areas of the plant where guards are subject to excessive vibration e.g. around prime crusher or vibrating screens.”

The photographs on this page show one application of the use of cable ties. The cable tie used in the application is a 8 mm wide heavy Duty UV protected nylon cable tie. Many thanks to Drew Phillips, Castella Quarries for his comments and photographs. ■

The CMPA will incorporate this information from WorkSafe in our future documents on Guarding of Quarry Plant.

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The effects of SEVERE WEATHER

The drought has definitely broken, how will the severe weather affect the stability of our quarries?

OVER the last few months we have witnessed unusual weather patterns throughout Victoria. The drought has definitely broken and we have seen unseasonal storms, floods and days of severe weather events.

Typical 'severe weather' events may involve high velocity destructive winds, lightning strikes, heavy rain and hail causing widespread flash flooding.

It's important that after a severe weather event all aspects and structures of the quarry are inspected to ensure the site is a safe and stable working environment.

Appropriate risk management practices should be applied to all activities associated with flood recovery. In particular, the following hazards should be addressed:

- Increased likelihood of some form of pit wall instability due to ingress of water and lubrication of joint/fault planes, and undercutting as surrounding areas are soaked and ground water tables are recharged, possibly at some distance from the operation.
- Ramp and road (in) stability: In rebuilding haul roads and other infrastructure, mobile equipment hazards, including damaged bunds, undercutting, wash-outs, loss of traction and soft edges, must be effectively addressed. These issues also extend to pedestrian traffic.
- Re-establishing water management infrastructure, pumping and working near the water's edge.



Site photo demonstrating the effects of heavy rain

- Stability of waste dumps, stockpiling areas, sedimentation ponds and dams must be established prior to reopening and use.
- In towing or recovery of equipment and procedures, safe working loads of recovery equipment, including attachment points, must be reliably established prior to recovery. The only recovery points to be used are those approved by the original equipment manufacturer; so called 'vehicle tie down points' must not be used as they can fail.
- Electrical work to reinstate infrastructure and systems must address hazards including water ingress into switchgear, degradation of materials, mechanical damage due to submersion, residue on contacts, damage or destruction of drawings and plans, and possible damage to fire and other alarms.
- Hazards due to water ingress into mobile equipment, including into braking, electrical systems, and vehicle batteries, must be addressed.
- Personnel and equipment hazards when using mobile equipment in and around water must be identified and effectively addressed. This work might include setting up pumping stations, 'righting' of pumps, reinstating drains, sumps, suction and discharge lines, pontoons, restoring fuel and electrical supplies etc. Potential drowning hazards must be managed, and hazards in handling mud must be considered. ■

For further information refer to Safety Bulletin number 102 – Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation Queensland which can be downloaded from www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/mining_safety_health.cfm



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EFFECTIVELY RUN SCREENS

Are your screens running effectively? Below is an extract from the CMPA's "Conduct Screening Operations Reference Manual" providing some handy hints on how to effectively operate various screens.

THE following checks should be conducted several times during a shift to ensure screens are not over or under loaded.

Use your senses of hearing and smell to confirm screens (bearings) are not overheating or if there are loose bolts or cracked members.

Ensure feed material is evenly distributed across the width of the screen.

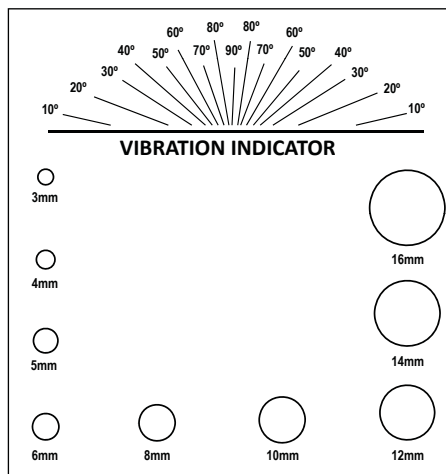
Ensure screen mounting springs are not bottomed out due to overloading of the screen, fatigue or broken springs.

Check screen operation for overloading which is indicated by cantering (where the screen tends to float rather than vibrate).



Screening Surface

Typical Linear and Circular Motion Vibration Indicator



Ensure pivot motor base is free to move (used with v-belt drive).

Inspect for pegging, blinding or obstruction of the screen media.

Ensure the screen body and peripheral attachments are not touching any area of the support structure.

If spray bars are fitted in a washing application, ensure the correct flow of water is available and the spray nozzles are clear.

INCLINED AND HORIZONTAL SCREENS

Check for screening media flapping caused by incorrect screen cloth or mat tension which can cause failure of the media or damage to the screen.

Visually check bed depth of the material discharging off the end of the screen (depth should not be greater than three to four times the aperture size, e.g. if the mesh aperture is 25mm then bed depth should be less than 75mm – 100mm).

Ensure motion of the screen is consistent at the top and bottom of the side plates on both sides of the screen.

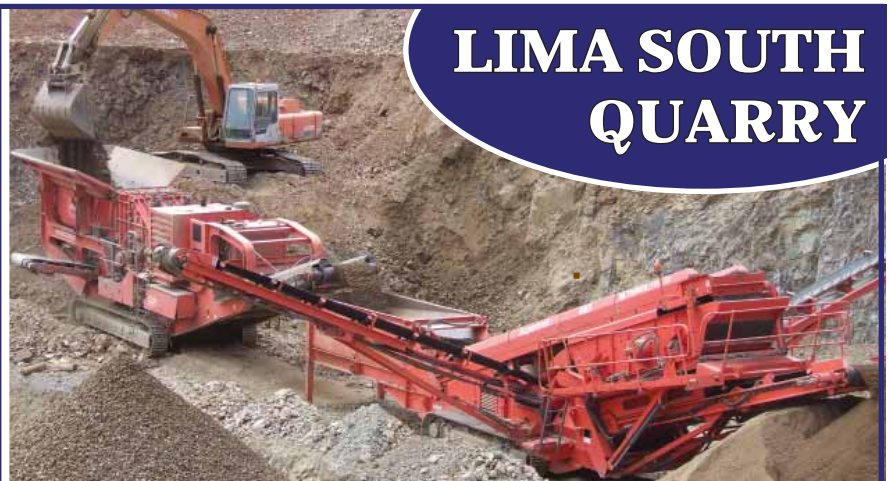
CIRCULAR MOTION SCREENS

The throw of a circular motion inclined vibrating screen can be checked by marking a point on the side plate, as close to the mechanism as possible, the circular vibration motion will form the point into a circle, the diameter is the screen throw.

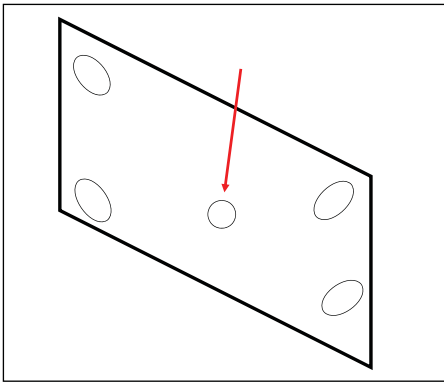
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LIMA SOUTH QUARRY



Typical Screen Motion as seen on Side Plates of the Screen

If the screen is operating correctly the motion at the four corners will be elliptical pointing away from the mechanism, any variation to this indicates the screen is not operating correctly.

A variation could be caused by uneven support spring heights, different thicknesses of counterweights on either side of the screen, or spillage on the support structure or chutes.

Screen manufacturers will provide a vibration (throw) indicator card that has a number

of circles with diameters, representing the various throws; the card is magnetic and placed on the side plate near the mechanism, when the screen is stopped.

When the screen is running, the motion is the diameter of the circle that forms a central dot on the card, only one circle will form the dot.

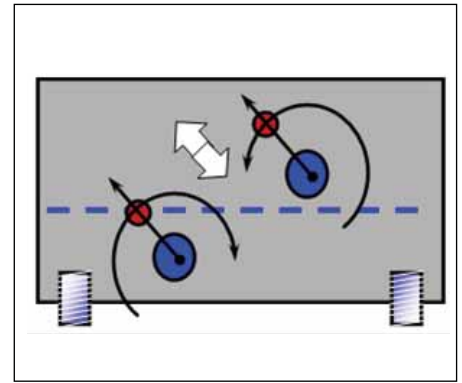
LINEAR MOTION SCREENS

The throw of a linear motion screen can be checked using the same card.

The indicator card is put on the screen in a horizontal position and the throw is indicated by the appearance of two circles just touching each other, the throw is the diameter of this circle.

You can check the angle of attack (the angle the screen vibrates in a straight line) at the top of the card, lines radiate out from the horizontal at various angles, only one of these lines will be solid when the screen is running, this is the angle of attack.

The same problems can occur with a linear motion screen as with a circular motion screen.



The throw of a linear motion screen, as seen on Side Plates of the screen

GRIZZLY SCREEN

Check screening media (grizzly bars) condition. Damage or loose bars should be reported to your Supervisor as this may cause failure of the structure

TROMMEL SCREEN

Ensure brushes (if fitted) are working effectively
Ensure product is removed from under screen before it comes into contact with screening mechanism. ■

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New Victorian State Government

BRUCE McCLURE, CMPA's General Manager reports on the change in State Government in Victoria.

ON the 27th November 2010 Victorians went to the polling booths to elect the 46th State Government of Victoria. Although results were not conclusively known for several days, it became clear by the end of the 27th November that most Victorians wanted a change in the leadership of this state and consequently a change in direction for Victoria's future. The Victorian Liberal-National coalition government was officially sworn in by State Governor David De Kretser at Government House on the 2 December 2011 to form the 46th Government of Victoria.

The CMPA was involved in frank and detailed discussions with a number of Coalition Shadow Ministers whose portfolios covered the interests of CMPA Members well before the State Election in November 2010. The CMPA presented considerable information on a number of issues that are currently affecting the viability of many of our Members and discussed many concerns that the CMPA membership has for the future of the extractive industry in this state.

The issues that the CMPA intends to reiterate with the newly sworn in Ministers include:

- The looming shortage of stone and sand in the Melbourne Urban Growth area as highlighted in the CMPA's report *An Unsustainable Future*.
- Lack of planning in identifying and protecting strategic stone, sand and gravel resources around the State.
- Time taken to obtain Work Authorities.
- The high rehabilitation bond rates being applied to Work Authority sites at present and their impact on the viability of many Quarries.
- Native vegetation issues especially offset requirements and lack of recognition of rehabilitation works involving revegetation.
- Cultural Heritage Management Plan requirements particularly the complete lack of predictability, the cost and the apparent need to obtain approvals before Work Plans are even approved.
- Land banking especially in the Melbourne Growth Area.



Ted Baillieu



Richard Dalla-Riva

The CMPA has already met the Hon Richard Dalla-Riva, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Manufacturing, Exports and Trade.

The topics discussed during the meeting with the Minister included employment (especially the current standard of training and the updating of training manuals) and manufacturing (especially the importation of dimensional stone into Victoria).

Key members of the State Cabinet that the CMPA intends to seek meetings with include:

- The Premier Hon Ted Baillieu MP
- Hon Peter Ryan MP Minister for Regional & Rural Development
- Hon Michael O' Brien MP Minister for Energy & Resources
- Hon Denis Naphthine MP Minister for Major Projects, Minister for Ports, Minister for Regional Cities
- Hon Ryan Smith MP Minister for Environment & Climate Change
- Hon Peter Hall MLC Minister for Higher Education and Skills
- Hon Matthew Guy MLC Minister for Planning
- Hon Terry Mulder MP Minister for Public Transport, Minister for Roads. ■

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Box Hill Institute's 2011 Extractive Industry Courses

BRUCE McCLURE, CMPA's General Manager reports on Extractive Industry Courses at Box Hill Institute in 2011.

ONGOING training and development of all staff in the Extractive Industry is now more important than ever. With increased Government regulation and increased cost pressures on all operations, having staff well trained, motivated and up to date with the latest trends and equipment available can mean the difference between success and failure. Training staff is an investment in your business and there is considerable evidence available to show that training your staff does increase your productivity and profitability.

The Box Hill Institute held the first Extractive Industries forum for a number of years on the 17 November 2010 at Box Hill. This forum was attended by CMPA members, personnel from a number of non member extractive companies, personnel from other training associated companies such as Jobs Plus, Skills DMC and staff from the Box Hill Institute.

The forum was opened by Jane Sims Centre Manager, Centre for Industry Education and Training. She discussed a new training package based on RII09 Resources and Infrastructure Industry Training Package with qualifications delivered from Certificate II in Surface Extraction Operations to an Advanced Diploma of Extractives Industries Management.

Box Hill Institute will be delivering the Certificate IV in Extractive Industries Operations course (RII40109) next year. There will be a total of 13 Units, 5 of which are mandatory. The course will run from Feb 2011 to Oct 2011 and is based on three days per month at Box Hill campus, (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday). If two groups are required due to numbers the 1st group will be the first of the month and the second group will be at the 3rd week of the month. There will be Group site visits to six locations, VicRoads Laboratory, Northern Quarries Epping, Boral Wollert, Boral Yallourn, Local Sand Mix Operations at Moriac and Holcim at Oaklands Junction. Box Hill Institute stated that units can be customised to individual needs.

The Box Hill Institute will also deliver the Certificate II and Certificate III in Surface Extraction Operations courses. There are 9 units in the Certificate II course with 5 mandatory and 13 units for the Certificate III also with 5 mandatory.



Site Visit to Allstone Quarry

It was stated that the courses are structured around the following: Traineeships - Government funded, Fee for Service, Training on-site and private training facilities, one day and half day training, full on-site practical assessments for all mobile and fixed plant. Box Hill Institute will be conducting Certificate III training at two Regional Extractive Industry sites for all employees of one major company in 2011.

Mention was made of the CMPA's partnership with the Box Hill Institute. The CMPA has been involved in the delivery of the following courses state wide: Work Safely, Conduct Local Risk Control, Conduct Crushing Operations, Conduct Screening Operations, Conduct Blending Plant Operations and Conduct Crushing and Screening Plant Operations.

Box Hill Institute emphasised the point that they can deliver any training and assessment anywhere, anytime. They also stated that they can deliver Professional Development Programs at a client's request. Jane Sims gave the commitment that training can be altered to suit the individual and that they can train a single person from a small quarry.

The Box Hill Institute will also be delivering the Diploma Course RII50109 in Surface Mining Operations, (formerly the Diploma of Extractive Industries Management MNQ50103). There are four Management topics and 8 Operational units.

The course will be delivered in 2011 generally based on monthly 2 day workshops, commencing in February 2011 and completed in October 2011. Candidates are assessed in the workplaces on the completion of course work.

Box Hill Institute has also introduced an Advanced Diploma of Extractive Industries Management that they intend to run in 2011. It is designed for Senior Management and the course includes 14 subjects based around four themes, Leadership, Operational Performance Management, Statutory Compliance and Risk Management. Delivery is project based.

Other training that the Box Hill Institute will conduct in 2011 includes Shotfirers Refresher Course, Conduct Crushing and Screening Operations, and Work Safely.

The CMPA has developed an excellent relationship with Box Hill Institute since the CMPA's formation in 1999.

The CMPA is highly regarded by many in the training area because of the positive approach we have always taken to the training of our member's personnel. The members of the CMPA were and are still instrumental in making the training happen and seeking continuing improvements. ■

The New Face of Training Manual Development

SEAN KINDER, CMPA's Document Officer reports on his new position within the association.

THE CMPA recently appointed Sean Kinder to the position of Document Officer, a casual part-time position which is utilised by the organisation to produce, update and develop documentation for the CMPA members.

Sean is undertaking very important work for the CMPA as one of our greatest strengths is the development of reference manuals which are designed specifically as training resources for the extractive industry.

Not only are they an important training resource but the manuals become excellent reference material for people from all walks of life who need to find out information about our industry.

Sean writes about his position and work that he is currently undertaking.

"As a fourth year undergraduate Mechanical Engineering student, studying at Swinburne University of Technology, the role of

Document Officer for the CMPA, is an optimum way of being introduced to the quarrying industry.

The position entitles updating the current Reference Manuals which are designed specifically as training resources for the extractive industry. Occupational Health and Safety legislation are regularly changed, standards and regulations are superseded and technologies improved, which means that the criteria of the training courses are regularly updated.

These reference manuals must comply with the performance criteria, as stated by Skills DMC. Some of the reference manuals being updated are: 'Perform Basic Cutting and Welding', 'Work Safely' and 'Combined Crushing and Screening Operations'.

These reference manuals aim to demonstrate plant productivity optimum utilisation, by describing efficient processes of completing

an array of tasks. This means the task can be completed to both the customer and legislative requirements.

Most importantly, as technologies are improved and developed, safety practices of these operations must be documented or updated to reduce the chance of injury.

By undertaking this role, I am being exposed to different organisations within the extractive industry. Being given the opportunity to visit and interview different plant and quarry operators; allows me to gain an understanding of the industry's operations.

Quarry Managers, Site Operators, Supervisors and Educational Trainers who use the Reference Manuals are currently being contacted, so they have the opportunity to suggest concepts which could be added or improved". ■

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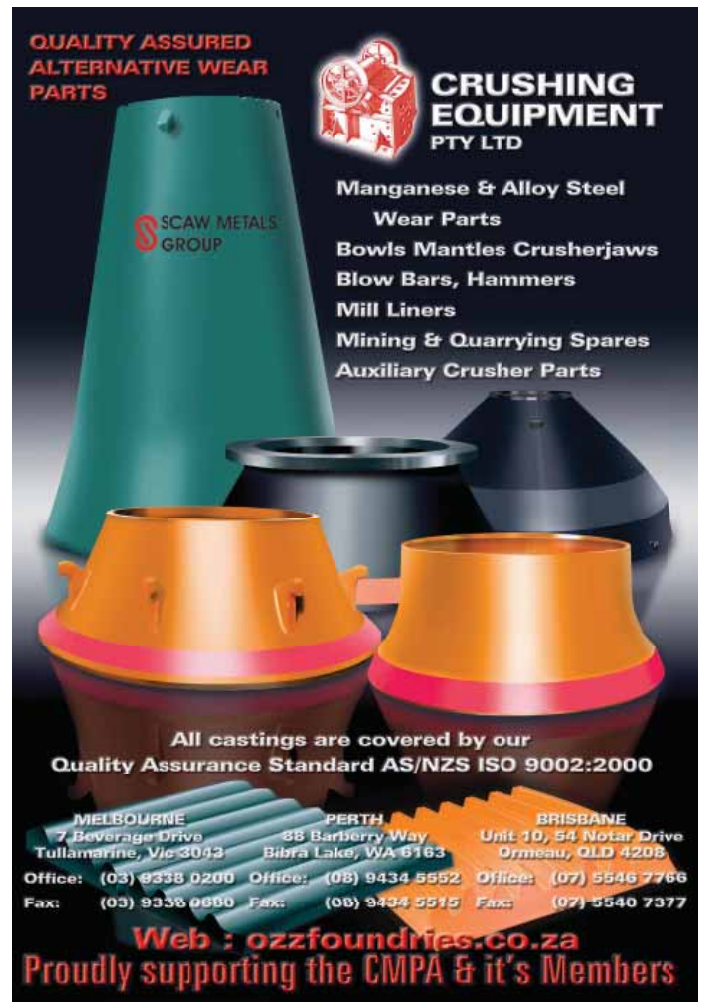
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The Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation's (QED) latest safety alert looks at the safe operations of light vehicles.

INCIDENT

This Safety Alert results from an increase in reported unplanned movement / loss of control incidents involving light vehicles, rather than any one event. Of particular concern is how many of these incidents involved light vehicle drivers losing control on haul roads, and the vehicle overturning.

CAUSE

A review of these incidents reveals the singular primary cause is a slippery road surface due to watering or recent rain.

INVESTIGATION

For some time now, reports of vehicles losing control often have the vehicle sliding uncontrolled but remaining upright, coming to rest with all aboard generally unharmed. Recently however, an alarming number of incidents have involved vehicles sliding on a wet road surface, hitting a dry section and rolling over as the tyres gripped the dry road with its greater frictional resistance.

This is often exacerbated by additional weight, exceeding the manufacturer's specifications, placed on the vehicle. This raises the height of the centre of gravity, making the vehicle less stable.

Drivers have lost control of their vehicles for a number of reasons, including:

- Driving too fast for the conditions.
- Lack of experience driving four wheel drive vehicles in off-road conditions.
- Poor knowledge of how to recover control of the vehicle.
- Failure to engage four wheel drive while driving in mining areas.
- Incorrect tyre configurations on the vehicle.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Sites should ensure that tyres fitted to light vehicles operating in the mining area are suitable for off road driving, and are consistent across all four wheels.



Site Photo – Galli Quarries

Sites should consider implementing a policy requiring four wheel drive to be engaged while operating on haul roads and mining areas in general.

Relevant personnel should receive additional training in the safe operation of four wheel drive vehicles.

Sites should consider training personnel on response to losing control in wet or slippery conditions.

Sites need to reinforce with vehicle operators the need to drive to the prevailing conditions, and how to drive on recently watered roads.

All light vehicles should be checked to ensure that additional fitted equipment such as: bull bars, ROPS, tool boxes, winches and loads such as oil drums, welding gear etc., have not exceeded the vehicle's weight specifications.

These recommendations are directed at the vehicle and its safe operation. They are in addition to controls implemented to prevent unplanned movement / loss of control incidents detailed in procedures such as the Design and Construction of Mine Roads. ■

A copy of the Safety Alert can be downloaded from www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/mining_safety_health.cfm



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Quarrying on Code Red Fire Danger Rating Days

JOHN MITAS, DPI, Earth Resources, General Manager Minerals & Extractive Operations reports on the issue that mining, prospecting and quarrying is not allowed in State forest on Code Red Fire Danger Rating days.

ON days of Code Red Fire Danger Rating, State forests and forest parks are closed to the public. Everyone, including permit holders, licensees, lessees and other people cannot enter a State forest or park where a Code Red forecast applies. On a Code Red day the safest place to be is away from high risk bushfire areas.

Mining, prospecting and quarrying operations that occur within State forest must not allow any employee, agent or contractor to work in State forest on a day of Code Red Fire Danger Rating. To do so may incur penalties and possibly affect liability if an occupational health and safety incident occurs. Arrangements should be made in advance to allow operations to be left safely, securely and unmanned.

DSE is responsible for closing access to State forests and forest parks on days of Code Red Fire Danger Rating. DSE closes access to State forests and forest parks on Code Red days by declaring them public safety zones under the Safety on Public Land Act 2004.

Exemptions for prescribed mines

There are certain groups of people who are exempt from Code Red requirements. If you are someone who works at a prescribed mine or travels to or from a prescribed mine located within State forest, you may be allowed access to State forest on days of Code Red Fire Danger Rating.

For an exemption to apply, it must be a prescribed mine as defined by regulation 5.3.3 of the Occupational Health and Safety



Fire Danger Rating

Regulations 2007. The prescribed mine must also have an approved work plan, as defined by section 40 of the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990, and an emergency plan that addresses the risk of bushfires and has been prepared according to regulation 5.3.34 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007.

What is a Code Red Fire Danger Rating day?

The Fire Danger Rating (see Figure 1) predicts how a fire would behave if one started, including how difficult it would be to put out. The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more dangerous the weather conditions and the more difficulty for emergency services to put a bushfire out if one started. The highest Fire Danger Rating is Code Red. Days of Code Red fire risk have the worst

conditions for a bush or grass fire. Leaving a high risk area the night before a Code Red day occurs, or early in the day, is the safest option.

How do I find out whether a Code Red Fire Danger Rating day is forecast?

Fire Danger Ratings are forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology each day during a fire season for each of Victoria's nine forecast districts (see Figure 2). The forecasts are provided for the following four days. A Code Red day is declared one day before it applies.

During the fire season, the Fire Danger Rating will feature in weather forecasts, broadcast on radio and TV and appear in some newspapers. It can also be found on the CFA (www.cfa.vic.gov.au), DSE (www.dse.vic.gov.au) and Bureau of Meteorology



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safety <<

(www.bom.gov.au) web pages, or by calling the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

Will I receive a warning from DSE that a Code Red Fire Danger Rating day is forecast?

Due to the size and geographic spread of Victoria's parks and forests, DSE will not be able to provide individual warnings to all people and work sites within State forests and forest parks on a Code Red day. Gated entries will be closed at relevant parks or visitor sites. However, it is not possible for all parks and forests to be gated or fenced off as these are vast areas of land with roads running through them that may be required for emergency management activities.

How do I find out if I'm in State forest?

If you are unsure whether you work within State forest, you can check with DSE's Forest Explorer online map. The online map can be found by:

1. Visiting the DSE Forests home page (www.dse.vic.gov.au/forests)
2. Click on "Forest Maps" located in the left hand column



Victoria's nine Bureau of Meteorology forecast districts

3. Click on "Forest Explorer Online" link to launch Forest Explorer
4. Tick the "Public Land" box located on the right hand side of the screen (within the "Map Backgrounds" folder)
5. Click on the "Refresh Map" button (bottom right) to refresh the map

The coloured areas of the map show the categories of public land in Victoria (including State forest). To see which colour represents State forest, click on the "Legend"

tab at the top of the screen. The map legend will then appear on the right hand side of the screen. You can use the zoom function to find your location on the map. ■

The above article is an extract from the November 2010 DPI Newsletter and is available at the following link <http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/earth-resources/whats-new/minerals-and-extractive-operations-newsletter>

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VLPA Update

PETER MCCLUSKY provides an update on the Victorian Limestone Producers Association.

THE Annual General Meeting and Conference of the VLPA was held at the Waltzing Matilda Hotel / Motel in South Springvale on 16 November 2010.

The conference was addressed by Debbie Shea, a Glenelg Hopkins Catch Management Authority Board Member who spoke on successful land rehabilitation projects she has been involved in using lime and the CMA's support for combating acid soils.

Rob Shea, Project Manager of Perennial Pasture Systems based out of Ararat, spoke on the use of lime in agriculture especially its ability to counteract harmful effects of aluminium on root systems.

An important topic of discussion was the successful acid soils project, which has started in conjunction with Southern Farming Systems and the Glenelg Hopkins CMA.

The acid soil work was subsequently extended to be included in seminars and field days run by Perennial Pasture Systems and the North East Catchment Management Authority.

A Department of Primary Industry web seminar on weather patterns and prospects which was shown to the conference has proven accurate with recent rains having been predicted during the seminar.

The office bearers and committee for 2011 are as follows:

- Bruce Couch (Chairman)
- Tim Gibson (Secretary)
- Trevor Tovey (Treasurer)
- Noel Letcher (Technical Member)
- Graeme Heywood (Public Officer)
- Peter McCluskey (Business Manager)

The VLPA is currently concerned that the Murray Darling Basin Authority draft plan for water allocations with its emphasis on priority for environmental flows ahead of economic and social considerations would threaten the future of agriculture in the region. ■

For further information contact
Peter McCluskey 0408 496 588





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DPI Update

JOHN MITAS, General Manager Minerals and Extractive Operations reports on the Mineral and Extractive Industries Stakeholder Information Days.

IN October 2010, DPI hosted five regional information days throughout Victoria -in Melbourne, Bendigo, Ballarat, Traralgon and Benalla. This is the third year that DPI has hosted the information days targeted at industry and other minerals and extractive industry stakeholders.

The sessions included a range of information surrounding recent regulatory and policy developments in the earth resources sector.

Participants had an opportunity to learn about changes to legislation with an update on the stage 1 amendments to the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act and an overview of the newly enacted Traditional Owners Settlement Act, new regulatory requirements such as the Guidance Note on Reportable Events for Mining and Extractive Operations and guidance material developed during the past year including the Geotechnical Guideline for Victorian Mines and Quarries, Extractive Industry Work Plan Guideline, Code of Practice for Small Quarries and guidelines for the Establishment and Management of Rehabilitation Bonds.

Over lunch, participants were also able to network with government representatives from DPI, Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and AAV.

Overall, the sessions were a great success with over 200 people, from industry, government and local council in attendance. Some of the feedback received included:

- ‘Variety of personnel across mining and extractive industries -not just mining. Good discussions’.
- ‘Practical, informative, was very interesting!’.
- ‘Opportunity to network with industry and government representatives. Relaxed atmosphere with questions encouraged. Was really excellent.’

Provided there is continued interest this year, it is likely that these stakeholder information days will run again. We look forward to seeing you then. ■

If you missed the information days and/or would like a copy of the presentations or guidance material please contact Victoria Alivanoglou on 9658 4408 or at victoria.alivanoglou@dpi.vic.gov.au.

The above article is an extract from the November 2010 DPI Newsletter and is available at the following link:

<http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/earth-resources/whats-new/minerals-and-extractive-operations-newsletter>

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Extractive Industry</h2>	
<p>Lawyers for the CMPA with expertise and experience in extractive industry issues, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leasing • Planning • Environmental • Employment • Occupational Health & Safety <p>Contact Andrew Lumb alumb@nevettford.com.au</p> <p>www.nevettford.com.au</p> <p><i>“Building quality relationships with clients”</i></p>	<p>Level 42 South Tower Rialto 525 Collins Street Melbourne 3000 Tel: 03 9614 7111 Fax: 03 9614 3192</p>

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BIZ Impact –Driving your Business

Mead Partners has introduced an easy to understand financial modelling software program to provide a critical financial analysis of your business, reported by JOHN PITITTO.

RECENTLY, the major banks adopted this very same software for the specific purpose of processing and approving business finance applications.

Aside from assisting in identifying a business's ability to meet the banks "hidden criteria" for finance applications, it has been proven to be most beneficial in predicting possible tax liabilities before the end of a financial year.

Even where there hasn't been a tax problem, this service has been invaluable in graphically identifying the key drivers within a business that can assist in turning a loss making or average turnover business, into an extremely profitable one.

How would you like to know the financial impact of every business decision before you make it?

Have you given your business a health check lately?

Looking for ways to improve your cash flow or your bottom line profits?

Thinking about obtaining finance and want to know if you will be successful before wasting time with lengthy and costly applications?

If you have answered YES to any of these questions, then you should definitely read on to find out more about our exclusive BIZ Impact services.



Working Capital Cycle of a Sample Business for the past three years

WHAT IS A BIZ IMPACT?

Our Biz Impact Service is essentially a 'health check' of your current and future financial positions. It allows us to diagnose your business and offer recommendations and solutions to potential tax problems, cash flow and profit issues whilst maintaining a focus on the overall improvement in financial performance. BIZ Impact aims to provide you, the business owner with a clear picture of:

- Where has your business come from
- Where it is now
- Where you want it to be & how to get there

Biz Impact has many functions and review points for the business owner but we believe cash flow control is one of the most important key areas to focus on as this is usually the difference between success and failure of your business.

The example below maps out the working capital cycle of a "sample business" for the past 3 years.

Working Capital analysis is basically the number of days you hold inventory, the days debtors take to pay you and finally how many days you take to pay your creditors.

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In this sample case the business has 201 days of negative cash flow from the date they produce/buy the inventory, pay their creditors and then get paid by the customer. Clearly there is deterioration over the past three years.

The question is how do you fix it? Biz Impact allows us to work through a number of "what if" scenarios with the business owner, with the changes updating your accounts live right in front of you to find out what options are available. From there the business owner has the data to go away and implement the strategies discussed, after which we hold regular reviews (usually quarterly) to see how your business is tracking, and reviewing other aspects of your business.

Mead Partners believes that you cannot afford to allow your business to run on autopilot as some businesses have done in the past.

If you have struggled through the Global Financial Crisis and you are still struggling to understand where your business is at, then this review is a simple yet critical step for you to undertake.

HOW DOES IT BENEFIT MY BUSINESS?

Some of the many benefits you receive are:

- Uncovering the possible causes of current financial difficulties.
- Plotting future directions through goal seeking analysis.
- Creating projections, discovering solutions and averting potential disasters with graphical "what if scenarios" such as - What if sales improve by 10%? What is the financial impact on cash flow if I increase my volume? How can I improve my cash flow from negative \$325,500 to breakeven?
- Find out if your next dollar of sales will have a positive or negative cash flow impact?

Some of the favourable comments we have received following these reviews:

- "now we have a much clearer picture of where we are heading"
- "great, now we know what we need to focus on to turn our business around"
- "can we book a follow up review next quarter to review our progress"

WHAT DO I NEED TO PROVIDE?

Mead Partners will require you to supply a detailed Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement for the last financial year and for the current year to date, up to the last fully finalised month. These figures must be as accurate and complete as you can make them. Inaccurate accounts will mean that our analysis can only be a best estimate, based on your figures. This service does not include a full review and adjustment of your accounts. Should we deem your accounts insufficient to proceed we will immediately advise you of such and provide recommendations with a view of rescheduling your appointment.

So why not see how your business checks out today? There's a good chance Mead Partners has the remedy. ■

If you believe that this would be a valuable service that would help you manage your business going forward then call Mead Partners on 03 9523 2277 to discuss all your options.



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Directors and Officers Liability Insurance – Part 2

Following his article in the Oct/Nov edition of Sand & Stone, JIM MALADY from Australian Reliance Insurance Brokers outlines crucial items of coverage that will ensure the adequacy of your Directors & Officers Liability policy.

DIRECTORS & Officers Liability Insurance (D&O) can be complicated, especially when no two policies are the same. There are, however, some crucial coverage features that you must ensure your policy contains:

1. ADVANCEMENT OF DEFENCE COSTS

Director's liability is a personal liability. This means that in the event of a claim a director will be personally liable for all costs (which can run into millions of dollars), unless someone pays these costs on their behalf. It is vital to ensure that your D&O policy has strong language around advancement of defence costs. Your Insurance Company must pay the money upfront, as opposed to you having to find the money to pay, and then seeking reimbursement.

2. FINAL ADJUDICATION LANGUAGE

No D&O policy wants to cover a director or officer where they have committed a fraudulent or dishonest act. Therefore every policy will specifically exclude acts of this type.

In the event that there is an allegation of fraud and dishonesty and you consider the allegation to be false, you will at least want your day in court. If your policy does not contain 'final adjudication' language then the 'fraud & dishonesty' exclusion could be immediately triggered based on the allegation alone, which means you get no cover until finally proven innocent.

A D&O policy with appropriate 'final adjudication' language will cover you (and all costs) at least up until the point where you are proven to have committed fraud or been dishonest.

3. SEVERABILITY

This is often overlooked in D&O policies but vitally important. This is the clause that basically states that the knowledge and acts of other Insured parties do not prejudice your ability to claim under the policy.

For example, if one of your fellow directors has been found to be guilty of fraud, you would not want the D&O policy to stop covering you just because it says that the knowledge of one director is imputed to all directors! You would want the policy to continue to provide you with protection should a claim arise against you. This can be achieved by ensuring that the policy contains very strong severability language that makes it clear that the actions of others, of which you were unaware, will not restrict your rights under the policy.

4. INVESTIGATION COVER NOT CONNECTED TO A WRONGFUL ACT

Almost all D&O policies cover an Investigation when there has been an allegation of wrongful act e.g. the regulator/statutory body alleges you have provided misleading statements and is now investigating you. In practice however these investigations are often conducted to find evidence of a wrongful act.

If your policy connects coverage for investigation costs to an allegation of a wrongful act, then you will have no cover for the times when the investigation is simply trying to find evidence of a wrongful act, but not alleging one in the first instance. This cover is readily available, but is not always standard so it is essential that you ensure your Insurance Broker has secured a D&O policy which adequately covers this contingency.

If you tick these 4 boxes you have gone a long way to ensuring that your Directors & Officers Liability Insurance Policy will deliver the coverage you expect in the event of a claim which, after all, is what you are paying for! ■

For further information contact Jim Malady 0418 334 685.



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Kinder & Co Combine with Bi-State Rubber Inc

NEIL KINDER reports on the supply agreement with Bi-State Rubber.

KINDER & Co is pleased to announce a supply agreement with one of America's leading custom industrial rubber manufacturers, Bi-State Rubber Inc.

Bi-State Rubber manufactures custom conveyor belting for a range of industrial applications as well as weigh feeder belts, shot blast belts, magnetic separators. Weigh feeder belts are available with a range of flanges and sidewall designs and can be mechanically spliced or vulcanised endless. In addition tumble and shot blast belts are manufactured.

The company's cleated magnetic separator belting features an improved bonding process which hot vulcanises 25mm x 25mm cleats to the base belt making them an integral part of the belt top cover. The tough and reliable separator belts are available in a range of standard sizes as replacement belts for common brand separation equipment.

In addition Air Slide fabrics are constructed using the newer needled technology which offer consistent air permeability ensuring even flow of particulate compared to traditional woven constructed material.

The company also provides a range of custom designed flue duct and metal bellows expansion joints using a variety of materials making them suitable for many industrial applications. Metal bellows expansion joints are available in a range of configurations including single unrestrained, tied single, universal unrestrained, tied universal, pressure balanced or externally pressurised.

Founded in 1970 the privately owned company has customers and business relationships worldwide in the cement, quarrying, foundry and die-cast industries.

Kinder & Co managing director, Neil Kinder, said the relationship offered the Australian industry a high quality, reliable alternative.

"Together Kinder & Co and Bi-State Rubber have vast experience serving the bulk materials



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handling industry. We are pleased to be able to offer one of the belting and conveying industries best known brands exclusively in Australia as well as provide customers with our normal high levels of service and support." ■

To learn more about Bi-State Rubber products, contact Kinder & Co today on 03 9587 9244.

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Flood Damaged Motors at Dytecna

With recent flood damage to quarries and mine sites Electric Motors may have sustained flood damage. JOHN TREIMANIS from Dytecna (Asia Pacific) Pty Ltd reports.

IT is important that Members have an understanding of what they need to look for when assessing the impact of flood water and/or heavy rain on their electrical motors. The following article gives good practical advice.

Whilst motors may appear to be in working order they are difficult to assess safely. Circuit Breakers also suffer water damage which can lead to 'live' equipment. Prior to starting a motor consider damage sustained.

Electric motors cannot be left to dry out - they must be disassembled, serviced accordingly (which may only be bearings) dried and reassembled. Replacement motors are a good option to get up and running quickly. However unique motors will require rewinding. As some motors can take days to rewind, a delivery date could be longer than usual with the amount of motors currently awaiting repair.

Electric motors under repair



Floods through the Shire of Strathbogie

ELECTRICAL ISSUES WITH WATER DAMAGED MOTORS

Visual Damage:

- External Damage and/or corrosion
- Damage to auxiliary equipment
- Ingress of debris /foreign material
- Cooling Fan obstruction/restrictive debris (ie packing tape, rope, twine)

Electrical Damage:

- Low IR
- Earth short
- MCB Shorts (which can cause equipment to be live)
- Electrical Explosion (if started)
- Ground Fault current (If Started)
- Electrocutation (If Started)
- Wiring Damage

Mechanical Damage:

- Displacement of lubricants/ Seals
- Immediate Bearing Damage
- Capacitor Failure
- Brake Failure
- Water in motor body
- Water/liquids on Brushes

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Dytecna have seven rewinders, four fitters, two tool makers and a full time spray painter, we may be a day's freight away but we can turn around motors promptly. If the repair is urgent give us a call -we can generally give you an estimate over the phone. ■

For further information contact John Treimanis, Business Development Manager- Rewind & New Motor Sales of Dytecna (Asia Pacific) Pty. Ltd.
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Email: john.treimanis@dytecna.com.au
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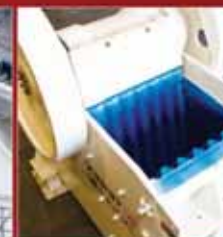
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The Tedge Advantage

TEJ PANESAR of TSP Group of Companies reports on the advantages of TEDGE.

THE repetitive costs of cutting edges; replacement and maintenance on sales loaders, its limited useful life, the need for lifting tools and tackles to handle the heavy cutting edge, associated OH&S concerns coupled with the undesirable down time of the loader translates into much higher cost. The more abrasive the material being handled, the more prominent and critical the above situation becomes. The same issues are faced with loaders at a cement-mix plant.

The above issues are further complicated with mixed fleets of loaders; as many cutting edges/teeth are used to suit specific equipment models, materials handled, its physical condition and outdoor storage condition. The dry material in summer can become compacted, more abrasive and difficult to penetrate in wet conditions.

The traditional solution of using a thicker cutting edge definitely allows for greater wear material, but adversely affects equipment and hydraulic pump performance due to the extra weight of the cutting edge sitting furthest away from the machine. Alternately it reduces bucket fill to compensate for the extra weight of the edge.

Despite all these issues impacting the productivity, there is very little that has happened to offer a simple solution. Finally, here is an excellent cutting edge – TEDGE (patent pending) ; long life, versatile, universal, wear balancing, easy to replace, suits all loaders and has a very low cost per hour of use.

TEDGE is specially designed to:

- Increase the replacement life of the cutting edge - reduced replacement time & saved money
- Allow one person with no additional lifting tools to replace edge on site - OH&S advantage, no special lifting tackles; change TEDGE on site during a short break.
- Allow multiple configurations of edge set-up based on material handled - lower cost
- Enjoy the flexibility of on-site edge rotation to even out wear - Increased life, lower cost per hour, increased loader up-time.

The Edge remains flat even when in tooth-pattern mode - protects Loader tyre damage from quarry products otherwise slipping past the bucket teeth.

TEDGE is available for all Sales Loaders when a new bucket lip (base edge) is installed, using the existing lip with a few holes to be drilled to accommodate TEDGE or special TEDGE using existing holes in bucket lip. Should a customer like to use the traditional edge a little longer, TSP group supplies these in higher grade steel at very reasonable prices.

TSP Group supplied Cutting Edges to the Barro Group for work in their sand quarry in Bacchus Marsh. Mr Silvio Debrincat –Victorian Operations Manager and Mr. Stephen Debrincat-Quarry Manager have said that they are very happy with these edges, with so much more life and great value for money.

The most recent supply is a special TEDGE to Holcim at Oaklands Junction using the existing holes in the bucket lip. With support from David Jones – Operations Manager and Guy Sibenalar



Holcim employees with TEDGE supplied to mobile plant bucket lip

–Quarry Manager their Maintenance Manager Jack Fang has just installed TEDGE and keenly observing the advantage. Installation was easy and TEDGE is working two shifts a day using a 40mm straight edge configuration.

TEDGE is manufactured from high wear resistant steel and is offered in thicknesses ranging from 25mm to 60mm and in 400-600 BHN hardness to suit various Loaders and materials. While TEDGE is essentially a product designed for Sales Loader buckets in focus, it is very easily adapted to some Excavator Buckets and Scrapers.

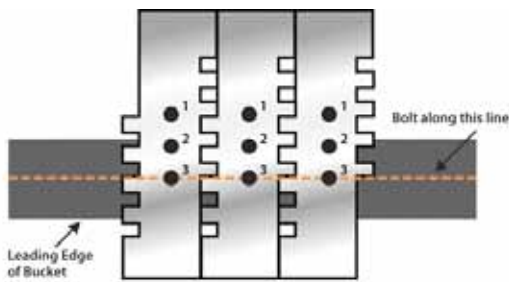
The TSP Group strongly pursues their company motto – OEM Quality @ After-Market Prices and maintains a very customer friendly and flexible approach to product supply and support.

Apart for their spearhead product TEDGE, TSP group supplies traditional Cutting edges, cutting edge hardware, wear parts pins and retainers. TSP Group also network with their associates to supply bucket tips and buckets. ■

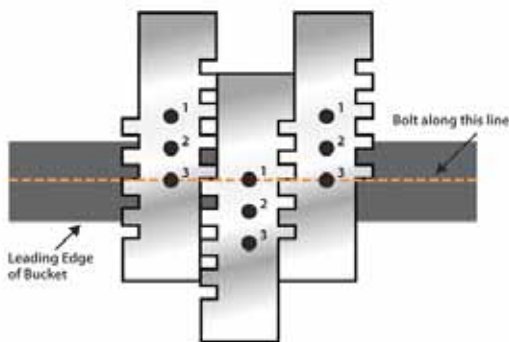
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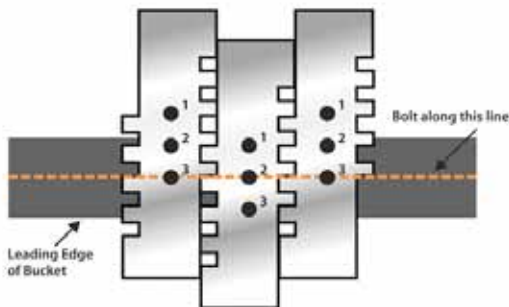
A SCHEMATIC SET-UP OF TEDGE IN A STRAIGHT EDGE AND A TOOTH PATTERN.



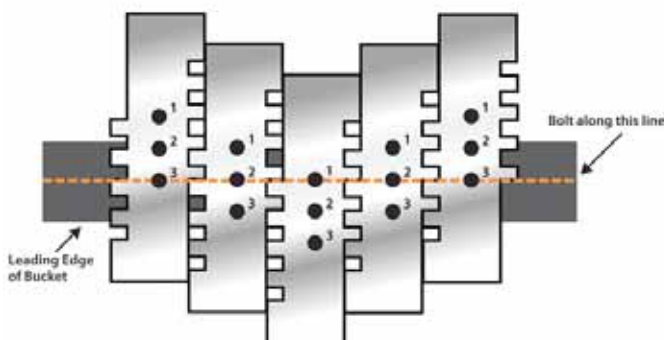
Standard Configuration:
Loose material



Two Bolthole Move:
For digging softly packed earth material



One Bolthole Move:
For digging usual earthworks



Spade Nose Bucket Edge:
For easy penetration

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ACE Expo is Back in Town

For all those boys and girls who love their toys to be new, shiny, the latest and the greatest, the 7th Australian Construction Equipment Expo is the place to be!

ONCE again this February, Sandown Racecourse will play host to the return of Australia's leading expo for the civil construction, earthmoving and quarrying industries, the Australian Construction Equipment Expo (ACE 2011).

Dates: Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th February 2011

Time: 9am – 5pm Daily

Location: Sandown Racecourse, Melbourne, Australia

Entry: Free when you pre-register online or complete trade pass. \$20 fee incurred if you register onsite.

This year's show promises to be one that cannot be missed, with the return of all the major earthmoving equipment brands including Komatsu, Caterpillar, Volvo, Hitachi, Hyundai, Toyota, JCB, Kobelco, Bobcat, Doosan, Wacker Neuson, Digga, Kanga, Kubota, Mustang, Yanmar and more, all together and spread over more than 40,000 square metres.

In addition to the return of the major brands, ACE introduces the new "try before you buy" element of the Earthmoving Demonstration Arena, and complements the expo with the CMEIG VIP Industry Luncheon featuring keynote speaker and former Victorian premier, Jeff Kennett.

One of the main advantages of this Expo is that you will be able to see and compare at the one location all of the latest products, equipment and technology available with more than 200 brands on display from over 150 exhibitors. Ultimately, the chance to see this many suppliers (many who are members of the CMPA), in one place over three days saves you and your business valuable time and money.

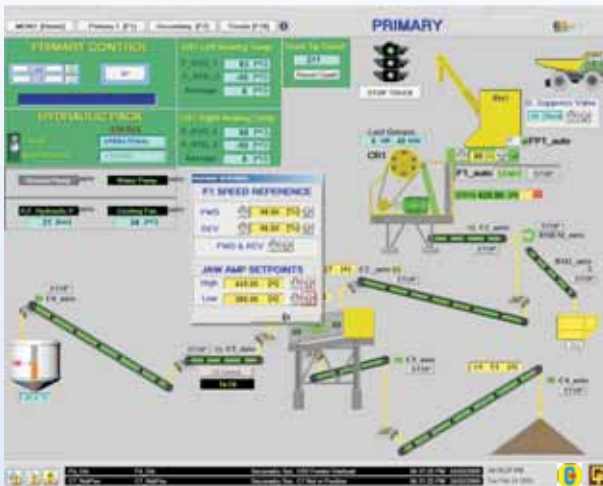
The CMPA will be represented on site over the three days of the Expo so call in to see us and say hello. ■

For further information and to pre-register, check out the official website at www.aceexpo.com.au.



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TRAINING & EVENTS

CMPA GENERAL MEETING

This is an opportunity for members to hear the outcomes of recent CPGA activities as well as plans for the future. It is also an opportunity for members to have their say about the direction of the CPGA. Special guest speakers to be advised.

Date: Thursday 24/03/2011
Location: Traralgon
Time: 5.00 – 7.30pm (Includes dinner)
Cost: CPGA Members \$40

BOX HILL TAFE WORK SAFELY

This two day course covers the essential requirements to satisfy safe work practices. It includes accessing and identifying the site safety procedures, applying personal safety measures, applying operational safety measures, maintaining personal well being and identifying and reporting incidents. It also covers the skills and knowledge required to apply basic risk control processes at a work site. Presented by Box Hill Institute of TAFE.

Dates: 11/02/2011 & 25/02/2011
Location: Northern Quarries, Cooper Street, Epping
Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm
Cost: \$TBA

SHOT FIRER'S REFRESHER TRAINING & ASSESSMENT

Have you received a request from WorkSafe to renew your Shot Firers licence? If so, you need to attend the 1 day CPGA organised refresher training course for currently licensed Shot Firers, presented by Box Hill Institute of TAFE. The training will be conducted in the morning and followed in the afternoon by the Victorian WorkCover Authority examination for the Use of Blasting Explosives.

Date: Wednesday 02/03/2011
Location: Box Hill Institute of TAFE, Whitehorse Road, Box Hill
Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm (Includes Lunch)
Cost: CPGA Members \$400 (Inc. \$150 WorkSafe Fee)
CPGA Non-members \$500 (Inc. \$150 WorkSafe Fee)

CMPA AGM & DINNER 2011

Just a reminder to keep this one in your diary:

Date: Saturday 27th August 2011
Location: Moama Bowling Club
Time: 5.00 pm for AGM, 6.00pm for Dinner

To book, please contact the CPGA by phoning 03 5781 0655 or emailing enquiries@cmpavic.asn.au



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