

SAND & STONE

The official magazine of the CMPA

• CMPA AGM & DINNER

• LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGS

ISSUE 64

• MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

• CHANGES TO AGGREGATE SPECS

Aug/Sept 2012



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The NIMBY Syndrome

BRUCE McCLURE General Manager of the CMPA comments on the impact of the NIMBY syndrome.

OVER the last few years one issue that is becoming of major concern throughout Australia is the NIMBY syndrome and its implications on current and future extractive industry sites.

The NIMBY or 'Not in My Back Yard' syndrome is becoming increasingly prevalent as some people seek to restrict things that they believe will impact on their lives, their surrounds. It is also caused by people who have made lifestyle changes or are starting a different career and upon moving to an area are confronted by an activity that they feel is inappropriate to the lifestyle or living environment they have moved to and want the perceived threat, disturbance removed.

Many existing quarry sites around Victoria are being subjected to more and more public angst. Even though in many cases these quarries have existed for decades, some people move nearby and then a campaign starts regarding a number of issues deemed to be the fault of the quarry located near them.

Some people just don't want the quarry alongside them – doesn't matter that a quarry site may have been there for a while, is a major contributor to the local economy or is an industry providing essential products for our modern society to continue and grow.

There are a number of sites in Victoria where the quarries are under severe pressure and increasing restrictions to appease adjoining

landowners. All quarry owners are aware of their responsibility when it comes to dealing with environmental issues and the physical safety of all people within and outside their sites.

It is essential that state and local government ensure that current and future extractive sites are protected by legislation and planning schemes that prevent frivolous claims by people who try to have a extractive industry business closed or severely restricted in its operations. It is essential that sites are protected by reasonable buffers from encroachment by growth of communities whether it be housing or commercial activity. For example, with good and practical planning it is possible for extractive industry sites to coexist with industrial estates in an area with infrastructure in place catering for all needs.

Careful planning of the location of extractive industry sites is vital for our future prosperity. Equally important is the preservation of existing sites which meet all planning requirements stipulated as part of the Work Authority for the site. State and Local Governments need to become proactive in reducing the impact of the NIMBY syndrome. ■



ATO EXPANSION OF DIRECTORS PENALTIES

Directors will now be personally liable for Superannuation Guarantee Charge (SGC) as well as Pay As You Go (PAYG) if either tax remains unpaid and unreported three months after their due date.

In order to avoid personal liability for unremitted PAYG or SGC directors must now report the debt within 3 months of the due date and either pay the debt, appoint a Voluntary Administrator or Liquidator before they receive a Directors Penalty Notice (DPN) or within 21 days of receiving a DPN.

This change is retrospective for unremitted PAYG obligations, accordingly if the company has outstanding PAYG at the time of Royal Assent on 27 June and that debt had not been reported to the ATO within 3 months of the due date, then the only way to avoid personal liability will be to pay the debt. Amendments to extend director penalties to superannuation will only apply to any quarter for which there is a superannuation guarantee charge shortfall following the Royal Assent.

A detailed explanation of Director responsibilities will be provided in the next edition of *Sand & Stone*.

Many thanks to John Pititto from Mead Partners Chartered Accountants for supplying the above information.

Site Photo – E.B. Mawson & Sons, Lake Cooper



MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

EMM Group - Echuca/Moama

KANE HENSON, General Manager reports on the development of the business to what it is today.

ANDREW Halloran has an eye for opportunity, not just identifying it, but acting upon it. As the Company Director of the EMM Group (formerly Echuca Mini Mix), based on the banks of the Murray River in Echuca/Moama, he has been able to establish a diverse and successful business over a 10 year period.

Part of the EMM Group of businesses is Bama Mineral Sands. Bama Mineral Sands processes a wide range of quality sands to be used for different purposes across Victoria and Southern NSW. Based near Barmah on the New South Wales and Victoria border, the quarry operated by the EMM Group extracts sand to supply concrete manufacturers, sand and soil businesses, construction businesses and instant turf companies. Such is the quality of sand that comes out of the quarry; its sand is commonly written into contract specifications for tenders, particularly with sport oval rehabilitation and construction.

The new sand quarry that was established in March 2011, is the result of an exhaustive evaluation process by Andrew, to source, extract and process top quality sand for his clients. "We want to provide to our clients, the best possible sand available" said Andrew. "Our staff is committed to servicing our client's needs and can produce a wide range of soil blends".

"Our Bama Sands staff team, have always aimed to maintain balance between our processing operations and upholding our responsibilities to the environment" said Andrew. Recently, their management team committed to rehabilitating areas of the sand quarry through mass tree plantings and native grass propagation. The EMM Group management team worked closely with the local council and other associated stakeholders, to identify and implement the best outcomes for the environment throughout the site rehabilitation.

In late 2009, Andrew was beginning to recognize that he needed to diversify his business to maintain a solid business foundation. With a keen interest in quarrying stemming from time spent with his grandfather at the Riordan's Quarry in Colac, crushing and screening seemed a logical pathway to explore. Already performing his own screening at the Bama Sands site, Andrew made the decision to invest into a mobile impact crusher and quickly established the Ecocrete Pty Ltd crushing and screening business. Also equipped with a modern fleet of three Kenworth PBS approved truck and dogs, Ecocrete also have the capabilities to supply and deliver any bulk material into the quarrying, mining or civil construction industry.

As in any new business division, there was a steep learning curve for many staff for the integration of Ecocrete into the group. New equipment, new systems, new reporting

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MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

and new customers meant that the existing staff had to undergo an extensive training program to allow a seamless transition of Ecocrete into the group. Under the direction of Andrew and his experienced EMM Group management team, the internally seconded crushing staff team undertook a comprehensive 4 week onsite training program in Geelong. "We were committed to providing the staff with the best possible training they required for the new Ecocrete business" said Andrew.

EMM Group management clearly understands that an enduring commitment to their customer base and local community are the foundations of the business. It is for that very reason that the EMM Group generously supports a wide range of schools, local sporting clubs and not for profit organisations. "Staff are relentlessly reminded that no customer, big or small, should ever be taken for granted" said Andrew.

EMM group has just entered its 7th year as a member of the CMPA. EMM Group recognises that the Association, supported by its members, has a critical role to play in the ongoing professional development of the extractive industry.

The future looks bright for EMM Group. An increasing diversity of work, staff and management who are committed to the future strategic plans and a strong connection to the local community. ■

Pictured on the front cover is EMM Group Sandvik Impact Crusher in action amongst canola fields, Tongala, Victoria.



60 SECONDS WITH A VOTING MEMBER...

What is your name? Andrew Halloran

Who do you work for?
EMM Group (Formerly Echuca Mini Mix)

How many years have you worked for this business? 10 years

How many years have you been involved in the Industry? 17 years

What is your role at the company?
Company Director

What does your job involve?

Dealing with our customer base on a day to day basis, investigating and following up on new business opportunities. Keeping up with new industry technology and standards.

What is the best part of your job?

Dealing with clients problems regarding their supply requirements and coming up with a solution that satisfies their needs.



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CMPA NEWS

By **CMPA SECRETARIAT**

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

RECENT EVENTS

The CMPA attended the Associate Members - GE Capital seminar on 'Managing your Carbon Footprint'.

Gavin Moreira visited half a dozen Associate Members in the South East of Melbourne looking to gain a better understanding of member needs within the industry.

Bruce McClure attended the VECCI Regional Business Convention in Bendigo which looked at issues associated with future business development in the region.

Bruce McClure met with Chris Brooks, the recently appointed Executive Director Earth Resources Development at DPI.

CMPA attended the DPI Industry Stakeholders Meeting to discuss *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* enforcement amendments and proposed cost recovery process.

Ron Kerr attended a Skills DMC teleconference as a part of the Extractive Sector Standing Committee.

CMPA met with Aquila Corporate Pty Ltd a new Associate member of the CMPA who can provide independent mergers, acquisition advice and capital raising services.

CMPA met with staff from Southern Medical Services Pty Ltd, Era Health to discuss progress on the CMPA Medical Guidelines and Employment Health Assessments review. A draft document has been released for comment.

CMPA members attended the CCAA Annual Dinner held in August 2012.

ANNUAL DINNER PHOTOS

Would you like a happy snap of you and your friends all dressed up for the Annual Dinner? Photos from the night are available to be downloaded free of charge from <http://outbackphototours.com.au/CMPA2012/>. High resolution, printable versions of the photos can also be emailed to you. Please contact the Secretariat with the photo reference number from the website to arrange this.

GEOTECHNICAL GUIDELINES DOCUMENT

In previous issues of the *Sand & Stone* the CMPA has commented on the proposed *Geotechnical Guidelines* document that is being produced by DPI. A number of meetings were conducted by DPI seeking comments and suggestions for the guidelines and the CMPA did respond back with comments and suggestions on the details proposed.

The guidance material for the assessment of Geotechnical Risks at Open Pit and Quarries has now been finalised by the DPI and released as a public document. It can be found at the DPI website following the link: <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/earth-resources/minerals/technical-guidelines>.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In July 2012 CMPA attended a VECCI run Regional Business Convention which looked at issues associated with future business development in the Goldfields Region. Participants were either involved in business, government or community organisations.

A number of issues were discussed being:

- Regional competitiveness.
- Major barriers to regional development.
- Red Tape involving federal, state and local governments.
- Regional culture and attitude.
- What can governments do? and
- What can businesses do?

All discussions points were noted and will form the basis of a report for this Region that will be presented at the VECCI 2012 Regional Business Convention which will be in Geelong on the 19 October 2012.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Our sincere thanks to all Members who have renewed their membership for the 2012/13 financial year – without your support the CMPA could not continue its valuable work. It would be appreciated if all outstanding renewals could be completed by the end of October.

PROPOSED COST RECOVERY BY DPI

Bruce McClure CMPA General Manager recently attending a meeting at the Department of Primary Industries Earth Resources Development Division (DPI) where the issue of cost recovery from the Mining and Extractive Industries was discussed.

DPI has engaged Deloitte Access Economics to prepare a report "Cost recovery review for regulations applicable to Victoria's minerals and extractive industries". While the issue of cost recovery within DPI has been raised at previous meetings, this is the first comprehensive report presented by DPI that deals specifically with this subject.

This obviously will impact on all CMPA members and a detailed review of the document will be finalised shortly. The CMPA will keep members informed on this issue.

ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE

We have a new look Associate Committee for 2012/13, with Tej Panesar (TSP Group of Companies) elected as the Associate Chairperson and Erik Birzulis (Landair Surveys), elected as Associate Vice Chairperson. There are also a few new faces added for the coming twelve months:

Rowena Cairns (Galesafe Weighing), Wayne Hanson (WAM Australia), Adrian Mason (ei engineering), Sharron O'Donoghue (Landmark Contracting), Chris Prowse (CK Prowse and Associates), Frank Santoro (Orica), Craig Staggard (Terex Jaques), Mark Thompson (Oli Vibrators) and Paul Timoney (Indeco Australia).

MEETING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EARTH

RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Bruce McClure CMPA General Manager met in July with Chris Brooks, the recently appointed Executive Director Earth Resources Development at DPI.

Chris has replaced Mike Hollitt who has returned to the private mining sector.

The meeting was an introductory meeting where a number of current issues under consideration by DPI were discussed.

SUBMISSION TO THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

The Productivity Commission recently completed a draft report on a study to benchmark the efficiency and quality of Commonwealth, State and Territory and Council of Australia Governments *Regulatory Impact Analysis* (RIA) processes.

The Commonwealth and each State and Territory have well established individual RIA processes to guide decision makers in respective jurisdictions in considering proposals for new or amended regulation, with the broad objectives of ensuring that such regulation is efficient, effective and supports well functioning markets. RIA processes also apply in respect of proposals for new or amended national regulatory initiatives being considered at the COAG level.

An effective RIS is crucial to the development of regulations over industry and in that sense the CMPA was keen to present its views and proposals for change to the Productivity Commission. The CMPA made a major submission to the Productivity Commission in May this year.

The draft report prepared by the Productivity Commission is very comprehensive and does comment on points raised in the CMPA submission in a number of locations. The CMPA will now examine this Productivity Commission draft report in detail but a preliminary investigation has shown that there are a number of areas in the report which the CMPA believe need to be followed up with further supporting information. Consequently further comments and information will be submitted to the Productivity Commission for consideration in the final report which will be presented to the Commonwealth Government in November 2012.

PERSONAL PROPERTY SECURITIES ACT

The new *Personal Property Securities Act* (PPSA), which is now in place, will dramatically change the way security is taken over personal property, impacting many businesses and individuals. The PPSA reform will require all forms of security interest, in respect to personal property, to be registered under the Personal Property Securities Register, a new and single online register controlled by the Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia. Replacing almost all existing Commonwealth, State and Territory laws and registers, the PPSA will affect such securities as:

- Company charges;
- Motor vehicles;
- Stock mortgages;
- Crops and livestock;
- Bills of sale;
- Intellectual property;
- Licences;
- Household items;
- Business and retail stock;
- Financial instruments such as shares;
- Business equipment; and
- Other securities, both tangible/intangible, which affect personal property rights.

Those that are refinancing, leasing assets, selling goods on credit or providing them on consignment should be most aware and should take the necessary steps to protect the interests of their business and to ensure compliance with the new provisions.

Businesses and individuals will need to:

- Review their business arrangements between group entities;
- Review their terms of supply;
- Review their financing arrangements and contracts;
- Identify the assets that will be affected by the new laws;
- Identify any transactions which need to be registered;
- Update their procedures for making new transactions;
- Update their existing arrangements, not currently considered to be security interests, and ensure that they're registered;
- Review and redraft their terms;
- Ensure that registered security interests do not exceed expectations.

Businesses/individuals with ownership of an affected security interest and those that use retention of title arrangements in their business operations, or have used one which will remain in place when the PPSA commences, should seek professional advice now. Failing to prepare for and accommodate these new laws may result in a loss of assets.

HIGH RISK WORK – IS YOUR LICENCE VALID?

As of 1 July 2012 all certificates of competency issued by WorkSafe Victoria have expired and employers must not allow people to perform high risk work without a valid high risk work photo identification licence.

A licence to perform high risk work is required for people working with high risk equipment or plant including cranes and hoists, load shifting trucks and boom pumps, scaffolding and rigging, boilers and pressure equipment.

The requirement to hold a licence to perform high risk work instead of a certificate of competency was introduced under the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007* and included a five-year period for certificate holders to transition across to a licence. This transition period ended on 30 June 2012.

The new licences incorporate photo identification, are valid for five years and are recognised in every Australian state and territory. They enable people to operate high risk equipment under consistent standards everywhere in Australia.

Current holders of high risk work licences (issued after 1 July 2007) will receive a renewal notice from WorkSafe Victoria 90 days before the expiry date.

Applications or alterations to licences can be organised through participating Australia Post outlets and from the WorkSafe Advisory Service by calling 1800 136 089 or emailing info@worksafe.vic.gov.au



PAVEMENT FAILURES

BRUCE McCLURE General Manager of the CMPA comments on the recent spate of road pavement failures around Victoria due to wet and cold weather conditions.

THROUGHOUT history mankind has used various techniques to improve the condition of the roads that were needed for people to move round, for commerce and unfortunately for military manoeuvres. The Romans were masters of road building and many examples of their abilities in this area are scattered around many countries. In fact many of the roads built by the Romans are still in use or are the foundation for generations of roads built upon them and updated ever since.

In the 21 century with all of our sophistication and technology it would seem that in Victoria we have lost some of the basic arts of road works and maintenance. Over the last few years especially as the drought affected years of the last decade fade into memory, we have gone through two rather wet years especially in the winter months. Driving around Victoria at present one would soon forget that once the roads throughout Victoria were the pride of the nation. Sadly this is not the case at present as a trip along many of our freeways, our highways and main roads shows examples of major pavement and roadside reserve failures.

For many people especially engineers with road construction experience to see state and local government attempting to construct substantial road works during the winter months over the last two years has been and still are a matter of grave concern. For many years it has been standard practice to reduce the amount of road works and major maintenance activities during the winter months to only essential activities especially those that affect the safety of the travelling public. However, with the recent long drought in Victoria with weather especially wet conditions very limited, a pattern has arisen where contractors worked virtually all year on road and associated construction projects. Neither wet nor cold conditions impacted severely on their works. However the weather pattern has changed and we are now back to a more normal cycle of wet and dry months. It was standard practice when we expected a normal autumn, winter and spring rains to plan and execute the works to take into account the weather conditions. This meant that there were months when we anticipated no construction activity (especially bituminous surfacing works) at all during these periods. It was the case that occasionally some major works had to be carried out for safety and/stability reasons but these were carefully planned and executed.



Major pavement failure of recently constructed works on a major state highway in Victoria

The State road authority VicRoads has detailed specifications that are used on the majority of road works in Victoria including those carried out by local government. These specifications are quite clear on pavement makeup, strength of materials to be used, the amount of water to be added to the products to get stability and in the case of bituminous surfacing works with both sprayed seals and asphalt, the surrounding air and road pavement temperatures at which the materials should be placed. Sadly we now see examples where these specifications are not being adhered to. In instances now where road construction is taking place in the winter months there are many examples of failures occurring in newly constructed works. There are instances where the wet weather has left local council roads partially reconstructed for months as the contractors try to work around the rain. Not only is this bad practice but it is costing the community large sums of money due to rework, lost time and impacts on accessibility to areas.

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On a number of state highways works also recently completed are showing major failures and are going to cost considerable sums of money to rectify.

With cost of living going up for all Victorians, to see our taxes our rates wasted because of poor planning, poor workmanship is simply not acceptable. It implies a loss of control of some aspects of works by VicRoads and problems with the current tendering process.

As a consequence of many pavement failures occurring one very bad aspect that is arising is that a number of suppliers of road making products are being blamed for supplying poor quality or out of specification materials to the road bed. No quarry can be blamed for the poor construction especially the actual timing of construction projects yet some are being blamed for issues that clearly relate to construction technique and the time of year and weather conditions prevailing.

It is very difficult to build good quality crushed rock pavements when it is wet, cold and raining. It is very difficult to bituminous seal or pave pavements when it is wet, cold and raining.

Once a pavement material has been supplied by a quarry (to the specification contracted to) and it is placed on the road or area to be paved, wet, cold and possible rain interludes dramatically impact on that material as it is placed and moved on site. In wet cold periods material over wet cannot be effectively dried out on the paved area and you will not get pavement stability. Moving the material around to try to dry it out will result in segregation, a possible loss of fines and a real chance of contamination. In these instances how is it the problem of the materials supplied by the quarry?

With many of the larger state government projects the construction time can be over several years. This obviously impacts on time frames especially during periods when weather conditions are not conducive for construction activities. However, good project planners factor into their project timings period of limited construction due to weather conditions and contractors would be aware of these factors as well. Suspension of works due to weather conditions has always been part of the construction scene but it appears that this may not be a consideration for some projects and in reality some contractors are possibly being forced to complete works to comply with tender contract requirements. Consequently we end up with many contractors trying to construct and bituminous surface pavements in conditions that are totally unsuitable for these works.

There is a need for all authorities who are involved with the construction and bituminous surfacing of pavements whether roads, carparks, hardstand areas to reassess their planning and tender specification requirements to prevent what is happening across the state at present. There is no excuse for poor planning and poor construction techniques and to blame the suppliers of products for failures when it is clearly one of poor workmanship at the worksite is simply not acceptable and will not be tolerated. ■

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SURVEY DEVELOPMENT

GAVIN MOREIRA,
CMPA Administration Officer.

THE main drivers behind developing of the Members Survey were to gain an understanding of the future direction of the industry, to establish Member priorities and to direct the Associations resources accordingly.

Development of the survey took a few months, dating back to March. Initial meetings were held with Bob Beaumont and Peter Day to gain a perspective and a reason why the association needs to conduct the survey and to put together a structure of topics. The research then went global on the World Wide Web to try and find a survey conducted by quarry associations or similar industries around the world. This was to help develop questions that would create realistic and useable outcomes for our members. Once a structure of topics and questions were drafted feedback was sought from both Management and Associate Committees and other members of the association.

Information gathered from the survey was to help the Secretariat to:

- effectively represent Members at all levels of government;
- provide government with a better understanding of the significant impacts they have on the industry;
- provide government with a better understanding of the economic importance of our industry;
- provide relevant services to Members in education, training and business operations and management and
- identify future capital expenditure to assist associate members in planning.

Thank you to all members who invested their time to ensure the CMPA stays relevant to your business needs.

Survey results sing same old tune

TOM MCKENNY, Industri Communications provides his opinion on the results of the CMPA Members Survey.

THE recently completed CMPA business confidence survey results are in and much of the data reinforces commonly held perceptions of the industry as well as charting a gradual decline in industry health.

First things first - respondents represented 40% of the total CMPA membership and were predominately involved in basalt or sand and gravel quarrying operations.

Work Authorities (WA) and Government regulation of the industry presented one of the most interesting results. Of the respondents, almost 100 per cent agreed the introduction of government regulation that had an impact on their business had increased over the past decade.

This is a result that clearly contradicts the line trotted out by elected politicians, the opposition and political aspirants alike, that they are here to assist business and cut red tape. More tellingly is that almost 100 per cent of respondents noted that the increase in red tape had had no significant benefit to the industry – other than adding to the burden of already swelling operating costs.

Importantly, all respondents agreed that the financial impact of increased red tape on operating costs had not been accounted for by Government. That is, Government of all persuasions fail to understand the financial impact of added regulation.

Just half of the respondents passed on the additional costs to customers and almost 100 per cent agreed the Government had provided no assistance in appropriately managing the increasing bureaucratic burden.

The impact of increased red tape also presented a more concerning outcome. Almost unanimously, CMPA members felt that the increasing regulatory burdens imposed in the past decade left them with no option but to work within their current WA approvals. That is current WA extensions, expansion or otherwise would not be sought. That is an unfortunate portent for the future of the industry.

DPI data confirms the downward spiral the industry is dealing with. There are 876 WAs in place as at 30 June 2011 there were just 17 applications in train for a WA approval – a sure indication that the barriers to entry are too high, or the requirements to expand are too burdensome and costly.

- **97%** of members believe the Government **does not** take into account the financial impact of its regulatory change upon the industry
- **91%** of members feel that regulatory burdens put in place over the last ten years, have left them with **no option** but to work within their current WA approvals
- **86%** of members feel the Government **has not** assisted them in appropriately managing regulatory compliance
- Only **48%** of members **have passed on** any new regulatory compliance costs in the sales price of their goods and services

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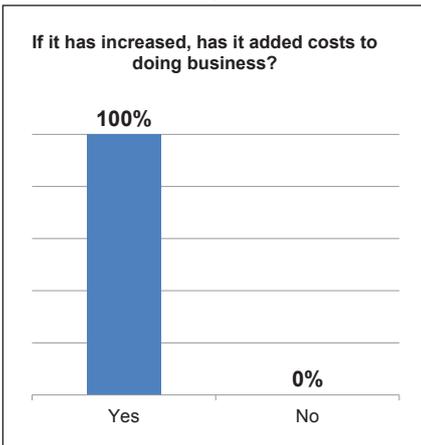
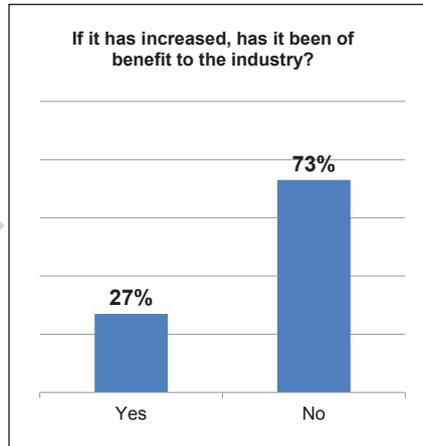
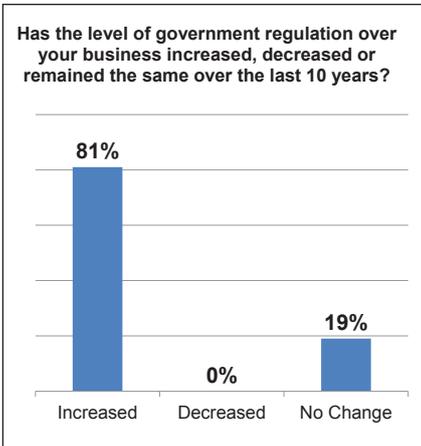
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HIGH COSTS, LOW SUPPORT

While considered regulation contributes meaningfully to delivering safe work environments and the like, the cost of red tape is not being reflected by improved government support services according to survey respondents. A majority of sites had DPI site visits in the past 12 months but just half of those visits were seen to be “of value”. One respondent commented that the DPI had “no idea regarding rehabilitation costs and only inspected for regulatory compliance and were not experienced in assisting with solutions to problems.”

Contrary to the DPI, site visits by WorkSafe inspectors were felt to be of value by a large majority of respondents. However conflicting feedback was noted. One respondent noted that WorkSafe gave management and employees a clear direction while another commented that inspectors always found something wrong no matter how good the site was and every site visit cost money; they were only inspected for regulation compliance and that WorkSafe were not experienced in assisting with solutions to problems.

Regulatory impact on business financial performance was also noted with regards to Aboriginal Heritage surveys, Native vegetation requirement, local planning, ground water management and bond reviews.

Increasing quarry bond requirements lead directly to pressure on working capital with banks holding back finance needed to service bond securities.

DPI data correlates the survey findings with the value of rehabilitation bonds in the extractive industry in 2000 being valued at \$22.8 million. However, just a decade later bonds on the extractive industry had increased to a value of \$72 million (2010). By comparison bonds on the mining sector in Victoria in 2010 were valued at just \$103 million. ■



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Streamlining Local Government Regulation

BRUCE McCLURE, General Manager of the CMPA, comments on the inquiry by the Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission and subsequent State Government response into streamlining local government regulation.

IN August 2009 the Victorian State Labor Government directed the Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission (VCEC) to conduct an inquiry into streamlining local government regulation. The Treasurer at the time John Lenders MP stated that "It was now timely for a comprehensive inquiry to examine the scope for further streamlining of regulation and processes administered by local government and that impact on business. This inquiry will build upon and examine the scope for further rolling out of - existing reform initiatives, with a view to continuing to improve Victoria's regulatory system".

The following scope was set for the inquiry –

The Commission is to inquire into and report on:

1. Impacts of regulations administered by local government on business, including small businesses such as home based businesses;
2. Scope for streamlining and harmonising the practices adopted by local government to administer State Government regulation, and options for both levels of government to support best regulatory practice;
3. Inconsistencies between councils in local government regulations and in practices for their administration, and options for greater streamlining and harmonisation of regulations and their administration;
4. Regulatory impediments to small and medium enterprise (SME) access to procurement associated with major infrastructure projects and options for removing these impediments;
5. The extent of costs incurred by local government in administering regulation, and options for councils to reduce these costs; and
6. An estimate of overall economic impact (including reductions in the regulatory burden on business) of options identified in this inquiry, including any incremental benefits to existing reforms being progressed at Commonwealth or State level.

The emphasis in the inquiry should be on administration of regulations by local government rather than on a direct evaluation of legislative frameworks themselves.

The structure of local government and performance of individual local governments are outside the scope of this inquiry.

A total of 37 recommendations were made by VCEC in their final report which they believed would improve local government regulatory frameworks and processes, with particular emphasis on streamlining local government regulation. The current State Government has considered the report and made the following comments.

The Government is supportive of the general direction of the VCEC report and has also taken the opportunity provided through the response to consider related policy improvements. The Government's response therefore forms part of a broader package of reforms that will include implementing the recently announced Government response to the Victorian Planning System Ministerial Advisory Committee recommendations.

Actions to be undertaken as part of this response are expected to assist local governments across Victoria to deliver on both state and local objectives. In particular, planning and building regulation and regulatory processes will be streamlined, minimising uncertainty and delays for businesses and the community.

Savings to businesses from implementation of this response and related reforms are expected to make an important contribution to delivering the Government's commitment to reducing red tape by 25 per cent.

The State Government responses to the VCEC recommendations are very detailed. If you are interested in reading the actual reports and government response the following link will take you to the relevant report, http://www.vcec.vic.gov.au/domino/web_notes/vcec/vcecweb.nsf

As we are all aware there have been numerous inquiries and reports on streamlining regulations for many state departments and authorities. The current State Government has a stated policy of reducing red tape by 25%. Only time will tell if this aim is achieved. ■



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CMPA Annual Report

GAVIN MOREIRA, CMPA Administration Officer, provides a summary of the CMPA Annual Report.

WE've had another year of challenges and some more changes at the CMPA. But overall it has been another great year of achievement for our industry. Here is a summation from the CMPA Annual Report.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – JOHN MAWSON

We have had another year of challenges but overall it has been another great year of achievement for our industry. Over the last year the CMPA has continued its aim of lifting the standards in the manner in which our Members' conduct their business activities; be it training, networking, occupational health and safety, industry-regulator relationships or the way we have conveyed our input into legislative changes.

The CMPA has continued our advocacy work with the state government and opposition over the last twelve months, as we have always had an even approach to the way we consult, it has held us in good stead for the change of government and we have been able to directly lobby our concerns, frustrations and ideas to the new ministers and their most senior advisors. Industry networking is also an important aspect of the work of the CMPA and several workshops and training days were organised during the year by the CMPA to address key safety issues.

The CMPA Secretariat continues to represent Members views to Government on a whole range of issues, here is just some issues that have been worked on in the last twelve months.

- DPCD – *Victorian Planning Provisions*
- DPI – *Draft Geotechnical Guideline*

- EDIC – Parliament of Victoria – *Inquiry into Greenfields Mineral Exploration and Project Development in Victoria*
- Aboriginal Affairs Victoria – *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Review*
- Growth Areas Authority – *Growth Corridor Plans – Managing Melbourne's Growth*
- Productivity Commission – *Regulatory Impact Analysis Benchmarking Study*

These are just a few of the many submissions that have been made in the past twelve months and it is a credit to our small but extremely efficient secretariat and their advisors that make this happen.

ASSOCIATE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – MARK THOMPSON

Well it's certainly been another challenging year. With the introduction of not only the carbon tax but also the ever increasing Australian Dollar and a declining construction industry that has made it difficult for our associates. In 2012 our Associate members have been actively "getting to know your customer" with good results. By adopting the back to basics approach we have been able to steadily grow our businesses within the CMPA community and ensure the members have the very best in products, customer service and advice.

The CMPA training workshops have enabled many of our associates to provide sponsorship that not only supports the members and their staff but also allows our associates to display and sell their products at the cold face, this we hope will continue into the

new year. The CMPA provides associates with a great opportunity to get closer to the industry and participate in issues that affect not only Members but those downstream suppliers and partners such as us.

Changes in the Associate Committee

After leading the Associates for the two past years it is with regret that I stand down as chairman of the associates and acknowledge and congratulate our new incoming Chairman Tej Panesar. I am honoured to have been chairperson of the CMPA Associates and look forward to working with Tej and Erik and the newly elected team for the new year ahead and wish the committee all the very best for 2013.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT – GARRY CRANNY

While 2012 was a relatively quiet year for the CMPA in the area of education we nonetheless maintained our focus on the development and facilitation of industry based training through the TAFE system. This training is aimed primarily at the safety and development of employees which reduces risk and improves the productivity and sustainability of member's businesses. The CMPA continues to provide:

- Seed capital for the development of identified resources if those resources don't already exist. There are five Reference Manuals currently available and development continues with another five;
- Guidance to Members and others in the industry;



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The CMTA's Management Committee (L to R) Ron Kerr, David Eldridge, Basil Natoli, Robin Hocking, Garry Cranny, John Mawson, Bruce McClure, Tej Panesar, Adrian Town, Tim Bird and Mark Thompson.

- Representation at a national and state level. This involves participation in the continuous improvement of the Extractive Industry Training Package;
- A conduit for information flow between participants, employers, RTOs and Governments alike.

Resource Development

The CMTA developed reference manuals and checklists used in most of the day-to-day areas of quarrying operations are also continually

being revised, updated and supplemented. The Management Committee encourages all members to purchase from the available range of CMTA educational resources. They have been developed by members, for members and they should be readily accessible to all your employees.

Continued Training of the Industry

The benefits of industry specific training, especially in high risk industries such as the extractive and mining industries, are well

accepted and documented. In this context, the CMTA is committed to continuing to advance its role in the provision of educational leadership to the industry, and to improving industry standards in safety and environmental performance. CMTA businesses that understand and manage risk, which is greatly assisted through education and training, will prosper and deliver significant productivity gains and credibility to our industry.

-Continued on page 19

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-Continued from page 17

We understand the undertaking of industry education and training requires significant commitment. On occasions it can be as confronting, time consuming and plain inconvenient as it is rewarding for small to medium businesses. However, a safer and more productive, better skilled workforce is the tangible outcome. The CMPA will continue to work with all industry stakeholders to realise that effort and the achievement of beneficial results for our members, employees and the industry.

The Future

One of the ongoing challenges for the CMPA is to influence all levels of government, especially the Victorian State Government, regarding legislation and other structural issues that impact our industry and more specifically, our SME business sustainability; we have a need to positively influence policy outcomes in support of our industry, regional development and the small businesses that comprise the great majority of our membership.

TREASURER’S REPORT – JOHN PITITTO

With the 2012 financial year coming to an end, we look back on what has been a busy and productive year for the CMPA with a handy profit for the period. Whilst the CMPA has posted a reasonably strong result it has not been without its challenges. The final profit was ahead of our budgeted profit for the year, this was mainly due to an increase in membership and advertising revenue.

The major source of income was membership subscriptions, with contributions from meetings and events, newsletter advertising and operator document sales. All of these aspects were higher than 2010/11 therefore overall Income was higher than the previous year. Employment expenses were the single largest expense in the period. This covered two full time employees and two part time employees. Other expenses included publications, consultants and the cost of holding meetings and events. Total expenditure was higher than last year.

SECRETARIAT’S REPORT – SARAH ANDREW

Position Holders

The 2011/12 financial year has been a stable year for the CMPA with all position holders remaining the same. This has allowed all to more fully develop their roles to suit them.

We have seen Bruce and Adrian visit Voting Members as reported in the magazine. Bruce has also been to numerous meetings with other stakeholders including the Ministers

Title	To Whom	Submitted
MRSDA Review – Financial Assurances	Department of Primary Industries (DPI)	04/07/2011
Statutory Policy Review	EPA	18/08/2011
Inquiry into Greenfields Mineral Exploration and Project Development in Victoria	EDIC – Parliament of Victoria	24/08/2011
Victorian Planning Provisions	Department of Planning and Community Development	31/08/2011
Draft Model Work Health & Safety Regulations an Code of Practice	SafeWork Australia	23/09/2011
Statutory Endorsement Flowchart	DPI	28/09/2011
Draft Geotechnical Guideline	DPI	05/10/2011
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Review	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	25/11/2011
Growth Corridor Plans – Managing Melbourne’s Growth	Growth Areas Authority	19/12/2011
Regulatory Impact Analysis Benchmarking Study	Productivity Commission	14/05/2012
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Review – Feedback	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	15/05/2012
Draft Geotechnical Guideline – Member comments	DPI	06/06/2012

for Energy & Resources and Environment and Climate Change in his role of General Manager representing the Members. Gavin has been visiting Associate Members with the goal of visiting all Associates every three years. Sean has been visiting both Voting and Associate Members in his efforts to further develop the reference manuals he is finalising. This year a total of 11,282kms have been travelled and 38 Member’s sites have been visited. We especially thank all our Members for their time and effort in hosting us and ensuring we have a better appreciation of your needs.

INFORMATION FLOW

Sand & Stone has continued as the primary source of keeping Members informed of the CMPA’s activities throughout 2011/12. The standard of the magazine is a testament to the hard work put into its design by Michelle Kerr, its publishers being New Litho and more recently Y Media, its many contributors especially those who present articles for every edition, and finally the advertisers who without the magazine would not be possible. The CMPA Updates have continued to provide recipients a summary of recent industry specific accidents and incidents, along with information on upcoming events. The purpose of the updates is primarily to

provide its readers with a summary of the incidents that have occurred across the state, nation and internationally to improve the state of knowledge in the industry.

Once again, I would like to highlight the essential support received by the CMPA from our valued Associate Members whose continued support is greatly appreciated. We cannot stress how much this assists the association and I would again ask Voting Members in return to use the skills of our Associate Members when possible.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership over the last financial year has remained relatively stable in numbers with a number of members resigning and an equal number of new members being welcomed. We thank all our Members for their continued support and look forward to working with them over the coming year.

SUBMISSIONS

The CMPA regularly makes submissions to Government and other regulatory bodies when it believes an issue will have an effect on Members’ businesses.

Above is a list of submissions produced over the last twelve months. ■

Copies of these submissions are available on the CMPA website.

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The 2012 CMPA

The CMPA Annual Dinner ventured east of Melbourne to the Yarra Valley Region and the rolling hills of Healesville, where guests networked with industry peers across the weekend. GAVIN MOREIRA, CMPA Administration Officer reviews a fantastic weekend!

AN enjoyable weekend away of fun filled activities and a chance to catch up with old friends. The CMPA Annual Dinner weekend turned out to be exactly that, with cold and wet weather not dampening the spirits of the 220 guests who attended. It was the biggest gathering for the association and is getting bigger and bigger each year.

The weekend commenced with a battle on the short course greens of the RACV Healesville Country Club. It was here that a group of 13 quarry members and associates set out for a leisurely round of eight holes of golf. Each hole provided its challenges but there were prizes on offer from the sponsors – EI Engineering, Impact Drill & Blast, TSP Group of Companies and WAM Australia making it all worthwhile. Great fun, networking and mutual respect of each player's abilities made for an enjoyable afternoon. The overall winner for 2012 was Mark Thompson from Oli Vibrators who was presented with his trophy during the Annual Dinner.

The culmination of twelve months of planning and hard work by the Secretariat evolved into a wonderful night, where 220 Members and their guests gathered on Saturday August 25 at the RACV Healesville Country Club for the twelfth Annual Dinner. The evening commenced with pre-dinner drinks which allowed guests to meet and greet friends and peers over a beer or wine and to take in what was an outstanding venue.

The CMPA Annual General Meeting was held in the Ballroom prior to the commencement of the dinner. John Mawson, CMPA Chairperson opened the meeting and in his address spoke about the highlights of the past twelve months including the

NEWS FLASH

The 2013 Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, August 24 in the Geelong Region – more information will be available in the next issue of *Sand & Stone*, but put it in your diaries now as an exciting weekend away.

Annual Dinner

submission provided to the EDIC – Parliament of Victoria – Inquiry into Greenfields Mineral Exploration and Project Development in Victoria as well as various training sessions held on Blast Management and Crushing, Screening, Welding and Sampling. He also acknowledged the hard work of the Associate and Management Committees over the past year.

A motion was raised to accept all presentations provided in the Annual Report: Chairperson, Associate Chairperson, Education Chairperson, Policy & Special Issues Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary which were duly passed (These presentations provided in the Annual Report are available in the Members Only area of the CMPA website.).

The last order of business for the AGM was a thankyou to Mark Thompson as outgoing Associate Chairman after the election of Tej Panesar to the position for the coming year.

It was then time to open the doors to the Ballroom where guests were welcomed by MC Brendan James and greeted by a very spacious room filled with CMPA balloon centre pieces. The night was officially opened by John Mawson the CMPA Chairperson who gave us an overview of the last twelve months.

This was followed by the first CMPA Public Auction, which involved spirited bidding by guests on five items donated by Associate members. Thank you to Landair Surveys, Orica, Onetrak, Galesafe Weighing and William Adams, the auction raised over \$5000 with proceeds going towards the CMPA Educational Fund to develop educational and training resources to improve safety in your workplaces.

This year the Secretariat developed a double-sided A4 size flyer which was a pictorial presentation of the last twelve months of the CMPA and depicted the pride of the members in the association through photos of their quarries, sand and stone front covers and commentary outlining the strengths of the association and the challenges that lie ahead.

- Continued on page 22



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– Continued from page 21

The results of the CMPA Members Survey for 2012 was also available to guests on the night and was a good talking point for members to discuss common points of interest that affect all our businesses.

The feature act of the evening was the band Threes Company who kept us all entertained with various musical numbers from different walks of life. Guests were also given the opportunity throughout the evening to have their pictures drawn by star caricaturist Tony Bramwell who worked non-stop all night.

The dinner was an overwhelming success with many new contacts made and old ones renewed.

Associates were once again overwhelmed by the opportunities they had during the night to network with fellow associates, but more importantly with quarry members. One associate made the comment "It was a great venue, with great food and great company." "What a spectacular way to mix business and pleasure!"

OTHERS COMMENTED

"Congratulations to everyone involved in organising the AGM and Dinner, the venue for the weekend and they meals were fantastic."

"Thank you to the CMPA for a great night and a wonderful dinner, already looking forward to next year."

"Had a great time, what a wonderful venue!"

"A great night and a good way to get a better understanding of the association and an insight into the industry they work in."

"Thank you for a terrific weekend. I had a great night and have made contact with enough quarry sites to make visits for the next few weeks, which is great."

"Lovely to see the photos of the night – it all looked wonderful. I did hear that it was indeed an excellent event. I was so sorry that I was not able to attend. Will definitely be there next year - it is an event we both look forward to."

The night finished with guests who wanted to carry on the party, did so over quiet drinks and social conversation in The Terrace Bar.

At this point the weekend was only half over, Sunday morning brought more opportunities to mingle with fellow members and to reminisce on the night before.

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A beautiful private buffet breakfast was served up for 90 guests who braved the early morning back in the Ballroom to start another beautiful day.

This was soon followed by an hour long trip on the historic Yarra Valley Train or a visit to Healesville Sanctuary. We sincerely hope everyone enjoyed the weekend and as you can see from the photos it certainly appears that way!

THANKS TO THE SPONSORS

On behalf of the guests at the 2012 Annual Dinner, we would like to thank all those who sponsored the evening:

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It would be greatly appreciated if all Members could thank these companies if you are talking to them. Members are asked to consider these companies when you are next pricing a job.



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TEDGE: The Real Cutting Edge for Sales Loaders and more

TEJ PANESAR, Director of Operations for TSP Group of Companies reports on the advancements of the cutting edge.

LARGE investments in Wheeled Sales Loaders have a very simple yet important purpose - push the bucket into the stock pile, pick and load the material. It is the cutting edge that protects the front end lip of the bucket and is the sacrificial component that needs frequent replacement. Despite good advancement in design of machines, operator cabins, ergonomics, engines, transmissions, drive trains, linkage and to some extent the buckets, the humble cutting edge - a regular replacement product which has a large impact on the machine efficiency as a whole has had very limited advancement.



TEDGE detail, Lysterfield

TRADITIONAL CUTTING EDGES

Let's look at some of the disadvantages of the traditional cutting edge, which the industry has just learnt to live with.

Wastage

With the holes in the lip base edge being about 4" to 4.5" away from the front of the bucket and the cutting edge protrusion being 3" to 3.5", the cutting edge width has to be around 15", which is around the most popular width. Of this the maximum theoretical usable material is around 6" (40%). In real life the useful life is only about 30% -35%. This means that almost 2/3rd of the cutting edge material invested in has been wasted. The quandary is that more quality you build in the traditional cutting edge, the higher the cost, thus higher the loss.

Thick Edges

The popular solution to avoid frequent changes in cutting edges of low life is to put a thicker cutting edge e.g. a 50mm edge instead of a 40mm edge. While it appears to a simple logical solution a little look into the impact on its actual impact and equipment performance would read very differently. Let me explain. 50 mm is 25% more than 40mm. Thus the bucket now has 25% more material at its further most part away from the equipment. As an example let us take a 3.4m wide bucket which is quite popular in our quarries. A 40mm edge 15" wide cutting edge on a 3.4m wide bucket would weigh approx 400kg and at 50mm thickness it would weigh about 500kg. By putting this extra 100kg at the tip of the bucket the following disadvantages creep in.

- There is 100kg less material per bucket, to stay within equipment design parameters;
- With the bucket being filled to cubic capacity, this extra weight eats into the safety factor built into machine stability. 100kg x 3m from the front tyres causes and extra 300kg load;
- Thicker edge is more difficult to push into a stock pile than a thinner edge;
- The above causes an increase in load on the engine, transmission, drive train ect;
- Fuel consumption also increases.

OH&S: Challenges

- Handling a 400kg edge (a little less with the 3 piece and 4 piece options) requires material handling equipment and tackles for safe handling and is an extra expense and exposure to the business.
- It would need additional manpower assistance and substantial time.
- Need to necessarily replace cutting edges in a controlled workshop environment far away from where the machine is working.

Uneven Wear

Depending on various site conditions, material, stockpile & how it is approached and the operator factor, there is uneven wear on the edges which further reduces the useful life of cutting edges.

Bowed bucket lips

Many buckets bow over time and make it impractical to bolt on a standard cutting edge and frequent re-tightening of bolts is required.

Far too many holes in lips

With so many holes in the lip to allow for multi optional fit of cutting edges or bolt on teeth and adaptors, a heavy cutting edge causes lips to crack.

Too many Edges to stock

With so many brands and sizes of machines and buckets each having so many different bolt-hole patterns just creates a challenge to the customer in managing cutting edges stock. Despite so much money locked in inventory, the non availability of the specific cutting edge causes machine down time, so more investment goes into stock and back-up stock.

Manufacturing

With the traditional cutting edges being a rather straight forward design, just about anyone now makes it and many a times, the bolt-hole spacing and alignment has had problems and on site fixes become necessary.

Production limitation

With the large size and weight of the cutting edges, the traditional popular method of production is to just cut it from a plate of steel.

It's important to look at the total cost of cutting edges, keeping the above factors in mind. Unfortunately, over the years insignificant improvements have been made in their design which is very inefficient even in its current form. Improvements over the years have ranged from a single bevel to a double bevel reversible and from 1 piece to 3 or 4 pieces. It has still not solved the problem of the majority of the expensive cutting edges being wasted.

What we really need is a reasonably priced improved design. To this important cause we introduce a revolutionary cutting edge named TEDGE. It is so named to rhyme with cutting edge & my name Tej.

TEDGE, a revolutionary cutting edge which smartly dissects the whole cutting edge into small manageable size special design pieces with three holes and a locating system that allow the cutting edge to take a tooth pattern and still remain a flat edge at the same time; a unique combination.

TEDGE CUTTING EDGES

Let us compare TEDGE on all of the above issues with traditional cutting edges.

Wastage

No wastage. TEDGE has three bolt-holes per piece. This allows it to be moved forward as it wears thus increasing the useful life as a cutting edge. Furthermore the left over piece is about the size of a side cutter and can be used to get virtually 100% usage.



TEDGE worn flat

Thick Edges

Thinner TEDGE. Since the bolt-hole design allows for greater uses of wear material one can go with a thinner TEDGE.

- More material per bucket load to stay within equipment design parameters;
- With the bucket being filled to cubic capacity, the machine stability is not compromised;
- Thinner edge is less difficult to push into a stock pile than a thick edge;
- The above causes decreased load on the engine, transmission, drive train, ect; and
- Fuel consumption also decreases

OH&S: OH&S Friendly.

- Handling a 35mm 20kg TEDGE does not necessarily require material handling equipment and tackles for safe handling and is a reduced expense and exposure to the business.
- It would not need additional manpower assistance and substantial time.

- No need to necessarily replace cutting edges in a controlled workshop environment far away from where the machine is working. It can also be done on site by trained operator.

Uneven Wear

Easy Fix. Depending on various site conditions, material, stockpile & how it is approached and the operator factor, there is uneven wear on the edges, but TEDGE can be moved front and back, left or right, from centre to ends and also rotated 180 degrees in its own place, which further increases the useful life of cutting edges.

Bowed bucket lips

So what. Many buckets are bowed over time and make it impractical to bolt on a cutting edge and frequent re-tightening of bolts is required. TEDGE being of small width can fit around the bow and let you continue to work till needed to stop for full repairs.

Far too many holes in lips

No issues with TEDGE. With so many holes in the lip to allow for multi optional fit of cutting edges or bolt on teeth and adaptors, a heavy cutting edge causes lips to crack. However, TEDGE uses only one hole per TEDGE in the lip, thus does not weaken the lip.

Too many edges to stock

Hardly any stock. Despite so many brands and sizes of machines and buckets no such money locked in inventory and back-up stock by using TEDGE. The one or more sizes of TEDGE generally cover all sales Loaders on site. It therefore reduces machine down time. When less investment goes into stock it improves cash flow and profit.

Manufacturing

Error friendly. TEDGE allows for a slight error in bolt-hole misalignment.

Production Limitation

What limitation! TEDGE can be forged, cast or plate cut. In addition TEDGE offers the following advantages:

- TEDGE is the only cutting edge that offers the combined benefits of a tooth system and a flat edge at the same time
- The TEDGE style flat-tooth-configuration allows for easy penetration thus potentially saving fuel and reducing engine, transmission, drive train, linkage and tyre wear.
- With a TEDGE style flat-tooth configuration the forward movement sweeps the ground better to reduce need for back-blading.



TEDGE worn thin, no scalloping

- By cleaning the work are in the forward stroke, TEDGE allows the machine tyres to roll on cleaner ground thus reducing the chances of damage and / or accelerated wear otherwise caused by loose material.
- The approach to the stock pile by coming flat on the ground as opposed to an angled approach for penetration will virtually eliminate cutting edge scalloping.

TEDGE was presented to the victorian quarry group at their official technical night in Melbourne and major quarry operators have started to move over to TEDGE and reap the benefits.

TEDGE has now been successfully deployed in various material applications and on various brands of loaders like CAT, Komatsu, Volvo, Doosan and Hyundai. It is one single improvement that will ultimately revolutionise the way cutting edges were ever looked upon and the quarry industry will benefit vastly from this change over to TEDGE and will possibly become an OEM product from sales loader suppliers. ■

Proverbially speaking, in the quarry sales loader application:

The best thing since sliced bread is....the sliced edge....TEDGE.

For more information contact TSP Group on 0421 380 700.



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THE NEW ROCK SOLID PARTNERSHIP

Tutt Bryant Equipment on the 1st of April 2012 formed an exclusive partnership with Metso as the national distributor for the Lokotrack range of mobile crushers and screens.

Coinciding with the new partnership, Tutt Bryant will be releasing the new model **LT120** jaw crusher and the revised **LT106** jaw crusher. Tutt Bryant's aim is to provide industry leading levels of product support to existing and new Metso customers.

For more information, contact Tutt Bryant Equipment - Victoria on (03) 9554 0300, Gary Payne - Account Manager, Quarrying, Mining & Recycling on 0417 189 427 or visit us at tuttbryantequipment.com.au

Changes to VicRoads Aggregate for Sprayed Bituminous Sealing Specification

BRUCE McCLURE General Manager of the CMPA comments on the recently released changes to the *Standard Section 831 Aggregate for Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing*.

A revised version of *Standard Section 831 (Aggregate for Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing)* has been recently released and is now available on the VicRoads website.

The extractive industry is generally aware of the changes and has been actively involved in the revision process providing a number of valuable comments and suggested changes.

VicRoads anticipates that a period of transition (quarry production wise) will be necessary from the old Standard Section to the new one. Quarries may still have some stockpiles of sealing aggregates which conform to the previous version of Standard Section 831. Most of the 2012/2013 municipal sealing aggregate contracts are likely to contain the old 831 specification and this may also provide an opportunity to reduce quantities of existing sealing aggregate stocks.

VicRoads also anticipates that the quarry industry will, beyond existing stockpiles, proceed to produce materials in accordance with the new Standard Section 831 specification, as soon as practical.

Sealing Aggregate Contracts advertised prior to the end of July 2012 are likely to include the old version of the Standard Section 831 specification.

In tendering or supplying for sealing aggregate contracts, suppliers are encouraged to review the actual contract documents to ascertain which version of Section 831 is applicable to that particular contract.

If suppliers wish to provide sealing aggregates to the new Section 831 requirements, for contracts already advertised and awarded (which include the old Section 831), suppliers will need to seek approval (via principal contractor) from the VicRoads Superintendent for that particular contract.

Amendments have been made to *Code of Practice 500.09 (Testing of Sealing Aggregates)* and *Code of Practice 500.16 (Selection of Test Methods etc)* in line with the changes to Section 831 and these amended Codes of Practice will be issued shortly.

The recent changes to Standard Section 831 are significant and are briefly outlined below:

- A Hold Point has been included to ensure that the results of all required testing are provided to the Superintendent prior to delivery.
- There is now only a single grading envelope for each aggregate size, previous oversize and undersize tables have been removed.
- A minimum Average Least Dimension (ALD) is now specified for all aggregate sizes (20, 14, 10, and 7 mm) except 5mm aggregate.
- The limits for Flakiness Index (FI) and Unsound Rock Content have been tightened in line with Type H and Type N asphalt products.
- A single test only is now required for Unsound Rock Content, grading, ALD and FI per 350 tonne lot of aggregate.

It is important that all relevant personnel and quarry managers are made aware of this specification change to Standard Section 831 and the relevant Code of Practices 500.09 and 500.16. It is essential to visit the VicRoads website to view and obtain copies of the entire documents.

These specification changes will have cost implications for most sites as they will generally result in screen and crusher setting changes, reduced tonnage, more energy usage and more by-products produced. The CMPA will comment on the likely cost implications in more detail in the next issue of *Sand & Stone*. ■

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CMPA Blasting Workshop

MARTIN DAVIES, the Principal Dangerous Goods Advisor, Workplace Hazards and Hazardous Industries Group, WorkSafe Victoria conducted a Blasting Workshop at the Members' Day.

THE recent CMPA blasting workshop covered the following topics:

THE BACKGROUND TO WORKSAFE REGULATIONS

Explosives have long been recognised as presenting a high risk to people and property unless properly used and to achieve this government regulation has been in force for over 160 years, starting with the *Port Phillip Gunpowder Act 1884*.

Since then there have been multiple authorities who have regulated explosives principally through licensing individuals for their use these regulations include for mines and quarries and underground mines:

- *Mines Act 1958*
- *Mineral Resources Development Act 1990*
- *Extractive Industries Development Act 1995*

And for general blasting operations:

- *Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulations 1960, 1988, 2000 and 2011*

The *Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulations 2000* reduced the issuing authorities for the use of blasting explosives to the Department of Primary Industry (underground mines & quarries) and WorkSafe Victoria (agricultural, general, oil well, demolition & special effects). The 2000 regulations also ceased all licences issued under other regulations on 1 July 2005. In 2006, WorkSafe became the sole authority for the issue of licences to use blasting explosives.

LICENSING PROCESS

To obtain a licence to use blasting explosives in an open cut mine or quarry, applicants must:

- Attended an approved course
- Been involved in 12 production shots
- Undertaken an oral and practical assessment

Application for licence can then be made to WorkSafe providing evidence of the above and making application for a National Police and ASIO clearance check. For renewal of licence the applicant must apply before the expiry of their current licence, there is a need to undertake a new Police/ASIO assessment, provide evidence of continued employment or use of explosives and to undertake a competency assessment (WorkSafe exam until 1 July 2013 then course provider assessment).



CMPA Members Day

2011 REGULATIONS

There were several key changes brought into effect by the 2011 regulations, these changes were given a 12 month introduction period before they became mandatory and that introductory period ended on 26 June 2012. Key changes include:

Licensing of explosives

The number of licences has been streamlined from 15 to 10 to cover import, manufacture, use, transport and storage.

Applications for a licence to use blasting explosives, transport explosives and discharge fireworks are now submitted through Australia Post outlets (those ones that are authorised to accept passport applications)

The licence to transport explosives has been changed to one licence per vehicle rather than one licence per company.

Sale of explosives

People selling explosives must now only sell to a person that holds the relevant licence. There are now record keeping requirements to improve our ability to track the movement of explosives for security purposes.

Using explosives

Blast management plans are now mandatory rather than just recommended for all people with a licence to use blasting explosives (shot firers). The regulations also set out safety

requirements including those relating to the keeping of explosives at a blasting site, charging and firing charges and precautions to be taken after a blast.

BLAST MANAGEMENT PLANS

Regulation 130 of the *Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulations 2011* states:

- 1 A shotfirer must not use explosives unless the shotfirer has first prepared a blast management plan in accordance with the applicable requirements of AS 2187.2.
- 2 A blast management plan prepared in accordance with subregulation (1) must
 - a. Include a plan for dealing with any misfire; and
 - b. Be commensurate with the size, location, nature and complexity to be undertaken.

To assist with this requirement WorkSafe have produced guidance information one entitled "Blast Management Plans" and one on "Blast Management Plans Template". ■

These documents are available at www.worksafe.vic.gov.au

Soft Sling Fails During Lift

The latest Safety Alert from Worksafe Victoria highlights the dangers associated with using synthetic fibre slings, often known as soft slings, in construction. It also provides advice on how to control the risks.

BACKGROUND

Recently, a 950kg steel beam fell five metres when a round soft sling failed. The beam was being lifted for placement by a mobile crane and struck the boom of an occupied elevating work platform, and landed on the crane's outrigger.

While nobody was injured, the failure of rigging equipment had the potential to cause serious or fatal injuries. Soft slings can fail if they are used inappropriately or if they have not been maintained in a safe condition.

CONTROL MEASURES

As an employer, you must provide the highest level of protection against risks to health and safety, so far as is reasonably practicable. Soft slings should not be the default choice for lifting loads as they are more susceptible to damage than other sling types.

Common causes of soft sling failure include:

- sharp edges on loads cutting slings
- slings being cut when contacting obstructions while under load
- mechanical damage from exposure to chemicals/UV light, dirt/drit in the fibres, or poor storage/handling practices
- working load limit (WLL) being exceeded

Soft slings should be used in accordance with recognised rigging practices and the manufacturer's instructions. Where the edges of a load are not rounded, protect the sling from the sharp edges with suitable packing material. If any corner has a radius of less

than three times the compressed thickness of the soft sling, packing will be required. The packing should be secured to prevent release when tension is taken off the sling.

Lifting operations on construction sites are high risk construction work and require a safe work methods statement (SWMS) to be prepared and followed for the work. When soft slings are used to perform this work, the risk of sling failure should be considered and the measures to control the associated risks detailed in the SWMS.

SLING SELECTION

Sling selection should be based on risk management principles with the safest sling type used for each specific lift. Sling selection must be made by a person with a high risk work licence for dogging or rigging. A range of sling sizes and types should be available to ensure the safest sling is selected.

Protection of surface finish or paintwork of loads should not be factors in sling selection. This can generally be achieved by fitting engineered lifting points during manufacture or having suitable packing materials under the load when using chain or wire rope slings.

SLING INSPECTION

An inspection regime for slings may assist employers to maintain slings so that they are safe and without risk to health. Regular inspections should identify damaged or defective slings and ensure they are removed from service before failure occurs.

Soft slings must be checked by the person using the sling before each use. They must also be inspected by a competent person at least every three months. Where soft slings are exposed to harsh operating or storage conditions, more frequent inspection by a competent person is required. A competent person is trained to inspect the slings to the requirements of the relevant standard, including specific rejection and acceptance criteria (e.g. an inspection service of a specialist chain and sling supplier.)

INFORMATION, TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

Employers must ensure workers who use soft slings are instructed and trained in procedures for pre-use inspection and the appropriate control measures to reduce the risk of sling failure. Employers must also supervise workers as is necessary to enable the work to be done safely. ■

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This and other related publications are available free of charge by contacting WorkSafe Victoria on 1800 136 089 or by visiting www.worksafe.vic.gov.au.



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VLPA Update

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

UPCOMING AGM & CONFERENCE

The VLPA's 2012 AGM and Conference will be held:

- Venue: Waltzing Matilda Hotel Motel
- Location: Cnr Heatherton and Springvale Rds, Springvale South
- Date: Thursday 18 October 2012
- Time: 10:30am for an 11am start.

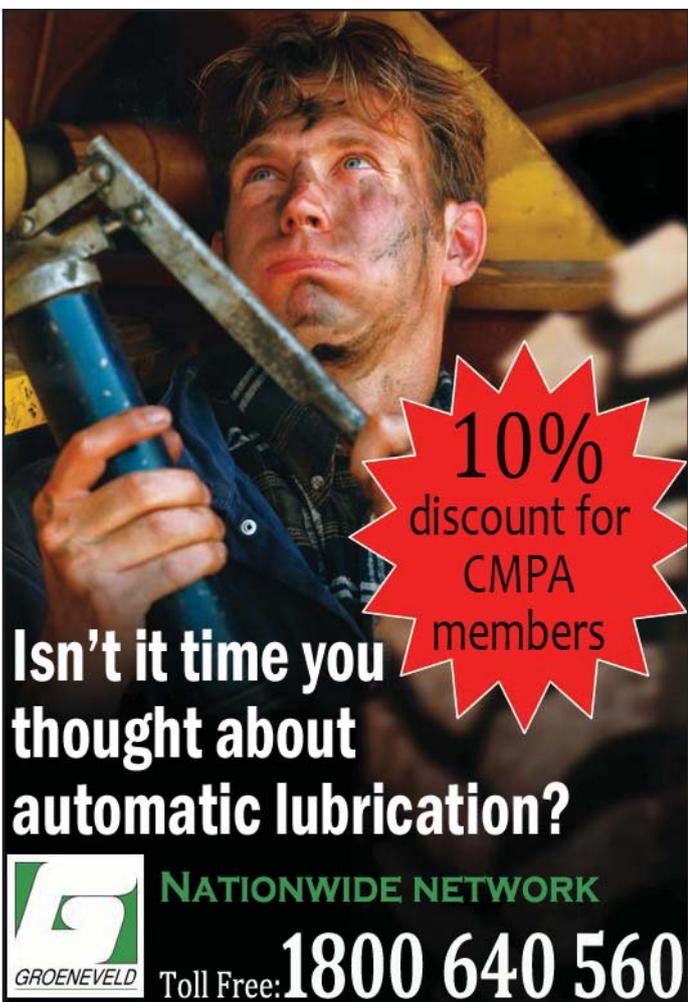
It had been planned to hold it the week before but it will now be the above date due to venue availability. The agenda is currently being finalized and is expected to include talks on field days and trials on properties involving application of lime in areas of high rainfall as well as moderate rainfall districts.

An experienced agricultural advisor is keen to speak of his own farm experiences working with farmers in regard to application of different varieties of lime. A number of other regulatory issues and topical issues will be covered. Negotiations are in hand with an additional sponsor who is a supplier to the industry.

NATIONAL MATTERS

The National Aglime Association's AGM and conference was held at the Cairns Holiday Inn in mid September 2012. Issues covered included seasonal climate outlook, carbon tax impact, proposals for national harmonization of health and safety as well as agricultural and veterinary chemicals, industry promotional matters and market conditions across regions. A highlight was a site visit sponsored by Miriwinni Lime Pty Ltd to its Mt Garnet Limestone quarry and processing facility west of Cairns. ■

Further information is available from Peter McCluskey by phoning 0408 496 588.

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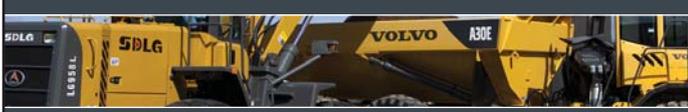
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DPI Update

JOHN MITAS, General Manager Minerals & Extractive Operations, reports on the next round of Targeted Audits - Review of Boundaries, Extraction & Mining Limits and Buffers.

AS part of the proactive auditing program, the DPI carries out compliance audits of a number of sites across Victoria to ensure compliance with the work plan and licence or work authority conditions.

In addition to the compliance audits, DPI conducts two targeted audit programs on significant issues across a total of at least 100 sites across Victoria. These audits will be carried out on a cross section of big and small mines and quarries. DPI's next targeted audit programme will be focussing on boundaries, extraction & mining limits and buffers at quarries and mine sites across the State.

The objective is to determine if tenement holders are in compliance with legislative requirements and site Work Plan and if not to take appropriate action to achieve compliance.

An audit tool has been developed for the project and from late August to mid-December 2012 Inspectors from the Earth Resources Regulation Group will be conducting unannounced visits to quarries and mine to ensure site boundaries, extraction and mining limits and buffers are in place, clearly identified and appropriately managed. Copies of the audit tool and a report on the outcomes of the audit will be left with site operators.



Review of Boundaries

Implementing regular internal reviews to ensure compliance with the work plan and legislative requirements will minimise the impacts of your operation on the community and the environment. Enforcement actions will be undertaken in line with the DPI Enforcement and Compliance Policy where non compliances have been identified. ■








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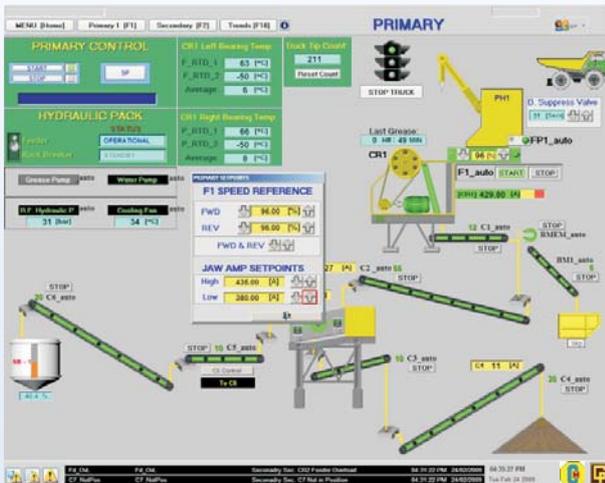
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Tecweigh – Precision In Mobile Measurement

JAY MADGETT, Director of Tecweigh reports on the integration of belt scales into mobile crushers.

NO longer is it complex and expensive to integrate belt scales into mobile crushers. Tecweigh's dexterity in manufacturing customised and innovative equipment has more recently developed belt weighing scales to complement the rough environments imposed by mobile crushers.

Tecweigh offer a suite of belt scales ensuring the right fit for each mobile crusher; not improvised bulky modifications. Tecweigh belt scales are specialist and will suit the most popular crushers, including Extec, Striker, Komatsu and Hitachi.

Tecweigh designs are compact, yet robust. Mobile crushers offer only marginal clearance between the output section and the return conveyor compared to a fixed plant conveyor. There is a limited and confined space in which to install a solidly constructed belt scale, and options for mounting the scale vary with each mobile crusher design. The Tecweigh mobile scale range is designed and built for the mobile crusher where it will labour intensively and efficiently for a decade long tenure.

Tecweigh continues to cultivate a collection of proven designs, working with manufacturers, contract hirers and crusher owners to add new models to their range. Belt scales on mobiles are required to be fitted within only a few metres of the crusher, unavoidably enduring extreme vibrations; the deficiency of all weighing systems. The belt scale is typically mounted on a very short conveyor at a steep angle – Tecweigh ensure the ultimate mechanical design, construction and paramount process to overcome these factors, resulting in precision – accurate and reliable weighing.

Quarries and mine sites, concrete and stone crushing, recycling, and the like, all rely on the precision of Tecweigh weightometer equipment. Customers include the Barro Group, Fulton Hogan, Mawsons (Lake Cooper) and Sandvik just to name a few.

CALIBRATION

An accurate belt scale is an instrument which is the exact-opposite to the unyielding environment where it is installed; a highly intelligent and sensitive device.



Tecweigh WP20 Totalling Weight Processor

Belt scales operate by combining physical pressure with belt movement. The scale has to be able to withstand but ignore dust, falling rocks, belt movement and the vibration that is always present in crushing situations. To eliminate inaccurate measure and enhance long term reliability, Tecweigh mobile belt scales feature the same tough, fully welded construction appreciated in their fixed plant scales. The scales are manufactured using the latest technology which provides the finest possible tolerances resulting in unprecedented accuracy.

The Tecweigh mobile belt scale is also supplied with calibration weights which can be loaded onto the weigh frame to check accuracy at anytime. Continuous accuracy is the signature of a Tecweigh belt scale. If recalibration is required, this is uncomplicated, by pressing only 2 buttons.

The Tecweigh WP20 electronic processor, widely regarded as the most simple to operate and easy to use and understand, is fitted with shockproof mounting as standard for mobile applications.

Additional cable protection and rugged electronics combine to ensure that reliable rate measurement is guaranteed over the long term, even in the most demanding physical environment.

Tecweigh and its agents and distributors throughout Australia and New Zealand specialise in installing conveyor belt scales in both fixed and mobile plants.

PROCESSORS

Tecweigh's family of weight processors utilises state-of-the-art digital technology offering many time and labour saving features.

The Tecweigh WP20 Totalling Weight Processor with an abrasion, chemical and humidity resistant faceplate and user friendly controls includes features such as full-time diagnostic, adjustable dampening and automatic calibration. Long time Tecweigh customers can easily update existing scales and weigh belt feeders with a simple to install processor upgrade kit.

All Tecweigh processors can be located up to 4000 feet away from your Tecweigh conveyor belt scale or weigh belt feeder. ■



For more information contact:
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sales@tecweigh.com.au

C.J. Ham & Murray – Robin Hocking

CMPA Honorary Voting Member, ROBIN HOCKING recalls an earlier life and his progress into the valuation profession and his subsequent interest in quarrying.

ROBIN Hocking was born in Castlemaine in 1936 and spent the last three years of schooling at Wesley College in Melbourne. He commenced work at the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney in Castlemaine in 1953 where he spent several years on the relieving staff and worked at 36 branches throughout Victoria.

Robin joined Graham Fowles Auctions in 1966 and learnt the art of auctioneering. Those very hard nosed professional dealers who regularly attended the auctions provided a most valuable insight into human nature. One memorable auction at Graham Fowles was the General Average sale of the whole of the steel cargo of special rollings from BHP when the MV Beltana hit Corsair rock and nearly sank in the mouth of the Yarra. Joined Stockdale and Leggo Real Estate in 1964 and continued in that industry with several firms until joining C.J. Ham and Murray Pty. Ltd. in 1983. Robin had completed his valuation studies in 1971 through RMIT.

C.J. and T Ham (now Ham and Murray Pty. Ltd.) commenced in 1853 – only 48 years after the Battle of Trafalgar. Records indicate the brothers, Cornelius John and Thomas Ham, came from England and took up a pastoral lease at Lalbert in 1851. I can well imagine that 18 months at Lalbert would have been a shock to the system, and in 1853 the brothers

moved to Melbourne and commenced the real estate firm of C.J. and T.Ham. C.J. and T.Ham had an absolutely outstanding real estate business. Properties for sale were listed in bound hard cover volumes with land for sale in Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania and New Zealand. All sales were recorded in superb copper plate hand writing in bound leather volumes and notable properties included a dwelling occupied by Mother Mary McKillop in Brighton, a subdivision of Como, and an auction of the large portfolio of the Estate of Watson which included the Leviathan Building in the city, and Labassa at Caulfield.

The company represented many absentee landlords, and slowly, and as the first one hundred years went past, the majority of the properties under management were sold to investors and owner/occupiers. A changing environment is inevitable but what a wonderful period it would have been for real estate in the 1800s and early 1900s, including the era of the land boomers.

I became a partner with Ian Murray, a highly respected valuer. Ian's experience as a navigator in the Australian Air force provided him with many skills including the ability to produce hand drawn pen and ink maps and title plans showing very accurate bearings and measurements. Ian had for many years carried out all the valuation

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William Adams



work in Victoria for Boral, with a full review of all Boral's properties every three years as required by Sir Eric Neal. This was a very valuable introduction for myself into the extractive industry, and the strengths and weaknesses of many quarry operations.

Ian Murray died in 1985 when we were about to commence a Boral revaluation. I was on a huge learning curve and spent many long days and nights completing some 140 property reports at a time of typewriters and shorthand, and prior to computers and dictation machines. All valuation calculations were completed manually with the assistance of an early Hewlett Packard calculator.

I remember my first quarry inspection was at Boral-Lysterfield – the day after several hundred accident free days were lost because of a back injury. In those days there was an employee bonus scheme in place for an unbroken injury free timetable, and that particular employee was not a popular gentleman. It is interesting to look back on an earlier method of addressing an Occupational Health and Safety program, and hopefully the industry has progressed. The Boral Lysterfield Quarry is the only quarry controlled under Victorian Legislation. That Legislation requires the land to be reclaimed under a set royalty and reclamation fund, and in accordance with pre-determined plans, with the intention of creating a public reserve with several water bodies.

I also inspected the nearby Pioneer Quarry which had recently been opened. I had an interesting geological lesson into the formation of granite and hornfels. Somewhere in my files I have a photograph showing a very clear, almost vertical, line of demarcation between the granite and hornfels.



Robin, Judith and Michael Hocking

The valuations for the major companies throughout Australia represented a rare opportunity for any valuer. The work provided me with access to all financial and geological reporting and I had the pleasure of meeting Jim Rowlands, State Manager for Pioneer. Jim had probably forgotten more about quarrying than most operators learn in a lifetime. It was during this period that Pioneer purchased the substantial Bacchus Marsh sand resource from Oupan Resources.

My introduction to quarrying had started with a rush and I was on that very steep learning curve for the first few years. Some people say it was not steep enough, but hopefully I still learn something during every site inspection.

– Continued on page 36



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- Continued from page 35

It has been interesting to see the industry go through a period of relative stability for probably 15 years leading up to 2000, albeit at a time when ex-bin prices remained virtually unchanged, but with slowly increasing costs – particularly costs relating to Legislation and compliance issues. It is well documented that an application for a Planning Permit and an Extractive Work Authority will almost certainly end in an appeal to VCAT and/or the Supreme Court, with a cost not less than \$450,000 and more likely in excess of \$850,000. There is no doubt the industry must meet these demands, and I suggest the only way forward is through Associations such as the CMPA who are able to offer the facilities to present clear and logical arguments to the legislators. I fully agree that logic does not appear to be a strong attribute of politicians and departmental officials, but in saying that the industry has to be capable of viewing problems from both sides. I still see too many quarries under capitalised and operating on a shoe string, with many years of neglect in relation to not only the environment and the community, but also in general visual presentation.

The valuation of a quarry is somewhat unique when compared with the valuation of other properties. There are often arguments and debates about resource volumes, return rates, amortisation, weighted average cost of capital, discount rates and net present value periods. I suggest that all of those matters need to be addressed separately and independently for each quarry. I find there has never been one quarry that can be classified as being identical to another quarry. There may be similarities, but that in my opinion is where it finishes.

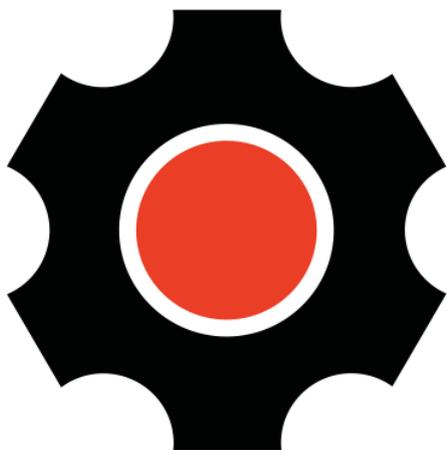
Again, there are often owners, generally relating to Greenfield sites, who get excited about volumes and decide that they have something like 50,000,000 tonnes of first class stone and that it is very valuable because when they go to the local garden supply depot they have to pay \$25.00 plus per m3. The owner will often then say that even if it's valued at \$1.00 per tonne it must be worth \$50,000,000.

It is often difficult to explain that the location of such a site may only have a demand for 30,000 tonnes per annum which would provide for a life of 1,666 years. Even at increased rates of 300,000 tonnes per annum the quarry would have a life of 166 years. The problems are obviously not the life of the stone, but the ability of an operator to make a profit, and the willingness of the operator to pay for 160 years of stock in advance.

As a point of interest, a quarry life of 25 years at a rate of 300,000 tonnes per annum will only require 7,500,000 tonnes of stone and in the above example there could be 42,500,000 tonnes which is unsaleable and without an economic value.

It is my experience that quarries are not easy to sell and on occasions not even recognised by some banks as good security. The industry operators are usually very cautious, and "blue sky" is not a part of the experienced operator's philosophy, or on the operator's radar.

Twelve years ago I was invited to join a group in setting up an association of quarry operators and interested parties. My experience with the CMPA has been rewarding and its progress has been fascinating. The time with the CMPA members has been most enjoyable and I look forward to a continuing association. ■



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Date: Monday 29th to Tuesday 30th October 2012
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 Cost: TBA
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 Reference Manual are available by contacting the CMPA Secretariat at a cost of \$65 Members / \$85 Non members.

Refer to the CMPA website www.cmpavic.asn.au at any stage for an up-to-date list of all upcoming training courses and events and their relevant booking details.



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Quarry Industry training at Bendigo TAFE

JILLIAN MANNIX, Teacher Primary Industries from Bendigo TAFE reports on collect routine site sampling training (MSL952001A).

THE Sample Collection course was initially delivered late in 2011. Following a review by various industry experts; this course is ready for delivery now at your worksite.

The training has been aligned to the relevant national competency standard and tasks performed at your Quarry work sites.

This unit of competency covers the ability to collect samples at Resource Industry sites such as a quarry, using specified equipment and routine procedures. It is applicable for new and existing employees, operators, field assistants and laboratory assistants in all industry sectors. It will be particularly useful for Weighbridge Operators, Laboratory Operators, Leading Hands and Quarry Managers.

The value of doing the training would be to reduce costs, confirm compliance and skills and to remove any doubt of testing results on your products.

Elements of the course include:

- Prepare for sampling
- Conduct sampling
- Finalise sampling
- Maintain a safe work environment

Skills and knowledge developed include:

- The importance of closely following sampling procedures
- Minimising environmental impact
- Maintaining the integrity and security of samples



Collect routine sampling training in the classroom

- Key terminology and concepts, such as sample, contamination, traceability, integrity and chain of custody
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