

AustStab News

Industry View

Budget Boost to Australian Roads

Over the last few months the Federal, state and territory governments have announced Budgets that greatly increase the expenditure on Australian roads.

The Federal government has allocated an extra \$3.4 billion to be invested in roads, bringing the budget for the next six years to \$28 billion. As well as the major projects announced there is also \$120 million for the elimination of dangerous black spots. Councils will receive \$940 million to upgrade and maintain over 670,000km of local roads.

The Victorian government budget provides \$990 million to improve state roads on top of the existing \$1.6 billion for major project work already committed.

Queensland will be spending \$3.53 billion on roadworks with the majority going to capital works.

NSW has allocated \$4.4 billion to maintain and upgrade the road network this year.

Western Australia will spend \$1.37 billion on roads with almost \$800 million going to country roads the remainder in metropolitan areas. The budget also allows \$123 million to be spent on local government roads.

In South Australia the combined State and Federal funding will total of over \$16 million.

Tasmania has allocated a record \$275million to road infrastructure.

This must be the largest investments in roads by Australian governments, ever together with sustainability securely on the agenda it gives the stabilising industry an opportunity to grow.

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New Staff for AustStab



Greg White has been appointed CEO. Greg has had over 25 years experience in pavement, civil and construction materials. Greg was civil designer in his early career but more recently has been working in the concrete and the asphalt and civil engineering contracting industry. He is keen to learn more of the stabilising industry by meeting members and discussing their concerns and assisting in their ideas to benefit the industry. His new role is to use the excellent ground work the Association has built with a strong technical base and a close working relationship with road authorities and local government.

In this issue	Page
Australian Dangerous Goods Code 7	2
Your Chance to Comment on Model OHS Legislation	2
Mt Penang Gardens	3
Royal National Park	4
Members information	4

Greg looks forward to broadening our member base and growing the industry as governments are putting more emphasis on sustainability.

The industry should encourage a wider use of road recycling to reduce the carbon footprint and minimise the use of our diminishing quarry raw materials.



Winnie Lai is the new Administration Manager and is working on a part-time basis in our new Burwood office.

Winnie has worked in accounting and administration for the last 14 years and has already put her stamp on the organisation.

Australian Dangerous Goods Code 7

The new dangerous goods code ADG7 has been introduced. However until 31 December 2009 companies can comply with either ADG6 or ADG7.

Under ADG6 there were two exceptions granted to bitumen due to its significant differences to other dangerous goods. These exemptions which expire at the end of the year are

- Bitumen tankers produced prior to 1998 with a thinner wall structure than required by ADG6 were allowed to continue working subject to certain conditions.
- Bitumen tankers were allowed to park/stand in certain built up areas in normal working hours for the purpose of road construction operations.

ADG7 also extends the ban of transferring dangerous goods between vehicles in built up areas to bitumen previously exempt. Also it does

not permit the transfer of bitumen between moving vehicles.

AAPA has investigated the above concerns and offer the following information

On the wall thickness issue the authority is unlikely to extend a blanket exemption however it is possible individual tankers could be exempted.

Due to the need to sometimes park vehicles especially overnight in built up areas AAPA will apply for an exemption.

AAPA members are not affected by the bitumen transfer provisions of ADG7, therefore will not be seeking an exemption.

As a result of this AustStab will be working with AAPA in regard to wall thickness and parking but will have to put its own case with regard to the transfer of bitumen issues.

It would be appreciated if any members had constructive ideas they forward these to Greg White.

Your Chance to Comment on Model OHS Legislation

Safe Work Australia is developing model occupational health and safety (OHS) legislation and your support is needed to ensure the model OHS legislation is relevant and applicable to all Australian workplaces.

Currently all states and territories are responsible for making and enforcing their own occupational health and safety (OHS) laws. Although the different jurisdictions' laws draw on a similar approach for regulating workplaces, there are some differences in the application and detail.

It is the inconsistency of the laws that make regulating OHS standards across Australia difficult.

This issue is now being addressed through an intergovernmental agreement where, for the first time, governments from each state and territory and the Commonwealth have formally committed to the harmonisation of OHS legislation. This will ensure that businesses can

comply with one set of laws regardless of which state or territory they are operating in.

An exposure draft of the model legislation will open for public comment in late September for a period of six weeks. This is an opportunity to actively participate and to voice your opinion on the development of new model OHS legislation. Harmonising OHS laws will benefit employers and employees across all industries by protecting the lives and health of Australians. Effectively managing workplace safety issues not only ensures a safer workplace for all Australians, but has a very significant effect on performance and productivity.

While we are all taking steps in the right direction, more needs to be done. Over 135 000 Australians are seriously injured at work every year and more than 260 die as a result of work-related injuries.

The total economic cost of work-related injuries and illnesses to the Australian economy for the 2005-2006 financial year is estimated at \$57.5 billion. This regulatory reform will reduce the costs borne by business in complying with unnecessary OHS regulations.

In committing to the harmonisation process, the Commonwealth and state and territory governments recognise that each jurisdiction will face some changes in their current OHS arrangements. This will not be at the expense of the safety of Australian workers.

For more information on the public comment process or to submit your comments, visit www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

Mt Penang Gardens

Mt Penang Gardens near Kariong NSW is the new site of the Australian Springtime Flora Festival to be held in September 2009. The new site was previously used for grazing stock with a soil profile made up of top soil on very wet sandy soils with some ironstone gravel deposits throughout. Underlying springs throughout the site making wheeled vehicular access virtually

impossible after a couple of passes in most areas.

Pavement Design:

Due to the low P.I a cement slag blend was chosen to be applied at a rate of 5% by weight, mixing to a depth of 450mm. Following testing by it was expected this would lift the insitu CBR values from below 3 to greater than 50. The pavement design called for the cement stabilised subgrade to be overlaid with 200m of 2% lime stabilised fine crushed rock, this was to be left unsealed.

Stabilising was chosen as it removed the need for excavation and disposal of upto 1 metre of existing materials.

Construction:

Following stripping and stockpiling of the top soil by tracked excavators the cement blend was initially spread at 22.5 kg/m² then spread and mixed again to 450mm deep. Due to the wet conditions encountered on site the addition of water for compaction was not required.

Frequently throughout the work on site the spreader and mix became bogged and required the assistance of a 25 tonne excavator using heavy chains to drag the equipment through. In some areas an additional initial application of cement was required to make the area passable. This was spread and mixed by the excavator and left to "stiffen" over night before being spread and mixed the following day. Once the stabilisation, compaction and trimming were completed traffic was kept off the area for seven days for the purpose of curing, overlay of base material was then carried out.

Conclusion:

The work was completed on a part service basis for Bolte Civil Pty Ltd, a local Central Coast based contractor. The project was on time, completes in early July ready for the festival. By using Insitu Stabilisation the Festival

Development Corporation saved an estimated 7000 m³ of excavation and disposal, with the only material requiring excavation being the top soil which was spread around the site. The only material imported to site was 435 tonne of cement/slay blend and approximately 1600 m³ of fine crushed rock used as the base/wearing course.



Royal National Park

The RTA have been upgrading the main road through the Royal National Park

The design team took a novel approach for the Sydney Metropolitan area. For approximately 5km of road it was decided to stabilise using both a polymer coated flyash/lime binder and DGB20.

The process involved laying 50mm DGB20, pre pulverising and crossblending with 200mm of existing pavement.

The binder was mixed using the Dustless process to minimise fallout in the National Park. The pavement was then covered with a 7mm primer seal.

The RTA allowed full road closure for a restricted six hour window giving good access to achieve the required ride specification. The RTA are impressed with the final result with no cracking, a good ride and strong pavement.

AustStab Member Details

The following companies are contracting or binder and equipment supplier members of AustStab. Contact details for these organisations by region, can be obtained by contacting Auststab or visiting their website.

Contractors

Andrew Walter Constructions

Tel 03 6249 8799
www.awconstructions.com.au

Downer EDI Works

Tel 02 9897 4333
Tel 03 8645 0800
Tel 08 9475 6041
Tel 08 8341-2465
www.downerediworks.com.au

Stabil-Lime Distributors

Tel 03 8739 3800
www.stabil-lime.com.au

Stabilised Pavements of Australia

Tel 02 4340 0111
Tel 03 9775 2202
Tel 07 3807 7600
Tel 07 4729 1311
www.stabilisedpavements.com

Binder Suppliers

Adelaide Brighton Cement
Blue Circle Southern Cement
Cement Australia
Hyrock
Independent Cement & Lime
Polymix Industries
Shell Bitumen
Sunstate Cement
Unimin Australia

Equipment Supplier

Caterpillar of Australia
Clark Equipment
Conplant
Dynapac Australia
Wirtgen Australia

State Road Authority members

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (TAS)
Department of Infrastructure Planning and Environment (NT)
Department of Main Roads (QLD)
Roads & Traffic Authority (NSW)
VicRoads

Geotechnical laboratories

Network Geotechnics (NSW)
Testrite (NSW)

AustStab

Those wishing to obtain further information about membership to AustStab 5/38 Railway Parade, Burwood NSW 2134
Phone (02) 9715 3846
Fax (02) 9715 3847
Mobile 0411 445 058
Email: inquiry@auststab.com.au