

# AustStab News

## Industry View

For the last 12 months AustStab has been working with senior managers at a number of road authorities to introduce a cost effective accreditation system to rein in those contractors who are bringing discredit to what should be seen as a sound and environmental friendly rehabilitation and maintenance process for large road networks. We remain optimistic that a viable accreditation program, similar to schemes for spray sealing contractors and testing laboratories, will soon be introduced into Australia. My message is clear; the accreditation system will benefit all clients and the sustainability of the industry as a whole and should therefore be embraced by all.

I am encouraged by the recent successful rehabilitation work on two deeplift stabilisation sites that were constructed around 1994 using the deeplift insitu stabilisation process. These sites just south of Cooma and north of Quaama in southern NSW, have heavy rural traffic and are classified as highways. More details are in this newsletter and it is worth pointing out that similar to the continuous recycling programs I have seen underway at local roads, it's great to see the RTA take on the challenge with these roads, which have come to the end of their trafficked life.

AustStab recently developed a new logo to assist with its education message that insitu deeplift stabilisation is a sustainable approach to both new and old pavements. Many organisations are reinventing new exotic treatments for recycling roads and pavement materials, and yet this process has been working for more than 50 years in Australia.



[www.auststab.com.au](http://www.auststab.com.au)

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In addition, our members are continuously working with road authorities to improve the design and construction process and to collect performance data. Please give stabilisation a chance in your area if you have not had the experience of this form of road construction.

Our AGM is approaching and I welcome all members to attend the AGM. If you are interested in extending your industry network over a game of golf before the AGM please make contact (details are on page 2).

*Warren Smith*  
President

## AustStab's view on sustainable development

The case for sustainable development rests upon engineers and policy makers at all levels of government. There is a real need to utilise alternative ways of constructing and maintaining roads, and minimising the environmental impact in terms of energy usage, CO<sub>2</sub> and other gas emissions, waste production, the build up of toxic substances and natural resource degradation.

If we do nothing, these factors have the potential to threaten the viability of the Australian economy by lowering national productivity and compromising national competitiveness and the prospects of future generations in the years to come.

Insitu stabilisation is a quick construction process where up to 800 m of a road can be stabilised and recycled in less than one day, minimising disruption to both residents and road users. An asphalt or sprayed sealed surface is then used to finish the road & return it to pristine condition. Up to 100% of the existing road material may be recycled, which drastically cuts usage of our valuable natural resources.

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## AustStab AGM

AustStab will hold its 2007 AGM on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at Marina Quays International, John Lund Drive, Hope Harbour, Hope Island, SE Queensland. If you are a member and you wish to attend, please [download](#) the registration form from our website and facsimile your completed registration form to George Vorobieff by 11<sup>th</sup> October.

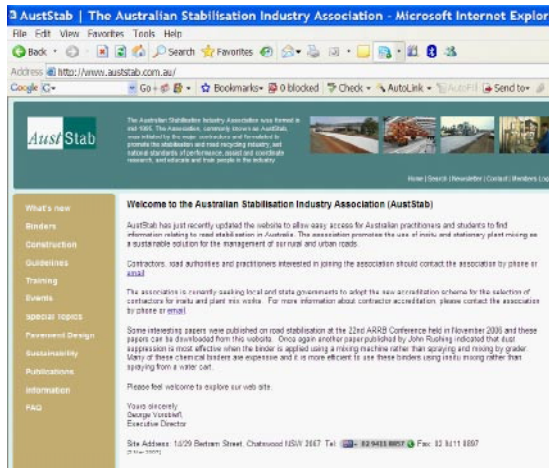
If you are interested in golf, a great afternoon has been arranged at Surfers Paradise Golf Club on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October. All members and their guests are welcome. Prizes will be awarded to the best and most inventive players, and of course holes in one. Please register your interest with Vicki Hocking (email: [vhocking@stabilis.com.au](mailto:vhocking@stabilis.com.au))

## AustStab Website upgrade

The website upgrade is now well underway and we look forward to your feedback. The website address has not changed and much of the same information is still there but is now in a more concise and user friendly format.

The previous website was constructed in 1997 and although serving the association well for many years, it was time to consolidate the existing information. The following headings are now used to navigate the website:

*What's new?  
Binders  
Construction  
Guidelines  
Training  
Events  
Special topics  
Pavement  
analysis  
Sustainability  
Publications  
Information  
FAQ  
Frequently asked  
questions (FAQ)*



The next stage is to develop the members' area including the online library catalogue.

## Dynapac Australia

Dynapac is famous in the Australia market for 35 years for achieving best compaction with outstanding operator comfort. Dynapac soil compactors in Australia have resulted in success for asphalt & multityred rollers, pavers, profilers, trench compactors, vibrating plates and rammers. The equipment is available anywhere in Australia.

At the recent Bauma Show, Dynapac displayed its new reclaimer for the stabilisation industry. A compact all-wheel drive, the 350kW engine allows mixing up to 350 mm.



A new reclaimer from Dynapac on show at Buama.

For more information, please contact [Jorge Boil](mailto:Jorge.Boil@dynapac.com) on 0428 279 299 or visit the website at [www.dynapac.com](http://www.dynapac.com)

## Highway Stabilisers is part of SPA

Stabilised Pavements of Australia (SPA) recently announced that Highway Stabilisers, based in Victoria, have joined the Stabilised Pavements Group. This will provide a seamless company working down the eastern seaboard.

Steve Hey will continue on as Engineering Manager for the Victorian operations. Steve has an extensive background in foamed bitumen stabilisation and has worked in the UK and South Africa prior to his experience with Highway Stabilisers.

## Workshops for 2007 and 2008

AustStab has just completed running a series of workshops in Victoria and one final workshop is scheduled for Victoria to be held at Box Hill (east of Melbourne) on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2007. If you are interested in this full day workshop, go to the AustStab website and click on 'Events'.

Planning has commenced for a series of regional workshops for NSW in February and March 2008. For an up to date list of all workshops and meeting dates and venues, just go to [www.auststab.com.au](http://www.auststab.com.au) and click on 'Events'.

## ASA Conference on Sustainability

In May this year, the Australasian (iron and steel) Slag Association (ASA) ran the Sustainability & Slag Conference 2007 - Sustainability, Construction Materials and your Bottom Line. Over 100 people attended the one day conference and the presentations are available on the ASA website at <http://www.asa-inc.org.au/conference/index.htm>.

Warren Smith presented a paper at the conference highlighting the association's long term view that road stabilisation has in fact been a successful solution to a sustainable road construction and maintenance process for many decades in Australia. Smith noted "It is surprising some people expect exotic sustainable solutions and yet they do not have to reinvent the wheel to show that the insitu stabilisation technique is cost effective, fast and simple."

## IPWEA Victoria

For many years the IPWEA has had a low key presence in Victoria, but this year it regained its prominence with a restructure and commitment to service public works engineers in Victoria. It now boasts over 300 members and provides similar services to other branches of the IPWEA.

IPWEA (Vic) is now putting in place its own arrangements to:

- provide technical leadership for the wider local government & public works sector
- support a regional structure for IPWEA and its members
- foster interaction between LG engineering and broader public works agencies, eg water authorities and VicRoads engineers
- create essential networking with peers across LG and the wider public works sector
- provide valuable professional development opportunities
- provide access to national and international networks
- provide a single point of contact and recognition for public works engineering contribution to industry working groups
- strengthen relationships with IPWEA National and other IPWEA State Divisions
- keep you up-to-date with industry issues, and
- provide administrative and executive support to achieve its objectives.

If you are interested in joining the IPWEA (Vic), send an email to [vic@ipwea.org.au](mailto:vic@ipwea.org.au) or go to the website at [www.ipwea.org.au](http://www.ipwea.org.au) and click at VIC.

## Recycling rural highways again in NSW and SA

Early this year in South Australia, DETI started work on a section of insitu deeplift stabilisation on the Sturt Highway at Accommodation Hill (north of Adelaide). This rural two lane pavement was stabilised in the early 1990s using a cementitious binder to a depth of 375 mm with a spray sealed wearing course. Some of this road is situated on a steep longitudinal grade with heavy B-double truck traffic. A 2 km section of the road had areas of block cracking in the outer wheel path and patching of these cracked areas were not a cost effective solution. DETI chose to stabilise the existing

cemented material with foamed bitumen and lime. The stabilisation work was carried out by Highway Stabilisers and whilst it is early days, the pavement is performing well.



*Foamed bitumen stabilisation used for rehabilitation of the Sturt Highway at Accommodation Hill (SA).*

Last year, the RTA identified two deeplift stabilised sites requiring rehabilitation and foamed bitumen and Polyroad were selected as possible binder solutions. Both sites were two lane rural highways with a spray seal wearing course and with moderate annual rainfalls. For the Princes Highway project, the RTA requested plant mix and insitu foamed bitumen treatment options, and the tender prices clearly indicated that the insitu process was faster and cheaper.



*Stabilisation with Polyroad for rehabilitation of the Monaro Highway at Rock Flat Creek, just south of Cooma (NSW).*

All sites undergoing insitu stabilisation of existing cemented material have indicated that this material is too hard to be efficiently stabilised without prior profiling the existing cemented material to the preferred depth. As these sites are about 13 years old, the slow setting binder has gradually increased in strength with cores showing compressive strength of 5 to 10 MPa in the upper half of the pavement even after a three day soak prior to testing. Vorobieff from AustStab noted that "Only 5% of a slag/lime binder was used in the rehabilitation process and the results indicate that profiling the material may not greatly reduce the particle size distribution, but it must be investigated for each site." Both RTA and AustStab will be monitoring the progress of these two sites to

ensure the lessons learned can be transferred to future insitu stabilisation sites.



*Foamed bitumen stabilisation used for rehabilitation of the Princes Highway at Quaama (NSW).*

## New AustStab Construction Tip

Auststab recently published a new construction tip titled *Achieving density in stabilised materials using static compaction*. This new tip provides guidance on how AustStab accredited members are achieving compaction requirements by using specific rollers with no vibration. For more information refer to [www.auststab.com.au/pdf/ACTips9.pdf](http://www.auststab.com.au/pdf/ACTips9.pdf)

## Green Pages Australia

This is a new website launched last year which already boasts over a hundred products and 20 major categories on its website. A new page was recently launched titled *Construction - Road Recycling* and obviously AustStab appears in this category. To visit their website for more information, refer to [www.greenpagesaustralia.com.au](http://www.greenpagesaustralia.com.au)

## Who is SkillsDMC?

SkillsDMC is the new name for RIISC. The Resource Infrastructure Industry Skills Council (RIISC) survived the federal cost cutting exercise of 2006 and continued working on refining the delivery of the training units for practitioners in the mining and civil engineering industry sectors.

Des Caulfield, Chief Executive Officer of SkillsDMC, believes that the new name should not detract him and his staff from dedicating support to this industry sector.

If you would like more information, visit the new website at [www.skillsdmc.com.au](http://www.skillsdmc.com.au), or phone (02) 9299 3014

## 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 Auststabs or visiting their website.

### Contractors

#### Andrew Walter Constructions

Tel 03 6249 8799  
[www.awconstructions.com.au](http://www.awconstructions.com.au)

#### Downer EDI Works

Tel 02 9897 4333  
Tel 03 5940 1688  
Tel 08 9475 6041  
[www.works.com.au](http://www.works.com.au)

#### Highway Stabilisers

Tel 03 9775 2202

#### Stabil-Lime Distributors

Tel 03 8739 3888  
[www.stabil-lime.com.au](http://www.stabil-lime.com.au)

## Stabilised Pavements of Australia

Tel 02 4340 0111  
Tel 07 3807 7600  
Tel 07 4729 1311  
[www.stabilisedpavements.com](http://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

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)  
Dept. for Transport, Energy & Infrastructure (SA)  
VicRoads

## Geotechnical laboratories

Network Geotechnics INSW  
Testrite (NSW)  
Western Geotechnics (WA)

Those wishing to obtain further information about membership to AustStab, should contact:  
George Vorobieff,  
14/29 Bertram Street, Chatswood NSW 2067  
Phone (02) 9411 8857  
Fax (02) 9411 8897  
Email: [inquiry@auststab.com.au](mailto:inquiry@auststab.com.au)