



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2013

NATIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNER



NT
DIVISION
NEWS

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In the October edition of the NT Division E-Newsletter:

- NT Chair
- Policy Update
- Events - FutureNet to launch in Darwin
- Member benefit spotlight
- Industry News

NT Chair

FROM THE OUTGOING NT DIVISION CHAIR

As you may already know, I have stepped down as Chair of the NT Division of Consult Australia. I will be taking up the role of President, Northern Division, Engineers Australia for 2014/15, and being at the helm of both of these very distinguished organisations with the time I have available would have done injustice to them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for supporting me during my tenure as Chair, as well as Jan Irvine who has been a great support.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as Chair and recommend all members seriously think about becoming involved at a committee level and give themselves the opportunity to take up the Chair position - it is a very important, rewarding, responsible role and places you at a level where you are able to discuss issues concerning the Built and Natural Environment with government and key industry stakeholders in an objective, positive manner.

I hope you have been satisfied with the way the NT Division has been working with industry champions and government authorities during my tenure and trust it will continue well into the future.

Having said that, I wish to congratulate Bill Kmon (GHD) as the new Chair of Consult Australia NT and wish him all the best. He will have my full support and I will still be involved in the committee. Once again thank you all for giving me the opportunity to fill the role of Chair, Consult Australia NT for the past few years.

Jaswant Deo

NT Division Immediate Past Chair

Policy Update

SKILLS

Engineering registration: To inform Consult Australia's position on how a national registration scheme for engineers should be introduced, we have been investigating liability issues and the impact on off-shoring that may be associated with such a scheme. The next step is to raise it with the large firms CEOs at their meeting on 23 October.

CONTRACTS AND LIABILITY

The NT Division has written to the Northern Territory Department of Business, Executive Director Business Support and Services regarding **CONTRACTS AND CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT – LIMITED LIABILITY & RISK MANAGEMENT** in response to our member firms' increasing challenges around contracts and conditions of engagement





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in doing business with the Northern Territory Government. Following a meeting between our members and The Minister for Infrastructure, Mr Peter Styles, and with the whole-of-government procurement review currently underway in the Northern Territory, the NT Division also offered the assistance of Consult Australia and our local member firms to work with government to achieve an outcome benefiting government, consultants and the broader business community. Consult Australia's major concern is unlimited liability and indemnity clauses in NT Government tenders, and the impact this has on consulting firms' ability to manage risk – or indeed even obtain adequate PI Insurance.

While we are unable to put a specific cost on limiting liability, there is strong evidence that limiting liability works to the benefit of both our industry and their clients. It is already standard practice amongst private sector clients, and is now starting to be adopted by a range of public sector clients in other jurisdictions.

Further, Consult Australia promotes the use of Australian Standard contract AS4122-2010, which was developed following extensive consultation with client and industry stakeholders, including government representation through the Australian Procurement and Construction Council. This contract was designed to deliver fair and proportionate allocation of risk in line with current industry best practice while also meeting government requirements.

The response from the Department of Business stated they are very aware of this issue and of the views of Consult Australia and our members and the procurement policy review project team will be in touch to inform us of the status of the review and discuss the issue. The NT Division hopes to update members on this in the near future.

Events...upcoming

Consult Australia NT Division is bringing the FutureNet initiative to the Top End, with Darwin being the next location.

Launch Networking Event – 24 October 2013

ARCHITECTS...PLANNERS...QUANTITY SURVEYORS...

ENGINEERS...LAWYERS...ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS...

PROJECT MANAGERS...INTERIOR DESIGNERS...

ACCOUNTANTS...DEVELOPERS...CONSTRUCTION

PROFESSIONALS...GRADUATES....

THIS FREE BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT IS FOR YOU!!

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED - BOOK NOW

FutureNet is an initiative established by Consult Australia to create a network of young professionals who are dedicated to excelling and sharing their knowledge in the built and natural environment. It aims to assist in the development of business skills and relationships to equip emerging professionals with the skills to succeed in today's competitive market.

We are excited to reveal FutureNet has headed north and proudly announce the launch of our newest division – **FutureNet Darwin**.

To kick things off, we invite you to join us at our inaugural networking launch event. **Networking** is widely acknowledged to be one of the most **Powerful Keys to Business Success**, so the focus of this event will be connecting Darwin's brightest young minds in the built and natural environment.





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In the midst of enjoying a fabulous opportunity to speak with some like minded young professionals, you will hear from Guest speaker **Bryan Davies**, winner of the **2013 NT Young Achiever Awards Power and Water Science and Engineering Award**. Bryan will share his experiences with the Christchurch Recovery, in particular the events of the worst earthquake on Christmas Eve, and his leadership role throughout the recovery process.

****DRINKS & CANAPES INCLUDED**

For further details and to register [CLICK HERE](#)

Emerging professionals directly benefit from:

- networking amongst professionals associated with the built environment employed in the Northern Territory - Architects, Interior Designers, Planners, Engineers, Cost Consultants (Quantity Surveyors), Projects Managers, Construction Professionals, Lawyers, Developers, Accountants, Finance Officers and Government Employees involved with the Built Environment.
- developing opportunities for your business to attract new customers, or further develop existing relationships with enthusiastic young professionals.

We are in the planning stages and we are calling on you for assistance. What do we want?

- ✓To increase our database of **contacts** in Darwin
- ✓To create a passionate small **committee** of young professionals, who are keen to create stronger networks with their peer and are interested in assisting with planning and running events
- ✓To attract an initial core group of **sponsors** to partner with us on this new initiative

Please assist us by passing this email on to anyone you know in the Darwin who may be interested in attending events, joining a committee or sponsoring. Anyone with interest in being involved at any level (attendance, committee, sponsor) should simply email jan@consultaaustralia.com.au indicating areas of interest.

Consult Australia Member Benefit spotlight

New DIAC IOO: The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) has re-called Belinda Saunders into a different role and has replaced her with a new Industry Outreach Officer (IOO). Members may now send immigration queries to Satinder Pasricha, who has been an IOO for about 18 months already so knows the role well. He will be working from the Consult Australia office three days a week and is available Monday-Friday via email to satinder.jit.singh.pasricha@immi.gov.au or on 0413 234 126.

Consult Australia represents an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 firms. Collectively, our industry is estimated to employ over 240,000 people, and generate combined revenue exceeding \$40 billion a year.

Are you a member yet? Contact Jan Irvine, State Manager SA/NT for further information on membership services and benefits at

E: jan@consultaaustralia.com.au





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Industry News

The **Australian Institute of Refrigeration, Airconditioning and Heating (AIRAH)** is running a half day course in Darwin on October 31. The course will provide an overview of NCC Volume One BCA (Class 2 to 9 buildings) as it relates to mechanical services. For further information and to register click on the link below.

[Building Code of Australia - BCA Essentials – Half-day - Regulations, Energy, Safety, Alternative Solutions](#)

The [NT Division Sponsor Package 2013/2014](#) has been released. **Sponsoring the NT Division ensures** we can continue with our **successful events program**, and **speak loudly** on behalf of our members across **varied, critical advocacy issues**. If you would like further information or would like to discuss opportunities to work with the NT Division please contact jan@consultaaustralia.com.au or PH (08) 8216 1177

NT Division Gold Sponsor 2013/14

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