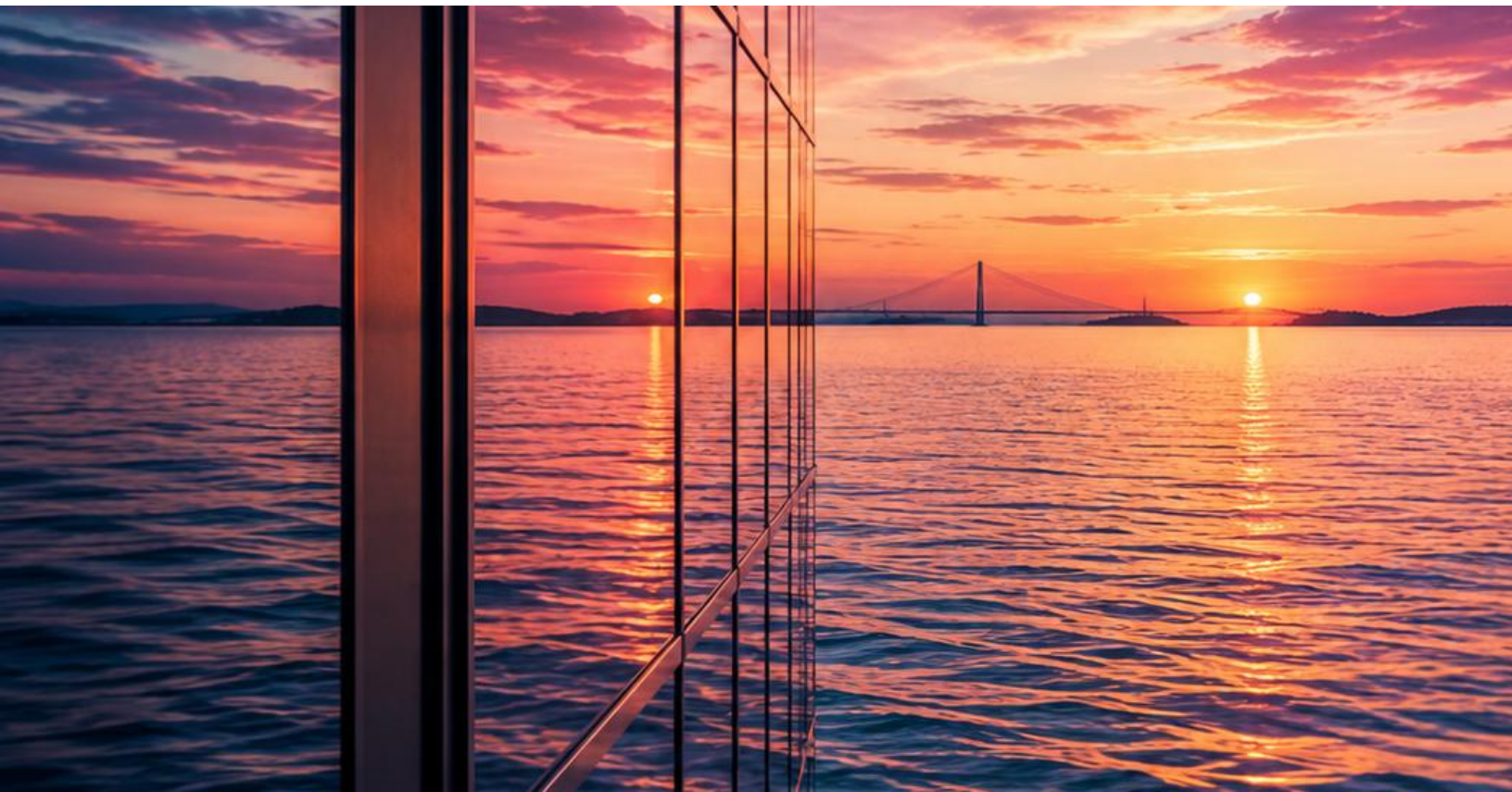




Across the Tasman: **Stronger Together**

Alignment Agreement



Advancing shared priorities for the consulting, design and engineering industry across Australia and New Zealand

Acknowledgement

Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters across Australia and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nations peoples of Australia.

We also acknowledge Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa New Zealand and honour their enduring relationship with the land, waters and communities.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and recognise the enduring knowledge, cultures and custodianship of the First Peoples of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

August 2026



Foreword

This agreement marks a new chapter in the longstanding relationship between Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand.

Our two organisations have grown alongside one another for decades, representing the consulting, design and engineering businesses that power our nations' economies. We share a common history, shaped by similar industries, skills, and professional standards. Increasingly, we also share members, clients and challenges spanning a single trans-Tasman labour market and a connected strategic environment.

Through this Alignment Agreement, we formalise our intent to work more closely where collaboration creates value. We recognise the strength that comes from shared advocacy, joint learning and operational efficiency. We also recognise the importance of each organisation's independence, voice and context.

The purpose of this agreement is to harness the benefits of scale and shared insight while maintaining the distinct character of each organisation. Together, we aim to amplify our impact for members, support innovation and productivity across our industries, and enhance the capability of our people.

By aligning strategically and operationally when it makes sense, we can better anticipate the opportunities of the decade ahead. From digital transformation to sustainability and workforce development helping ensure our members remain at the forefront of change.

Our partnership builds on mutual respect and a shared commitment to serve our members and our communities. Together, we are stronger advocates for a thriving, sustainable and connected consulting and engineering industry across Australasia.



Natalie Muir
President



Penny Kneebone
President



Shared purpose

Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand recognise that our industries face common opportunities and challenges. Across the Tasman, our members work within an interconnected labour market, serve shared clients, and navigate similar political, regulatory and economic environments.

This Alignment Agreement reflects our commitment to deepen collaboration between our two organisations. It sets out a shared intent to strengthen alignment where it creates value: enhancing our collective advocacy, learning from each other's successes, and building operational capability to better serve our members.

Together we are stronger voices for consulting, design and engineering businesses across Australasia.

Shared vision

We share a vision for a thriving, future-ready consulting and engineering industry that delivers sustainable economic growth, supports our communities, and attracts the talent needed for the decades ahead.

Our partnership builds on mutual respect and shared values. While each organisation retains its independence and identity, we acknowledge the value of alignment to amplify our impact, improve efficiency, and deliver greater value to members on both sides of the Tasman.

Guiding principles

- Respect and independence: Preserving each organisation's autonomy and distinct member base
 - Trust and transparency: Operating with openness and integrity
 - Shared advocacy: Collaborating where our policy priorities align
 - Learning and capability: Sharing insights, data and practice to strengthen both organisations
 - Future focus: Considering opportunities for greater alignment as our systems and strategies evolve
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Areas of alignment

- Collaborate on advocacy and thought leadership across shared policy priorities, including workforce, digital transformation, sustainability and procurement reform.
- Share data, insights and communication opportunities that benefit both memberships.
- Explore operational alignment where practical recognising opportunities in systems, platforms and processes such as IT, CRM, digital communications, branding, events and member services.
- Support professional exchanges of knowledge and experience to build mutual capability and connection.
- Maintain distinct governance and decision-making while committing to consider alignment opportunities in future strategic planning cycles.

This agreement does not commit either organisation. Rather, it recognises that future alignment may create efficiencies and amplify impact, and commits both organisations to remain open to such opportunities as part of long-term strategic review.

Implementation and review

A joint steering group comprising representatives from Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand will meet annually to review areas of alignment and progress.

The agreement will be reviewed every three years to ensure it remains relevant and continues to reflect our shared strategic intent.

Looking ahead

The challenges facing our industry, digital disruption, sustainability, workforce capacity and productivity, do not stop at borders. Through alignment, we can combine scale with agility, leverage shared experience, and better support the consulting and engineering businesses that shape our built and natural environments.

Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand are committed to this shared future: two independent organisations, aligned in purpose, advancing the profession and industry together.



Our shared members

With thanks to our shared members for their ongoing support for both Consult Australia and ACE New Zealand:

AECOM

ARUP

aurecon

Beca

**BG
&E**

DAMWATCH
ENGINEERING BEYOND THE SURFACE

egis

GHD

Jacobs

smec
an **su** company

Stantec

wsp