



NEWSLETTER

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A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

BPEQ has continued to receive a record number of registration applications, even during a period that is usually much quieter in terms of new applications for registration



BPEQ has been busy at various industry conferences and events; including AIRAH's Future of HVAC Conference, the Australian Engineering Excellence Awards, the IAQ Queensland Infrastructure Summit, AusIMM New Leaders' Conference, USQ Engineering Faculty professional development lectures, Griffith University and James Cook University engineering society career nights and the South West Queensland registration roadshow to Roma, Charleville and Cunnamulla. Meanwhile BPEQ staff are currently in Adelaide presenting at Chemeca 2016.

October will be just as active with a range of events set to take place. Board members and staff will be travelling to the Gold Coast for the second regional meeting of 2016. Following the Board meeting, BPEQ will host local RPEQs at a meet and greet at the Southport Yacht Club.

Right to Information Day occurs annually on 28 September. BPEQ is a committed proponent of free and easy access to information and is proud to again support Right to Information Day and will continue to make relevant information available to industry and the public as much as possible.

An important issue to be aware of as we move into October is Mental Health Month. The impacts of mental health are well publicised in many professions and engineering is no different. During Mental Health Month, take the time to reflect on your own mental health and wellbeing and check in with friends and colleagues.

Please enjoy the September e-news and feel free to contact BPEQ on (07) 3198 0000 or at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au if you require any assistance or simply wish to offer some feedback.

Kylie Mercer
Registrar



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

BPEQ extends a warm welcome to the following engineers who became registered in the last month:

Robin Arman	Srinath Kankanamge	Kayne Herriman	Jared Candler
Yi Chen	Amin Fouladi	Jothi Vijayakumar	Bruce McCracken
David Kerske	Joel Anderson	David Brown	Tony Gourlay
Atul Jettley	Jacob Kennelly	Daniel DeVoigt	Sophie Hansson
Mritunjaya Srivastava	John Bradbury	Darryl Brabbins	Juan Rincon
Paul Tribley	Mahsa Goharfar	Asif Iqbal	Rachael Cochrane
Juan Fernandez	Colin Richmond	Ramanan Baheerathan	Oliver Mason
Pearse O'Connell	Glenn Firth	Jason Hawley	Trephon Cameron
Gregory Nagel	Oliver Mork	James Aishford	Jessica Peters
Garry Cracknell	Anurasiri Gamalath	Sung Kim	Daniel Lay
Peter Copley	John Reeve	Gary Ellis	Johnny Mrsa
Matt Sorenson	Xuan Wang	Andrew Seccombe	Vidosav Radic
Juliette Murphy	James Clarkson	Nicholas Morris	Timothy Baumann
Kam Long Ng	Timothy Ogston	Nathan Krause	Mudassar Chughtai
Justin Bayles	Diana Iriarte	Patrick Davies	Sunil Kumar
Matthew Burey	Margeshkumar Raval	Vahid Afshari	
Richard Tweedie	Douglas Higginson	Amro Omara	
Glen McAlister	Vahid Daneshjou	Imtiaz Abdul	

SPOTLIGHT ON PRESCRIPTIVE STANDARDS

Prescriptive standards have been high on the list of questions asked during recent BPEQ roadshows.

An engineering service is not necessarily a professional engineering service, and does not need to be carried out by or under the direct supervision of a RPEQ, if it is carried out only in accordance with a prescriptive standard.

This is one of only two exceptions to the requirement for RPEQ registration, the other being direct supervision, which was discussed in [last month's e-news](#).

The purpose of such strict requirements for registration is to protect the public by ensuring professional engineering services are only carried out by, or under the direct supervision of, a responsible RPEQ in a professional and competent way. The significance of this requirement is reflected in the high maximum penalty for contravening the requirement—up to \$121,900 per offence.

All RPEQs must understand what is and is not a prescriptive standard to ensure they can leave work done only in accordance with a prescriptive standard to unregistered persons and concentrate on carrying out or providing direct supervision for all work that is not carried out only in accordance with a prescriptive standard.

It is therefore timely to reiterate the key elements of work done only in accordance with a prescriptive standard.

A prescriptive standard is defined in the PE Act as follows:

a prescriptive standard means a document that states procedures or criteria:

- (a) carrying out a design, or a construction, production, operation or maintenance activity, relating to engineering; and
- (b) the application of which, to the carrying out of the design, or the construction, production, operation or maintenance activity, does not require advanced scientifically based calculations.

There are five elements to engineering services carried out only in accordance with a prescriptive standard:

1. standard is a **document**;
2. the document states **procedures or criteria** for the carrying out of the design, or construction, production, operation or maintenance activity, to which the document relates;



3. the application of the procedures or criteria must require **little to no choice or judgement**;
4. the application of the procedures or criteria **must not require advanced scientifically based calculations**;
5. the services must be carried out **only** in accordance with a prescriptive standard.

The prescriptive standard must be a document. It cannot be something that is done in accordance with verbal instructions. The procedures or criteria that comprise the prescriptive standard must be physically recorded. This includes recording by electronic means.

The prescriptive standard must state procedures or criteria for carrying out the work to which the standard relates. Procedures are the way the work is to be done, and criteria are the standard the work must comply with.

A key element of a prescriptive standard is that it must require little to no personal choice or judgement in applying the procedures or criteria stated in the standard. Choice or judgement being required implies that the exercise of engineering principles and data is required to make the choice of judgement, and as we know, the application of engineering principles and data is the hallmark of a professional engineering service. The intent of a prescriptive standard is to remove the need for the application of engineering principles and data by prescribing exactly how work is to be carried out.

Similarly, a prescriptive standard must not require advanced scientifically based calculations which, again, would usually require the application of sometimes complex engineering principles and data to carry out. The hallmark of a prescriptive standard is simple, well-prescribed calculations that the standard clearly explains how to carry out.

Finally, to fall within the exception for RPEQ registration, the work must be carried out only in accordance with a prescriptive standard. The exception for RPEQ registration will not apply to a service that deviates even slightly from the prescribed process contained in the prescriptive standard being used.

The provisions of the PE Act are clear in that they require that type of service to be provided by a RPEQ.

A benefit of registration as a RPEQ is that RPEQs may carry out any engineering service within their area of registration and competence, regardless of whether it is in accordance with a prescriptive standard. The importance of registration, however, goes beyond just being allowed to provide professional engineering services. Registration denotes high level professional competence and is a significant career milestone. BPEQ encourages RPEQs to encourage all engineers with whom they work to register if eligible or to work on gaining the necessary qualifications and competencies to register in the near future.

Further information is contained in BPEQ Practice Notes 4.3 Professional engineering services and prescriptive standards and 4.6 Prescriptive standards, available on the BPEQ website.

Please do not hesitate to contact BPEQ Legal if you have any questions about direct supervision on (07) 3198 0000 or at legal@bpeq.qld.gov.au.

BPEQ staff are also available to conduct seminars with engineers and employers on direct supervision or any other component of the PE Act and registration system. To arrange a seminar, contact BPEQ on (07) 3198 0000 or at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au.



AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Brisbane played host to the 2016 Australian Engineering Excellence Awards.

Regarded as one of the premier events for the profession; the awards identify, recognise and reward outstanding achievement in the practice of engineering and service to the profession.

Aurecon, Cox Rayner Architects and Brisbane City Council won the major award, the RW Hawken Overall Project Award, for the work done to restore Brisbane ferry terminals damaged during the 2011 floods.

Other company award winners included Australia Pacific LNG, Ergon Energy, Grocon and Wagners.

In the individual award categories, RPEQs Dr John Macintosh and Dr David Lacey took out Professional Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year awards respectively.

For more information on the 2016 Australian Engineering Excellence Awards and to view photos from the evening visit www.excellenceawards.org.au/queensland.



BUILDING QUEENSLAND'S INFRASTRUCTURE PIPELINE REPORT

Building Queensland has released its long awaited Infrastructure Pipeline Report to assist the Queensland Government in making its major infrastructure decisions.

Projects contained in the [Infrastructure Pipeline Report](#) are categorised by development stage in line with the Queensland Government Project Assessment Framework and the Building Queensland Business Case Development Framework: Strategic Assessment of Service Requirement, Preliminary Evaluation, Business Case.

The current report lists 16 priority projects; seven being in South-East Queensland, six in regional Queensland and three applicable state-wide. Seven projects are in the Preliminary Evaluation Stage, five are in the Business Case Stage and four are ready for Government Investment Consideration.

Cross River Rail, Cunningham Highway—Yamanto Interchange to Ebenezer Creek, European Train Control System—Inner City and Pacific Motorway—Mudgeeraba to Varsity Lakes are the projects ready for Government Investment Consideration.



Other projects of note in the report are Beerburrum to Nambour Rail Upgrade which is in the Business Case Stage and Burdekin Falls Dam—Saddle Dam & Monolith Improvement Project, Port of Gladstone—Clinton Vessel Interaction and Townsville Eastern Access Rail Corridor that are in Preliminary Evaluation Stage.

Building Queensland will revise and update the Infrastructure Pipeline Report every six months.

Building Queensland is a statutory authority established last year to strategically assess infrastructure projects and prioritise public funding. All infrastructure projects valued at \$50 million or more are required to be assessed by Building Queensland.



OCTOBER REGIONAL MEETING

Gold Coast RPEQs are invited to a meet and greet with BPEQ at the Southport Yacht Club on 7 October, following the conclusion of the October Board meeting.

All Board members, Registrar Kylie Mercer and BPEQ staff will be at the meet and greet. The meet and greet is free with complimentary drinks and light snacks available.

Date Friday, 7 October 2016
Time 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Venue Southport Yacht Club - 1 MacArthur Parade, Main Beach
RSVP to taunese.tuapola@bpeq.qld.gov.au by Friday, 30 September 2016

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Don't forget BPEQ is on LinkedIn. To keep up to date with the latest news and events from BPEQ or to start a discussion on registration or engineering issues generally, click [FOLLOW](#).

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