

New Zealand Ready Mixed Concrete Association Inc.

NZRMCA Newsletter, January 2009

Issue 1/2009



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year.

2009 promises to be a challenging and dynamic operating environment. Many of our members are hurting. Building consents are down by as much as 30% in some areas. The new government will have to work quickly if it is to restore economic confidence and arrest the decline. Governments around the world are investing in infrastructure to kick-start struggling economies and we would urge our Government to follow suit. For example, in excess of \$1 billion of roading projects across New Zealand are among a range of projects that are ready to start or which can be developed.

Just on the new Government, we have taken the opportunity of

writing to the Building and Construction Minister, Maurice Williamson and are hoping to meet with him in due course.

In terms of NZRMCA, last year we made significant progress in new publications such as the exposed aggregate brochure and promotion of the 2008 NZRMCA awards. Both publications can be found on our website.

The technical committee was particularly active in a number of areas and I draw your attention to David Barnard's update contained within this Newsletter. We are also looking at training and education within our sector and exploring ways of attracting young people to our exciting industry. This work will continue in 2009.

The joint 2008 Conference in Rotorua was extremely successful. I note the 2009 Concrete Conference is also scheduled to be held in Rotorua, an excellent venue offering many attractions. Our sessions were particularly vibrant and well attended and I commend all those involved.

I was particularly pleased that Jeff Burgess has agreed to become our Vice President. I am looking forward to working closely with Jeff to add further value to our Association.

Rob Gaimster, our executive officer has been appointed chief executive of CCANZ and we congratulate Rob and wish him well in his new position. He will remain as our executive officer.

So in conclusion, 2009 will be tough. We must remember that we have a fantastic product and talented people who will see us through these difficult and uncertain economic times.

I look forward to seeing you all at our regional meetings.

**Graham Payne
PRESIDENT**

NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please let Angelique know at admin@cca.org.nz.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the President

Around the Regions

Maurie Takes Over on BCITO NAG

NZRMCA Technical Committee

& Just on Water Addition – The NZRMCA Competition...

For the Diary – Important Dates

Your NZRMCA Council

Your NZRMCA Regional Secretaries

Meet Jeff Burgess – New Vice President

CCANZ Appoints New Chief Executive

10 Wheelers Performing Well

NZS 3122 and NZS 3123

2009 New Zealand Industry Conference

NZMCPA Awards Entries Open

Radio Show – Cementing History

One Last Thing

AROUND THE REGIONS

Lower North Island

We had 15 members at our last meeting in Palmerston North with 18 tendering their apologies. It was a short meeting with discussion on Poll voting and 'blow back' with concrete pumps. Cam did a sterling job presenting the industry report compiled by Rob Gaimster.

We displayed the Concrete³ DVD 'Concrete for a sustainable world' that was shown at conference.

Dinner was enjoyed at the Speights Ale house and stories told well into the night.

Northern

Our first meeting for this 2009 year will be our popular annual February/March meeting, and social 'get together' when we join with wives partners and associates. This year it will be in Pihia on Friday, 27 February.

General comments from Industry people in the North are that while there have been reasonable workloads in some areas, the outlook is of concern. Building permits are down, so builders and the construction sector generally, is facing a lack of forward work. It is a time when companies and employers will look at

improving efficiencies and skills. The question is, will it be a time when short term pain, can be turned into long term gain?

South Island

The last meeting was held at The Crown Mill (bar & conference centre) Dunedin on Thursday, 6 November 2008 at 5.00 p.m. Jon Hambling gave the Council report and Rob Gaimster gave an industry update. The attendance was however sketchy and we hope to see more South Islanders at the next meeting which will be arranged shortly.

Central North Island

A meeting and social

event was held Friday, 21 November 2008 at the Whitianga Hotel, Whitianga. It was well attended and Rob Gaimster gave an industry report. The first meeting of 2009 will be a joint event with the Auckland region. Date, venue and speaker will be advised in due course.

Auckland

The last meeting was held at Waitemata Clay Target Club in Kumeu on 27 November. Isuzu Trucks kindly sponsored our speaker, Rodney Dickens, the well respected economist. Drinks and food were provided and clay target shooting followed the meeting.

MAURIE TAKES OVER ON BCITO NAG

Maurie Hooper, director of the Ready-mix Division of Wharehine Contractors Ltd and NZRMCA Council member recently took over from Rob Green as NZRMCA's representative on the BCITO's National Advisory Group.

Maurie's great experience is invaluable in this role, having started with Wharehine in 1960 and having managed the Transport and Ready-mix Division as it grew for some 40 years

Maurie values the 'learn as you work' training

principle, which BCITO is seeking to achieve, all the more because it has been a big part of his own life experience.

"Some years ago I was a member of an 'Industry Training Board' for Road Transport, when the then government funding authority, was the Vocational Training Council. That experience, along with growing up with the apprenticeship schemes, which I see as having produced many of today's employers and industry leaders, all reinforces for me the value of a continued

'learn as you work' industry training programme", Maurie says.

The Construction industry in general, and the Concrete industry in particular, play a very positive and significant part in the future of our country, and so effect the future of our children.

"The BCITO is very much a team, so I feel privileged to have been invited to participate, and look forward to contributing to the work already started by Rob Green and others. While it has been a slow start

for our section of the construction industry, from my early observations, things that will better impact our sector are coming on stream.

The Council commend Rob Green for his diligence and effort on our behalf to get us this far and Wharehine Contractors for supporting Maurie in these activities.

The BCITO will introduce new National Certificates for the concrete sector commencing with Concrete Core Skills this year.

NZRMCA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

(Written by David Barnard, Convenor, NZRMCA Technical Committee)

The NZRMCA Technical Committee generally sits twice a year. The industry members who attend and contribute during the year are:

Terry Browne, Dene Cook, Brett Beatson, Colin Taylor, Bryan Ward, Michael Khrapko, Campbell Robertson, Rob Gaimster, Chris Munn and David Barnard (Chair).

While the primary promotion and marketing activities are joint funded ventures, organised by the Cement & Concrete Association (CCANZ), specific technical issues for the ready mixed concrete industry are dealt with through the association's technical committee with assistance from the CCANZ where required. Progress was made in 2008 in the following areas:

- Chloride Testing – methods of test.
- Aggregates – updating proposals for NZS 3121.
- Strength Testing – rubber ring capping gear.
- Awards Procedures – outline of assessment process.
- Specification of Concrete – promotion of correct specifications.
- Plant Operation – Scale frequency checks, mixer evaluations, low volume production, NZS 3104 amendment published.
- Concrete Construction – NZS 3109 – review commenced.
- Water Additions – information published/circulated to building industry.

& Just on Water Addition - the NZRMCA Competition...

Des Krammer, Council member, reminds us of a quote from years gone by:

"It has been determined that by adding just one gallon of water to one yard of properly designed 3000 psi concrete (20MPa), it increases the slump by approx one inch, reduces the compressive strength by as much as 200 psi wastes the effect of one half bag of cement, increases the shrinkage potential by about 10%, etc."

Des believes that to help combat the unnecessary consumption of the dwindling water resources through uncontrolled water addition, the concrete industry should devise some sort of a catchy slogan which producers could rally around, such as — **"additional water, like alcohol should be used in moderation"**.

So how about it? We're seeking your slogans. The winner will receive a \$30 book token. Entries to be sent to admin@cca.org.nz.

FOR THE DIARY - IMPORTANT DATES

- New Zealand Concrete Industry Conference, Rotorua, 8-10 October 2009
- New Zealand Master Concrete Placers' Association Conference, Wellington, 24-25 July 2009.

NZRMCA REGIONAL MEETINGS (check local notices for precise times)

REGION	DATE	VENUE
Northern	Friday, 27 February 2009	Pihia
Auckland	AGM, March (to be advised)	Joint meeting with Central North Island Region
Central North Island	March (to be advised)	Joint meeting with Auckland Region
Lower North Island	Thursday, 19 March 2009	To be advised.
South Island	To be advised.	To be advised.

YOUR NZRMCA COUNCIL

NAME	COMPANY	REGIONAL POSITION	NATIONAL POSITION
Maurie Hooper	Wharehine Contractors	Chair, Northern Region	
Jon Hambling	Firth Industries	Chair, South Island Region	
Des Krammer	Concrete Metals		
Cameron Lee	Firth Industries	Chair, Lower North Island Region	
Rob Green	Higgins Group		Past President
David Peterson	Firth Industries		
Graham Payne	Counties Readymix		President
Bob Officer	Allied Concrete		Financial Officer
Graham Collie	Atlas Concrete	Chair, Auckland Region	
David Barnard			Chairman, Plant Audit Scheme Convenor, Technical Committee
Jeff Burgess	Supacrete	Chair, Central North Island Region	Vice President

YOUR NZRMCA REGIONAL SECRETARIES

Please contact the secretaries on any regional issue.

REGION	SECRETARY	CONTACT DETAILS
Northern	Bob Bruce	robruce@xtra.co.nz
Auckland	Don McPike	mcpike.don@nz.sika.com
Central North Island	Mark Lourie	Mark.Laurie@supacrete.co.nz
Lower North Island	Graeme Ransom	ransom.graeme@nz.sika.com
South Island	Ian Drew	drew.ian@nz.sika.com

MEET JEFF BURGESS - NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Jeff joined the concrete industry in 1988 after spending six years in the wine and liquor industry.

Some 20 years later he relishes the technical and solution providing elements of the business.

Jeff is the General Manager of Supacrete Concrete Limited in

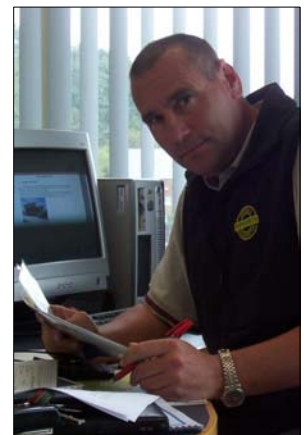
Tauranga and chairs the Central Region of the New Zealand Ready Mixed Concrete Association as well being part of the National Council, addressing a wide range of industry initiatives and issues.

Free time is often consumed with tennis, mountain biking or with a

social running group.

Jeff recently took on the role of Vice President.

You can contact Jeff on jeff@supacrete.co.nz.



CCANZ APPOINTS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE



CCANZ has appointed Rob Gaimster to the

position of Chief Executive.

Rob, who is a chartered civil engineer and has an MBA, joined CCANZ as a Project Manager two years ago. He previously worked in the UK, where he held national technical and operational roles for readymix giant RMC/CEMEX.

CCANZ chair Glenda Harvey says she is delighted with the appointment.

“We are pleased that Rob has accepted the top role at CCANZ,” says Mrs Harvey. “His tremendous knowledge will enable CCANZ to continue developing its position as the

representative authority in NZ on cement and concrete matters.”

Rob commenced his new role on 15 December.

Rob will continue his role as NZRMCA executive officer.

10 WHEELERS PERFORMING WELL

Firth's two new 10 wheeler trucks are both now in service on the streets of Auckland. The trucks are based out of the Hamer Street plant in downtown Auckland and are a common feature on the Auckland Motorways.

“They have consistently out performed our next best trucks by more than 35% since they were commissioned in late August,” said Francis Leslie, National Certified Manager for Firth. “They are averaging around 110 deliveries per month with an average load size of 6.6m³.”

“Feedback from our customers has also been very positive,” added Francis. “For large volume orders we are able to use fewer deliveries with less time wasted in the Auckland traffic.”

They are being predominately utilised on the larger projects such as the Eden Park re-development, Mt Eden Prison extensions and the New Lynn Railbox Project.



NZS 3122 AND NZS 3123

NZS 3122 – Specification for Portland and blended cements (general and special purpose).

NZS 3123 – Specification for Portland pozzolan cement (type PP cement)

Standards New Zealand is managing a project to amend NZS 3122 and revise NZS 3123.

The aim of NZS 3122 is to specify requirements and methods for testing hydraulic cements consisting of Portland cement or of mixtures of Portland cement and one or both of fly ash and ground granulated iron blast-furnace slag and was last reviewed in 1995.

NZS 3123 specifies the requirements for blended hydraulic cement comprising a Portland cement conforming to NZS 3122, and a pozzolan of appropriate type and quantity for the purpose in view. NZS 3123 was developed 34 years ago and is long overdue for revision.

NZS 3123 needs to be re-written to bring it up to date and as a result NZS 3122 will need to be updated to reflect changes that are made to NZS 3123.

NZRMCA is represented on these Standards revisions by Rob Gaimster.

2009 NEW ZEALAND INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

The 2009 New Zealand Concrete Industry Conference will be held this year from 8-10 November in Rotorua.

Following last year's format which worked so successfully, the NZRMCA will be holding

a number of parallel sessions.

For any ideas for themes, papers or speakers for the NZRMCA sessions then please contact Vice President, Jeff Burgess at (Jeff@supacrete.co.nz) or Rob Gaimster at

(rob@cca.org.nz).

The following deadlines apply for the Concrete Society elements:

- Receipt of synopsis 31 March 2009.
- Preliminary acceptance

of papers 9 April 2009.

- Receipt and final acceptance of papers 3 July 2009.

Contact the Conference Secretary: concrete@bluepacificevents.com.

NZMCPA AWARDS ENTRIES OPEN

Entries for the New Zealand Master Concrete Placers Association 2009 awards have opened.

Now entering its third year, the NZMCPA awards process is open to all members of the Association.

The five award categories are:

- New Zealand Decorative best decorative work,
- Youngman Richardson best place and finish,
- Danley Construction Products best commercial project,
- Holcim environmental/sustainability award, and
- Firth most innovative award.

All category winners go through to the Allied Concrete Supreme Award.

The Awards will be announced at a gala dinner on 25 July 2009. This will be one of the highlights of the joint NZMCPA, NZ Concrete Pumpers Association and New Zealand Sawing & Drilling Association Conference, which will be held in Wellington on 24 and 25 July.

New Zealand Master Concrete Placers Association was formed 11 years ago to provide members with leadership, advocacy, professional development, promotion and partnering. Membership requirements include a strict standard of knowledge and practical experience, which must be demonstrated through workmanship and business acumen.

More details are available on their website: www.mcpa.org.nz.

RADIO SHOW - CEMENTING HISTORY

The most recent installment of BRANZ Principal Scientist, Nigel Isaacs' Radio New Zealand programme, The History of Building in New Zealand provides a fascinating overview of cement's unique place within our building history. To listen to Nigel's 5-minute show visit the website above, and drag the time slide to the 10-minute mark.



One last thing

The total direct, indirect and induced impact of the cement and concrete industry resulted in \$7.4 billion of output throughout the economy. This activity supports 24,000 jobs and a value add of \$2.8 billion – about 2% of New Zealand's Gross Domestic Product. Our industry is hugely significant.