

# AMCA CONFERENCE 2016

## Leadership through Innovation

In a country where courtesy to all is the standard, where bowing is an accepted form of greeting and saying thank you (arigato) is the most heard phrase in any conversation, it is little wonder that this year's AMCA National Conference in Tokyo, Japan, was both a cultural experience and a great success.

The conference commenced on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July with an AMCA National Council meeting. During the course of business, Council members passed a document that will form the new Constitution for AMCA Australia. That evening Holyoake Industries sponsored the Conference Welcome Dinner and this set the tone for comradery, experience and knowledge sharing.

The formal opening of the Conference commenced with an introduction by the President of AMCA Australia, Chris Wright - who in his opening address emphasised the values that contribute to a successful conference. On behalf of the Association he thanked and acknowledged the importance of our corporate partners and sponsors – Victaulic Australia, Milwaukee Tools, Holyoake Industries, Fantech, and Windsor Management Insurance Brokers. In the context of "Leadership through Innovation" he recognised the role that sponsors play in providing innovative solutions, practical information, as well as financial support to the Association through their sponsorship.

The conference key note speaker was David Bartlett - ex-Premier of Tasmania, technologist and futurist. David opened his presentation by sharing some experiences of his past political life and provided valuable insights as to where the digital age and future technology may take us. This was a great opening address which was both informative and entertaining.

Additional speakers over the four days of the conference included a presentation by the Australian Trade Commissioner to Japan, David Lawson, who spoke not only on Australia/Japan trade relationships, but also gave an insight into the cultural, general economic and social observations of Japan and its' people.

The presentation by Tetsuji Okada, President of Japan Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Industry Association, on market trends in the commercial sector of air conditioning, the reduction of HFC refrigerant gases and the training of the technicians managing the refrigerant gas sector, was an interesting parallel to Australian practices and markets.



JRAIA President Tetsuji Okada with AMCA National Director Christopher Rankin and AMCA National President Chris Wright

# VIEWS

AUGUST 2016

**Air Conditioning & Mechanical Contractors'  
Association of Australia Limited**

30 Cromwell Street Burwood  
3125 Victoria Australia  
T: 03 8831 2824 F: 03 9888 8459  
www.amca.com.au

## IN THIS ISSUE

1. AMCA CONFERENCE
2. AMCA 6 POINT PLAN
3. CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION FORM 2016
3. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AMCA Sponsors



Construction & Building Industry Super

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsors



**HOLYOAKE**  
AIR MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS



Bronze Sponsor



Jim McCarl, our guest speaker from USA, provided a two part presentation on "Risk Management" and "Succession Planning". Jim's breadth of experience as a contractor and director of many large organisations added authority to his presentations. His power point presentations can be reviewed on the AMCA website.

John Mader from Lend Lease delivered a snap shot of the building and construction industry in Japan and its comparisons with Australia were interesting and sometimes surprising to the participants. John then took attendees on a tour of a recently completed medium size office building, where members were able to inspect mechanical and other services noting the quality of workmanship.

Milwaukee Tools sponsored the end of Conference Dinner and delegates were entertained by a traditional Japanese Samurai display. A feature of the evening was the prize draw for tools provided by Milwaukee in support of The Kids' Cancer Project.

AMCA is proud to announce that throughout the course of the conference the sum of \$41,645 was raised for The Kids' Cancer Project.

We look forward to welcoming members to the next AMCA National Conference which will take place at Hamilton Island in October 2017.

## AMCA Conference : From the President's Perspective

*Our Conferences are getting better every year and the friendships are growing. This year we welcomed many new families and the feedback I have received was heart-warming and all about how everyone felt included.*

*The Japanese culture was deep, ancient and the discipline was strong. The history spectacular and the gardens were my favourite. Saki, Kyoto, Tepanyaki, Geisha, Bonsai, Karaoke, Bullet Train and Bidet - that moment when you close the door sit and rest and cannot resist those buttons.*

*Our Sponsors make our conferences and we sincerely appreciate their contributions to the AMCA and their friendship. David Sharkey and his Victaulic team have been with us for many years and their contribution to our conference is exceptional.*

*This year we welcomed a new sponsor in Milwaukee Tools, represented by James and Dena Ballantyne and they have become great friends with us all and their contributions to the fundraising for the Kids' Cancer Project was paramount, with the AMCA family raising more than \$41,500 over the week.*

*Fantech were well represented by newcomers Anthony and Katie Lamaro and Steve Surgey. They were all enthusiastic in all that went on and certainly enjoyed this experience. Thanks for the 2016 Fantech book, it is close and handy in my office.*

*Holyoake continue to be great supporters also. Grant Holyoake could not make it this year, but long time AMCA friend Andrew Krake brought Jason Maywald along, and their Krantz Virtual Reality experience was a hit with all the delegates.*

*Richard Luscombe of Windsor Management Insurance Brokers, looking fitter than ever, brought his family along and was a great participant in all the events. Many thanks for your support and the Insurance ideas you continue to advise on.*

*Special thanks to our Events Team - Christopher Rankin, Anna Trevorah , Vera Ellett, Grace Hayman-King and Graham "Smooth" MacKrill for your efforts in making it a great Japanese experience for us all.*

*Thanks again to all who came along and had a great time, I look forward to seeing you, along with those who missed out, in Hamilton Island next year in early October. Information about our 2017 conference will be out shortly.*

Chris Wright  
AMCA National President



AMCA Conference Sponsors and National Executive team at the 2017 Conference Sponsor's function in Japan

# CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION FORUM 2016: LETS TALK ABOUT VALUE

Hosted by AMCA, the BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> Construction Innovation 2016 Forum was held on the 4 – 5 August 2016 at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney, NSW.

Beginning in 2010, the forum has served as a touchstone for the adoption of building information modelling and other innovations in construction—not just in Australia, but globally. As the pre-eminent BIM event on the Australian calendar, it continues to provide industry with the best snapshot of how industry leaders around the world are utilising collaboration technologies to deliver innovative solutions on construction projects.

While technology is often the focus, it must be accompanied by a willingness to challenge convention. This requires a fundamental shift in mindset, and remains a barrier for many.

This year we encouraged all attendees—presenters, sponsors, exhibitors and guests—to focus their discussions on how BIM and other construction innovations can be used to deliver tangible value to businesses right across the supply chain. It is only by answering the question of value, that those welded to more traditional methods of construction, will be convinced to take a more collaborative outlook. With this approach, the presentations delivered an abundance of insightful information on how some of the best performing companies in the world are investing in technology and leveraging BIM to improve their operations and processes.

Over the past 12 months, we have sought to bolster our commitment to construction innovation with the rollout of a new BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> website and published several new specifications in collaboration with technical experts from our industry. There are numerous specifications to be publicly released in the second half of this year. The BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> standard continues to be adopted by industry and currently there are 130 subscribing companies using the BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> Autodesk Revit MEP Template Add-In, and 40 manufacturers providing their important content. We continue to harness the interest and advice from the many user group members who contribute great ideas towards the success of the BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> Initiative.

We have also sought to partner with like-minded organisations internationally, engaging with the UK Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE), the Hong Kong Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, and the Mechanical Contractors' Association of America (MCAA). Each of these organisations have expressed their interest in the approach to BIM standardisation being adopted in Australia, and we look forward to exploring opportunities for shared learning in the coming months.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the many individuals and organisations that have supported us over the past 12 months. BIM-MEP<sup>AUS</sup> truly is an industry-led initiative, and we sincerely thank all those who have provided input on our technical working groups.

We thank our industry partners for their continued support throughout the Forum. These organisations are at the forefront of construction innovation and we are proud to be associated with each of them. We would also like to thank all our presenters for their willingness to share their ideas and experiences, both positive and challenging.

Finally, thank you to all attendees. Year-after-year we are told by delegates that it is the collegiality of the event that makes it unique. While that is certainly something we aspire to cultivate, it is driven by the generous and good natured participation.

## AMCA OUTLINES POLICY PRIORITIES

With the release of our 2016 Federal Election Policy Platform, the AMCA encouraged government to recognise the important role specialist subcontractors can play in helping Australia transition to an innovation economy.

In crafting its policy priorities, the AMCA highlighted the findings of the recent Senate Committee report into Insolvency in the Construction Industry, which identified the fact that subcontractors face an unacceptably higher risk of insolvency compared to other sectors. Unfair contract conditions, aggressive and confrontational behaviours, split incentives, and overly complex regulatory requirements were just a few of the issues identified that increase day-to-day operating pressures and inhibit companies from taking a more innovative approach to construction.

This must change if Australia is to meet the real and significant challenges confronting our economy over coming decades. To cater to an expected population of 39 million by 2055 while maintaining our standard of living, significant investment in new and upgraded infrastructure is required. Not only does this include more roads, public transport, rail, ports and airports, but buildings such as hospitals, schools, offices and housing.

This is an enormous challenge when considering the forecasts of fiscal deficits across the forward estimates and beyond, and occurs against a backdrop of international economic and environmental uncertainty.

Fortunately, advancements in technology and innovative building and construction approaches have the ability to deliver projects more efficiently, with less waste, and at lower cost. Increased emphasis on the capture of data is also creating opportunities for smart buildings and smart cities to transform the way buildings are used, managed and operated, with significant implications for energy use and emission reductions. However, significant barriers remain for the vast majority of businesses operating in the broader building and construction market.

The AMCA's Policy Platform 2016 identifies five policy priorities that must be advanced if the building and construction industry is to meaningfully participate in the ideas boom, helping Australia to meet upcoming challenges in the process.

These priorities are:

1. Rethinking models of procurement and fairer contracts;
2. Unlocking the innovative potential of building information modelling;
3. Empowering the built environment to deliver net zero emitting buildings;
4. A more dynamic VET system with industry at its centre;
5. Safer, healthier and more productive workplaces; and
6. Unlocking this potential presents a real and exciting opportunity for Australia to achieve significant investment and productivity gains across one of the country's largest sectors.

## EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

7	SA	AMCA SA Annual General Meeting	Fedora's Restaurant, Hilton Hotel	Chris Rankin
9	NEBB	NEBB Australia Seminar Day	Oaks on Market Street Melbourne	Lyn Dyason
21	NAT	AMCA National Council Meeting and AGM	Realm Hotel, Canberra	Chris Rankin

### OCTOBER

17	Qld	AMCA Queensland Golf Day	Pacific Golf Course, Carindale	Graham Mackrill
22	ACT	AMCA ACT Industry Dinner	Hotel Realm, Canberra	
26	VIC	AMCA Victoria AGM and Networking Dinner	AMCA House	Sumit Oberoi

### NOVEMBER

9-10	NAT	ACCI Annual Dinner and Meeting	Canberra	
11-12	TAS	AMCA Tasmania Golf Day and AGM	Stewarts Bay, Tasmania	Michael Shepperd
TBA	VIC	Future Leaders Forum	Melbourne	Sumit Oberoi

### AMCA NATIONAL OFFICE

PO BOX 550  
Burwood Victoria 3125  
T: 03 8831 2824  
F: 03 9888 8459  
E: natamca@amca.com.au  
National President: Chris Wright

### AMCA VIC

PO BOX 309  
Burwood Victoria 3125  
T: 03 8831 2800  
F: 03 9888 8459  
E: vicamca@amca.com.au  
President: Peter Keating

### AMCA NSW

246 Pacific Highway  
Crows Nest NSW 2065  
T: 02 8458 3330  
F: 02 9869 3166  
E: gmackrill@amca.com.au  
President: Richard Drigo

### AMCA QLD

PO BOX 551  
Ashgrove Queensland 4060  
T: 07 3112 0201  
F: 07 3510 2140  
E: gmackrill@amca.com.au  
President: Shane Bradford

### AMCA SA

Hilton Central 42 Sir Donald Bradman Drive  
Mile End South Australia 5031  
T: 08 8234 2899  
F: 08 8234 1615  
E: crankin@amcasa.com.au  
President: David Deane-Freeman

### AMCA WA

PO BOX 2304  
Yokine South WA 6060  
T: 08 6241 6112  
E: admin@amcawa.asn.au  
President: Michael Anthony

### AMCA TAS

GPO BOX 922  
Hobart Tasmania 7001  
T: 03 6231 9556  
F: 03 6236 9833  
E: michael@amcatas.com.au  
President: Ian Ransley

### AMCA ACT

GPO Box 1691, Canberra ACT 2601  
E: james@acif.com.au  
President: Michael Jones

## 3 ways Cbus is building super futures in your industry

- Investing in property and development projects through our wholly owned subsidiary Cbus Property<sup>1</sup>, creating jobs and delivering returns
- Easy administration for employers, with online options to join Cbus and pay employees' super
- Industry-specific super products for members, including insurance cover, financial advice and free access to the Cbus smartphone app



Contact Scott for your business super needs

Scott LaFerlita  
Business Development Manager, VIC



0409 934 674



scott.laferlita@cbussuper.com.au

Cbus Property commercial project, 171 Collins St Melbourne

<sup>1</sup> Cbus Property Pty Ltd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cbus and has responsibility for the strategic performance and management of all Cbus direct property developments and investments. This information is about Cbus. It doesn't take into account your specific needs, so you should look at your own business needs and objectives before making any financial decisions. Read the Cbus Employer Handbook and other relevant documents to decide whether Cbus is right for you. Call 1300 361 784 or visit [www.cbussuper.com.au](http://www.cbussuper.com.au) for a copy. Cbus' Trustee: United Super Pty Ltd ABN 46 006 261 623 AFSL 233792 Cbus ABN 75 493 363 262.