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**FRONT COVER:**  
Photo courtesy of Alan Reiter



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## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Hi, and welcome to the November edition of Municipal Works Australia's *Access Magazine*.

It's been a productive time since I last wrote to you earlier in the year. Our events program has returned to pre-COVID levels, and we have completed our new Strategic Plan which we presented at our Annual General Meeting on 10 November.

In other significant news, our CEO Peter Ali and our International 2022 Study Award winner Brad Byrne travelled to the American Public Works Association's (APWA) Public Works Expo (PWX 2022) in Charlotte, North Carolina, in August. A big thank you APWA Board Members and CEO Scott Grayson for making our travel delegation welcome.

MWA looks forward to building on the excellent connections that our delegation developed at PWX 2022. From all reports, it was a great event, and MWA will be investigating the option to provide a tour group to attend PWX 2023 in San Diego, California, from the 27 to 30 August 2023. We are currently finalising a collaboration agreement with the APWA. The deal will allow both associations to expand

their reach and deliver better value and education to their members by facilitating the exchange of ideas, technology, resources, and management practices. We will keep you updated on developments.

Regarding conferences, Early Bird Registrations are now available for our Bendigo National Conference in March 2023. This year's conference is themed "Meeting the Climate Challenge". I'm pleased to announce that we have once again sourced some fantastic presenters. You can download the Conference Program for 2023 via our website.

I look forward to catching up with everyone via the phone or at one of our events. As always, please give me a call if there is anything you would like to discuss with the association. My contact details are on our website.

*Photo: MWA CEO Peter Ali, centre, with APWA Past President Stan Brown and CEO Scott Grayson*



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# AROUND AUSTRALIA



## Queensland

**Brian Weeks, State President WOAQ and MWA Board Member**

Things have been very wet out our way if you haven't seen it on the news. At last count, we have had three significant flood events in the past four months. You'll be able to hear about how operational managers deal with emergencies at our National Conference in Bendigo next year. Chris Gray, Scenic Rim Regional Shire's General Manager of Asset and Environmental Sustainability, will provide his keynote address about how his council has dealt with their recent flood issues.

I want to let everyone know that on 3 August 2022, WOAQ completed the last tasks to complete its full integration into MWA. These tasks included the formalisation of current WOAQ Vice President Gavin Gotke, who also works for Scenic Rim Regional Council, onto the MWA Board.

Given the geographic scale of the Queensland region. Gavin (pictured right) will provide essential assistance in keeping local government members, both exiting and potentially new, engaged with the association and its programs. The integration

also resulted in the establishment of the Col Rush Professional Development Reserve. The reserve will finance travel awards programs for Queensland-based local government staff to MWA and other professional development programs.

Finally, our annual Queensland get-together is from Friday, 24, to Saturday, 25 February 2023. Keep the date free. We will release details soon.







## Victoria

**Darren Findlay, Melbourne Branch President and  
MWA Board Member**

We recently held the first of our new format networking events in Maryborough, Victoria. I must apologise to some of our Queensland-based members that assumed the event was in Maryborough, Queensland! We hosted the event in partnership with the Central Goldfields Shire and William Adams CAT. Over three days, William Adams hosted a paving and road-building demonstration in Stoneham Drive, Maryborough, with Council officers travelling from as far away as Swan Hill in Victoria to see the demonstration. We had over 90 members attend the Wednesday night networking event. We will ensure that we put a “national lens” over our naming conventions in the future.

I want to put out a special thank you to Emma Little, Central Goldfields Shire’s General Manager of Community Wellbeing. Emma

provided an overview of the municipality’s future strategic plans to our guest presenter, Robert “Dipper” DiPierdomenico, who had our audience rolling in the aisles with his football anecdotes.

See story page 17.



## Tasmania

**Peter Donato, Tasmania Branch President and  
MWA Board Member**

After a long delay due to COVID related restrictions, it was great to see our members getting together for our Hobart networking event, which was held on 2 June 2022 at the Bellerive Yacht Club. We heard an exceptional guest presentation from Hobart local Mitch McPherson, the founder of the suicide prevention foundation Speak Up.

We want to thank our Tasmanian-based corporate members who joined us for the event, including the Team from IntoWork, OneTrak, and William Adams CAT. We would also like to acknowledge the efforts of the MWA Board members who made their way down from various parts of Victoria for the day.

Following Hobart, our Launceston Networking Event was held on Tuesday, 23 August 2022. Thanks to Tracey Mallet from the City of Launceston, who talked about Launceston’s history and its strategic imperatives before a guided tour of Launceston’s River Bend development.

MWA entered a new phase of our membership offering this month with the release of our first training program offering – Graffiti Removal Training. The course aims to provide practical refresher skills and knowledge for operational staff and their supervisors who need to remove graffiti from public areas. We are happy to announce that we will run our first Tasmania-based graffiti removal training program in Hobart in the coming months.





# LG WORKS 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Each year the Local Government Works Association WA Inc holds an annual Conference and Trade Exhibition, this year was our 25th. We are very proud of the fact that again it was well attended, and all 85 Exhibitor stands were sold.

Thanks to our major sponsors WesTrac (Gold), Construction Equipment Australia (Silver) and Milwaukee tools (Bronze) and our 80 other exhibitors ranging from fire equipment, to tools, to road surfacing, to staffing, to Bunnings trade there was something for everyone.

The Executive Committee always endeavors to ensure that a comprehensive programme is put together with interesting topics to cover all areas of Managing a Local Authority, and this year was no exception. Our Keynote speaker was Matt Gill the former General Manager of the Beaconsfield mine, who gave a very interesting presentation on “Never think it won’t happen to you”. Our other speakers ranged from road surfacing to Lifestyle management,

we undertook a corporate challenge with an interactive challenge promoting a clear vision of positive team-work, and the CEO, Municipal Works Australia, Peter Ali who talked about the importance of Associations such as ours and the need for collaboration throughout Australia.

It’s not all work though, thanks to our Major Golf Sponsor, Corsign, we started the conference with a friendly game of golf, but the weather beat us and had to leave it at 9 holes this year, so we made up for it with a great dinner with friends. Tim Gossage MCed the evening announcing winners and gave an address about the importance of mental health and supporting those who are struggling.

For those who are not golfers or partners of those playing golf, a full day Swan Valley tour was organised stopping off at three wineries (one for lunch) a brewery and finishing the day with coffee and cake at Whistlers Chocolate Co.



Our membership is growing, both corporate and full members as more Local Authorities see the benefits of their work force being part of an Association that looks after its members, providing an annual conference, networking opportunities, e-learning platforms to provide ongoing training and a buddying system for those new to the industry.

Our comprehensive website is now a go to place for new LG members or those looking for staff or relevant information regarding working within an LGA.

Mr Len Hobson received the prestigious Life Service Award in recognition for over 36 year's service to the Shire of Kulin, and although retired still helps out when the now Manager of Works takes a break.

Congratulations Len.

If you would like to know more about the LGWA or more information on our annual Works and Parks Conference and Expo, check out our web site [www.lgwa.com.au](http://www.lgwa.com.au) or contact our office on [office@lgwa.com.au](mailto:office@lgwa.com.au).





# ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE



## Municipal Works Australia

As many communities start the recovery from yet another flood event, the impact of climate change on local government is far-reaching.

It therefore makes sense that “Meeting the Climate Change Challenge” will be the theme of the 29th National Municipal Works and Engineering Conference to be held in Bendigo from 23–34 March 2023.

“Our climate is changing and municipal works professionals find themselves at the forefront of dealing with the impact of these changes,” MWA CEO Peter Ali said.

“Our 2023 national conference will provide case studies on innovative ideas and solutions being provided by people and companies working on the front line of this issue.”

Headlining the conference program will be a range of exciting speakers including:

- Dr Mark Curran, Research Scientist with the Australian Antarctic Division’s Climate Processes and Change program;
- Scott Hunter, Chief Technology Officer, Wave Swell Energy;

- Josh Howard, CEO and Founder of Single Use Ain’t Sexy; and

- Noriko Wood, Senior Pavement Engineer from Fulton Hogan.

Also providing inspiration and entertainment will be:

- Former AFL player and Collingwood coach Nathan Buckley; and

- Comedic duo Scared Weird Little Guys.

As well as the speaking program, delegates will get to enjoy all the usual industry networking events at the conference including the Komatsu Conference Dinner, the outdoor demonstrations, the exhibition hall where dozens of suppliers will be showcasing their products and services and a Business Breakfast.

“Last year we had a record number of attendees and I think we are on track to beat that,” Peter Ali said.

“Our annual conference is the one event municipal works professionals cannot afford to miss.”

# KEYNOTE

## Speakers



### Josh Howard

CEO & Founder of Single Use Ain't Sexy

Josh Howard is the Founder & CEO of viral sustainable hand soap brand Single Use Ain't Sexy. His business has saved tens of thousands of single-use plastic bottles from landfill, by replacing them with Australia's first dissolvable hand soap tablets and reusable glass soap bottles. Coined by The Age/Sydney Morning Herald as "the brand turbo-charging Australia's sustainability movement," Single Use Ain't Sexy has won 2 Good Design Australia Awards, a Pause Fest Award & been featured by Broadsheet, The AFR, The Herald Sun, Time Out, E News!, Channel 7, The Design Files and The Guardian.



### Dr Mark Curran

Research Scientist | Australian Antarctic Division

Dr Curran is a research scientist with the Australian Antarctic Division's Climate Processes and Change program and the ACE CRC's cryosphere program. Originally from Ireland, Dr Curran obtained his PhD from James Cook University in North Queensland. His PhD was focussed on measuring natural sulphur compounds from phytoplankton in seawater in the Great Barrier Reef and the Southern Ocean. In his current role, Dr Curran leads the Hobart ice core group and has been involved in numerous research trips drilling ice cores in both Antarctica and Greenland. He is currently the science leader for the Aurora Basin ice core project.



### Scared Weird Little Guys

Entertainment

The Scared Weird Little Guys are one of Australia's most successful and sought-after entertainment duos. They have received numerous awards in many countries for their unique blend of music and comedy, honed over the course of over 4000 performances. They are accomplished musicians, comedians, composers, and entertainers, working professionally for over 25 years.



### Scott Hunter

Chief Technology Officer | Wave Swell Energy

Scott is the Chief Technology Officer of Wave Swell Energy. He has a Bachelor of Engineering in Naval Architecture from the University of New South Wales, and has been involved in the design, development, implementation, and operation of ocean energy technologies in Australia and the USA for nearly 20 years. Since joining WSE, Scott has been heavily involved in developing and validating the core intellectual property of WSE. As a director of WSE, Scott's board responsibilities include overseeing and evaluating the company's design and technology operations.



### Noriko Wood

Senior Pavement Engineer | Fulton Hogan

Noriko Wood holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical) from UNSW Sydney and has a Graduate Certificate in Pavement Technology, and Graduate Certificate in Applied Data Science. Noriko has worked as an engineer at Fulton Hogan for the past 6 years and is currently based across the Technical and Sales teams in Fulton Hogan Infrastructure Services Division in Melbourne. Noriko's role includes the coordination of asphalt mix designs, research and development, product development, technical support, and the development of sustainable paving products for use in Fulton Hogans paving services.



### Nathan Buckley

Former AFL Player, Coach and Media Commentator

Nathan Buckley is a former professional Australian rules football coach, player, and commentator. He is listed by journalist Mike Sheahan as one of the top 50 players of all time. Buckley won the inaugural Rising Star Award, in 1993, then went on to become one of the game's elite, captaining Collingwood between 1999 and 2007, winning the Norm Smith Medal for best player afield in the 2002 Grand Final despite playing in the losing team. In 2004 Buckley became an original inductee into the Collingwood Hall of Fame. He retired at the conclusion of the 2007 AFL season and is now a commentator for the Seven Network.



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## FIRST LEADERSHIP INTENSIVE COURSE HELD



Nine local government professionals from around Victoria and Queensland have graduated from the first MWA EMERGENT Leadership Program.

EMERGENT is an all-new dynamic professional development program designed especially for municipal works specialists to grow as industry leaders.

Normally conducted over six months, the condensed version of the program concluded on 4 November.

Hosted by Central Goldfields Shire Council, and led by leadership expert Dale Monk, participants were:

- Jason Edwards, Coordinator Facilities, Central Goldfields Shire Council
- Aaron Ficken, Team Leader Rapid Response, Greater Bendigo City Council
- Jeremy Grimm, Fleet and Workshop Manager, Quilpie Shire Council
- Anthony Hawking, Backhoe Operator,

Whittlesea Council

- Mick Henderson, Acting Manager Operations, Hindmarsh Shire Council
- Sheree Lendon, Business Support Officer – Operations, Central Goldfields Shire Council
- Kristian Rogers, Works Supervisor – Unsealed Roads, Mount Alexander Shire Council
- Luke Treloar, Coordinator Roads and Works, Central Goldfields Shire Council
- Brian Weeks, Works Coordinator, Quilpie Shire Council

“The municipal works industry faces a barrage of challenges – the economic environment, the political landscape, challenges in the attraction and retention of staff, the impact of mental and wellbeing,” MWA CEO Peter Ali said. “Today’s leaders need the skills to meet these challenges head-on.”

Course facilitator Dale Monk, founder of the Ministry of Leadership, said EMERGENT supports the development of current and aspiring



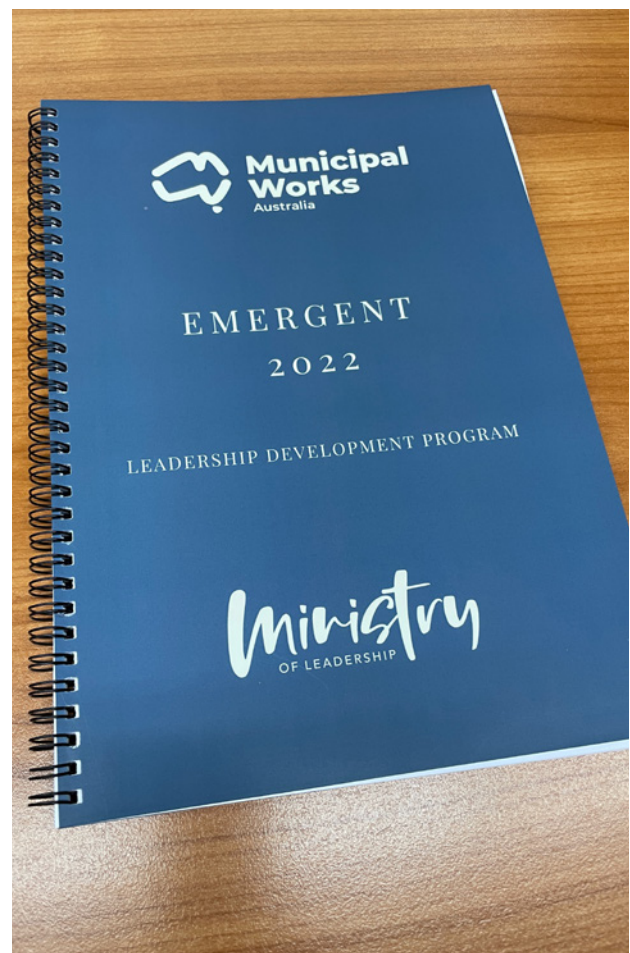


leaders with practical skills to enhance their leadership and organisational objectives.

“The vision for EMERGENT is to develop leaders from across the sector who have the passion and drive to contribute to the growth and success of the sector, establishing a reputation for excellence nationally,” Dale said.

The goals of Emergent are to:

- Develop collective leadership within the sector.
- Build the future of the municipal works industry.
- Provide a practical learning and development opportunity for industry leaders.
- Provide participants with the tools and frameworks they need to be more impactful and influential leaders.
- Enhance personal and team effectiveness.
- Encourage knowledge sharing and foster succession planning.
- Enhance networking opportunities across the sector.







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## 90 MWA members turn out for Maryborough event

MWA was pleased to partner with Central Goldfields Shire Council to host a networking event in Maryborough (Victoria) recently.

Organised by MWA Board Member and the Council's Manager Operations Alan Jones, more than 90 members from teams across Victoria had the opportunity to discuss the latest industry developments and hear from guest speaker Robert "Dipper" DiPierdomenico.

Guests also attended a council paving and road building demonstration in Maryborough, with the team from William Adams showcasing the CAT Gravel Road Soil Stabiliser.







# TREATING EMPLOYEES LIKE FAMILY IS PAR FOR THE COURSE AT SUPERSEALING

To say SuperSealing is a family business is an understatement – even if an employee is not a family member, they are treated like one.

Alan Reiter, founder and director, started SuperSealing in 2003 with friend and current director Tom Haslett, after qualifying and working as a civil engineer for various councils including Latrobe Shire and Sandringham (now Bayside).

From humble beginnings working out of a small bedroom office in Croydon (Victoria), SuperSealing now has a national footprint, as well as operations and interests in New Zealand and California.

The team has grown from five employees to over 130, and all the children of Alan and his

wife Carol have been involved in the business at one stage or another.

Alan said seeing his son Ben take over as SuperSealing's CEO and director "was one of his proudest moments".

"From the start we had a simple focus: 'The things that matter to us are our people, our clients and our reputation,'" Alan said. "These things that matter still form the foundation of the business today."

From its original services in crack sealing, SuperSealing has grown to be a nationwide asphalt specialist and also now has divisions dedicated to traffic management, line marking, civil projects and specialty surface preservation treatment.



“SuperSealing has built a lasting reputation in the road maintenance industry by continually delivering a high standard of service and workmanship,” Alan said.

“We’ve built a highly competent and specialised team of operators, and have developed an experienced leadership and support group, structured to provide optimum administration, OH&S and Management assistance to our field teams.”

When not working in the business, the Reiter family are mad golfers, particularly Alan.

His interest started when his family (he is number five of eight children!) moved from Korumburra in Gippsland to South Oakleigh in Melbourne, close to some of Australia’s best golf courses.

In 1957, at age 11, he became a caddy at Metropolitan Huntingdale Golf Club, and two years later caddied for the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks.

In 1962 he became Australian Schoolboys Golf Champion, and after becoming a member of Huntingdale Golf Club like his father, went on to become Club Champion an incredible 15 times.

He was named Leading Amateur Australian Medallist in the Australian Open in 1970 and Victorian Amateur Champion in 1976.

Today, several generations of the Reiter family are keen golfers including four of Alan’s brothers, two of his sons, his grandson and his nephew, and the family name is well represented on the Honour Boards at Huntingdale.

Whether it is work or play, the Reiter family are a tight-knit group.

**“WE ARE ALL A HAPPY FAMILY HERE,”** Alan said.

“Tom and I attribute the company’s success to the outstanding contribution made by everyone within the SuperSealing family.”





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## SuperSealing Today

SuperSealing maintains, protects and transforms roads, playgrounds, pathways and car parks and is committed to providing clients with a safe and cost-effective service.

SuperSealing has a fully Integrated Management System that complies with ISO 9001:2008; O.H.S. AS/NZS 4801:2001 and ISO 14001:2004 which is 3rd party audited on an annual basis.

## Services include:

### Crack Sealing

SuperSealing has a combination of high quality proprietary hot-pour crack sealing products, world-class application equipment and skilled operators. We provide a high-performance crack sealing service to clients delivering a high-quality job and excellent value. SuperSealing is Australia and New Zealand's Number 1 Crack Sealing Company

### Surface Preservation Treatments

Innovative, technical advanced and environmentally beneficial products have been introduced into our road preservation, protection and transformation range.

- GuardTop - A rich black, high-performance asphalt preservation treatment. It protects, is environmentally sustainable and looks great.
- CoolSeal - Award-winning, heat-reflective, asphalt pavement preservation treatment. It can reduce surface temperatures and improve pedestrian comfort & safety.

### Line Marking & Civil Works

SuperSealing has extensive experience in road maintenance and minor asphalt and concrete repairs and construction. We provide high quality works for a broad range of residential and commercial projects. Our Line Marking operations further extends the road maintenance services we provide.

### Traffic Management

SuperSealing has been delivering professional traffic management services since 2005 with a focus on providing safe worksites for our clients.



**Wave Swell Energy Ltd** (WSE) is an unlisted Australian public company. WSE has developed a world-leading proprietary technology that converts wave energy into electrical energy. The technology produces clean, sustainable electricity without using oil or other contaminants. The devices can be re-floated and towed to another location. There are no moving parts in the water.

WSE utilise technology based on the well-established oscillating water column (OWC) concept. The OWC is an artificial blowhole with a chamber open underneath the waterline. Waves pass the OWC, and the water rises and falls, forcing air through a turbine at the top of the chamber. This turbine generates electricity.

Previous OWC technologies have all been bidirectional. The WSE technology, however, operates unidirectionally. The WSE turbine is more straightforward, robust, and reliable and exhibits higher energy conversion efficiency. The only moving parts in the technology are the turbine and bespoke valves, which are well above the water line. There are no moving parts in or below the water.

In a world first, WSE deployed its 200kW wave energy project on King Island, Tasmania, adjacent to the harbour at the township of Grassy on January 10, 2021. It has since been commissioned, exporting its first power into the King Island grid on June 18, 2021. WSE has worked with Hydro Tasmania, the island's energy and network provider, to connect the unit to the local grid and is now delivering energy from the project into the existing network. Hydro Tasmania will separately monitor the energy produced by the unit to ensure it meets the requirements of the King Island grid.

The wave energy produced will complement Hydro Tasmania's existing hybrid grid, further diversifying the renewable sources and reducing diesel consumption on King Island. The UniWave200 is now contributing to the mix of energy resources used to power the homes and industries of King Island.

WSE's Chief Technology Officer, Scott Hunter, will provide a keynote address about the outcomes of the King Island project at MWA's National Conference in Bendigo. You will have the opportunity to meet Scott and ask him questions about the technology and its potential future role in meeting the climate challenge.







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# OMNIGRIP DIRECT SCORES A FIRST WITH TIPES-CERTIFIED ROAD SAFETY SURFACES

Road users in Queensland will be safer and road managers will have reduced lifecycle costs, with the commencement of TIPES certification of specialist road safety surfaces in Queensland.

TIPES, the Australian Road Research Board's (ARRB) Transport Infrastructure Product Evaluation Scheme, considers product specifications, application processes, and actual in-service performance, supported by test data and inspections.

TIPES for Coloured Surface Treatments such as bike lanes and bus lanes, and High Friction Surface Treatments, was developed by ARRB for Queensland's Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), the Queensland Local Roads Alliance and IPWEA (QLD), and is similar to international product certification processes such as those in the UK.

Platinum Sponsor of Municipal Works Australia, OmniGrip Direct, is the first company to have products TIPES certified, achieving first place in both the Coloured Surface Treatment and

High Friction Surface Treatment categories at Level 3 (unrestricted).

Darren Scerri, CEO of OmniGrip Direct said 'We recognise this as Australia's toughest product approval system. Achieving approval recognises the quality and durability of our high-friction surface, OmniGrip HF, and our unique Australian recycled-glass coloured surface, OmniGrip CST. The winners will be Queensland's drivers and riders who will be safer on roads, bus lanes, bike lanes and paths, and road asset managers who will benefit from reduced lifecycle costs.'

The TIPES system was implemented by TMR following concern about the in-service performance and life of existing coloured surface treatments and high friction surfaces used across Queensland. In response they developed new specifications that allow only TIPES certified products to be used on TMR projects where coloured surface treatments and high friction surfaces are required.

Dave Jones, External Affairs Director for





OmniGrip Direct, explained, 'Testing to determine compliance with specifications, at the time of application and the end of the defect liability period, has been sadly lacking on many State and Local Government projects across Australia. Road managers have relied on a system of self-regulation, perhaps to save money by not requiring contractors to supply independent test data demonstrating compliance. But that is a false economy if road managers become locked into more frequent replacement of underperforming surfaces, to save a few dollars in up-front costs by avoiding testing.'

'The shift to TIPES recognises that for a surface to provide skid resistance, texture, durability and colour retention for at least five years, as required to achieve Level 3 TIPES certification, requires specialist materials, techniques and expertise.'

'Coloured surface treatments are not painted surfaces. They're a specialist surfacing material. If this is poorly understood in the tender and project delivery stages, then unsuitable products end up on public roads, safety is compromised and the road manager's costs and risks are increased.'

Following from its 22+ years operation in Melbourne, OmniGrip Direct has opened an office and depot in Archerfield in Brisbane and has commenced delivering its safety surfaces on Queensland's roads. That includes its innovative "hoon bars" that use its TIPES certified OmniGrip HF to modify the skid resistance of road surfaces in a way that discourages hoon driving behaviour.

OmniGrip Direct is registered for LocalBuy in Queensland.

[www.omnigripdirect.com.au/about/brisbane](http://www.omnigripdirect.com.au/about/brisbane)







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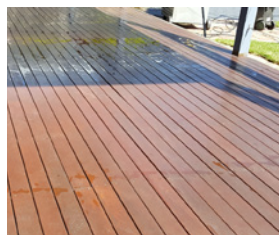


H<sub>2</sub>Oil is a long lasting premium grade water based timber & decking finish, made from superior ingredients and pigments. The penetrating formula is designed to coat and protect the timber from the harsh Australian conditions. It produces a transparent natural finish in various colours leaving the timber looking new and natural. H<sub>2</sub>Oil also rejuvenates previously coated, stained or oiled timber, bringing back its natural beauty.



### TYPICAL PRODUCT DATA

<b>Colours</b>	Natural, Light Oak, Western Red, Jarrah, Merbau, Pine, Weathered Grey & More + +
<b>Finish</b>	Matt, Gloss or Traction (Anti Slip rated to P4 or P5)
<b>Pack Size</b>	10 litres
<b>Application</b>	Touch dry 10 minutes at 25 degrees and 50% humidity Re-coat 1 hour Wash up in cold water Coverage up to 20 sq mtrs per ltr, depending on surface texture and timber porosity



**“If we don’t have it, we’ll source it”**

**Gary Johnson**

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[gemmchemicals.com.au](http://gemmchemicals.com.au)





Victoria's Phillip Island Golf Club, along with many other golf courses and community sports fields, are seeking out a cost-effective solution to improve drainage with minimal disruption during winter months.

Without effective drainage, golf courses and community sports fields face the challenge of restricting or in some cases denying access to affected areas to avoid prolonged turf damage and protect the well-being of the participants.

After careful consideration and extensive research, in 2019 the Phillip Island Golf Club and its members embarked on a staged drainage works schedule consisting of subsurface drainage and sand slitting. The works were to be undertaken across multiple holes on the back nine where during the winter months the course was closed due to being unplayable.

The Club is situated over two parcels of land and split into the front and the back nine. The front nine is lucky to be located on a natural sand profile, however, the back nine is located on sandy clay and subject to tidal water.

Over the past two summers, the club engaged contractor McMahons Drainage Solutions to install both subsurface drainage and sand slitting to 5 holes across the back nine, with the aim to have these golf holes open for play all year round and accessible by golf carts.

Undertaking the works during the summer months allows for quicker installation and all-important establishment of turf over the sand filled trenches prior to the winter months.

These drainage upgrades have provided major benefits in the overall golfing experience for

its members and guests along with the added benefit of improving soil health through removing excess water from the soil profile and reducing the water table below the root zone.

The drainage techniques McMahons used at the golf club consist of the following:

#### **Subsurface drainage:**

- **Lateral drains (100mm slotted drain coil pipe, trench size 200mm wide x 450mm deep) backfilled with gravel material 200mm, then 250mm of drainage sand to the surface.**

#### **Sand Slitting:**

- **Trenched at 100mm wide x 300mm deep using a Wizz Wheel and backfilled with 100mm gravel material, then 200mm of drainage sand to the surface**

The club and McMahons found that these techniques were an effective method to resolving their drainage issues with minimal impact to the turf leading to quicker recovery time.

"We could not be happier as all these fairways are now playable. Bernie and his team (at McMahons) have done a fantastic job and the end result is fantastic leaving minimal disturbance to the course" – Mark Jamieson (Phillip Island Golf Club Chairman)

With over 1,000 linear metres of subsurface drainage, 500 linear metres of main line drainage and 10,000 linear metres of sand slitting at 2-meter spacings, Phillip Island Golf Club have reaped the financial benefit with increased golfers and golf carts accessing the course during the winter months.



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As the infrastructure market gravitates towards a changing world in respect to sustainability and closing the loop, manufacturers need to be ahead of the game. Ultimately industry and asset owners expect the same longevity and outcomes from products using recycled material than they do from the same product using virgin material.

Vinidex have a long history of manufacturing using plastic to produce a large range of pipes and fittings that service the water, sewer, drainage, rural, mining and gas markets. Over this time, we have introduced different levels of recycle into our products dependant on the application. Our biggest challenge is manufacture sustainable products that don't compromise the performance or length of the service life.

In recent times we have stepped up our game and started to introduce products like our StormFLO Civil, a Twinwall corrugated drainage product manufactured using recycled Polyethylene. We don't just use any plastic we can find though; we test the recycled material to ensure we know that it will give the required 100-year design life that is expected, and still conforms to the Australian Manufacturing Standard.

How do we test to ensure the recycled material meets the grade? In the US, there is a relatively new ASTM Standard called the UCLS, Un-Notched Constant Ligament Stress crack test. (1) This test method covers an un-notched constant ligament stress (UCLS) test for use with HDPE materials that contain post-consumer recycled HDPE (PCR-HDPE). Contaminants in the PCR-HDPE can initiate stress cracks at elevated temperatures, and

this test method evaluates the response of these materials to a constant applied stress. Vinidex are the only manufacturer in Australia to have the testing equipment to perform this test in-house. The testing means we can test all our sources of recycled material to ensure the quality is up to the service life of the product and the performance isn't compromised. If the quality of the material tested doesn't meet the high standards, we set for our Twinwall product, we are lucky enough to have other sub-soil products like Draincoil that have less performance criteria that will utilise this type of material. Draincoil can be manufactured using up to 100% Post-consumer or Post-Industrial recycle in its manufacturing process at any time.

Vinidex, are constantly looking for improvement in our sustainability journey and this is only one part of a much bigger story!

Please visit Vinidex website or call 131169 to find out more information.





# DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG AUSTRALIA – A VISION FOR ZERO DAMAGE, ZERO HARM

IF YOU DON'T SEARCH  
"BEFORE YOU DIG" ONLINE  
FIRST, YOU'RE DIGGING BLIND



## **What to do Before You Dig?**

Safety is a fundamental aspect of any project that involves digging or excavating, so using the BYD service should always be your first task before starting work.

## **How do you access the Before You Dig service?**

The service remains free for users and is accessible via the new BYDA website at [www.byda.com.au](http://www.byda.com.au) or through the BYDA iPhone and Android apps.

## **What happens after you lodge an enquiry?**

Plans and guidelines from asset owners are sent via email. Plans indicate the presence of underground infrastructure only and not their exact location. Therefore, you should only use them as a guide. Please contact the asset owner directly if you require further assistance or have not received plans. Do NOT proceed until you have received the relevant information from all asset owners affected by your project.



### What services are offered by BYDA?

BYDA continues to provide the free referral service where registered members share detailed asset plans and safety information with individuals or companies planning to dig underground. We also provide an Automation solution to help member organisations respond automatically to referral notifications which in turn saves time and improves organisational efficiency, asset protection and damage prevention.

### Free damage prevention awareness session:

Our Damage Prevention and Awareness Officers can tailor a toolbox talk or in-depth session to meet your team's needs, delivered online or onsite. Book a free session for your team online: [www.byda.com.au/services-education/education/](http://www.byda.com.au/services-education/education/)

## Before You Dig Australia - 5 Ps of Safe Excavation

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### PLAN

Plan your job. Use BYDA service at least one day before your job is due to begin to ensure you have the correct information you need to carry out a safe project.



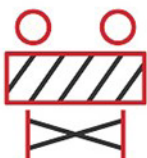
### PREPARE

Use the service of a Certified Locator. Communicate with asset owners if you need assistance with anything. Look for clues onsite.



### POTHOLE

Potholing is physically sighting the asset using hydro vacuum extraction.



### PROTECT

Protecting and supporting the exposed infrastructure is the responsibility of the excavator. Always erect safety barriers in areas of risk to protect underground networks. Enforce exclusion zones.



### PROCEED

ONLY proceed when the above steps have been completed.



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## SCALE AND INNOVATION AT PWX IMPRESS BRAD

Brad Byrne, who previously worked at Whittlesea Shire Council, was impressed by the scale of the Public Works Expo (PWX 2022) when he visited the flagship event of the American Public Works Association in Charlotte, North Carolina, recently.

Accompanied by MWA CEO Peter Ali, Brad visited the expo after winning MWA's 2022 International Study Award.

"Charlotte was a beautiful city to visit, but it was the enormity of the expo with hundreds of exhibitors in the main exhibition hall that was on a scale I've never seen before," Brad said.

"However, the real highlight of the trip was the connections that were made with international colleagues – both socially and professionally."

Brad was also blown away by the innovations being used by American works officers, particularly those using AI (artificial intelligence) and a range of digital and interactive technologies.

"One example was the use of a remote-controlled, solar-powered slasher that was like a mini 4WD tractor that could be used on really steep or hard-to-access areas," he said.

"There were also plenty of examples of electric-powered and hydrogen-powered machines which are the next big innovation in local government."

Brad is keen to share his learnings with colleagues, not only through his new role with Remondis, the Australian operation of one of the world's largest recycling, service and water companies, but also through MWA.

"The travel award is just one of the many ways MWA supports the professionalism and networking of municipal works officers," he said. "I encourage all my team members and colleagues to take advantage of these opportunities."

*Photo: International Travel Award winner Brad Byrne (second from right) catches up with the exhibitor crew from PB Products*



# FREE

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GOVERNMENT



**Municipal  
Works**  
Australia

# Membership

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Municipal Works Australia (MWA) is a not-for-profit member-based association established to support individuals and organisations in the municipal works industry. Founded in 1936, MWA supports the professional development of operational staff by providing industry-related information, training and networking events. The works fields traditionally associated with MWA include road and civil infrastructure maintenance and construction, parks and open space, waste management, fleet management, and engineering services.

## AS A MEMBER OF MWA YOU CAN:

- Participate in a range of networking events, technical tours, and technical demonstrations.
- Connect to a network with thousands of your fellow municipal works peers in Australia.
- Access education and training programs developed specifically for people working in local government.
- Participate in webinars covering topics relevant to your career.
- Access to MWA's Professional Development Credit Certificates (PDCs) program.

## YOU ALSO GET:

- Access to communicate with your fellow municipal works professionals across the country.
- Access to MWA's Networker e-newsletter and ACCESS Magazine.
- Invitations to participate in our Works and Engineering Conferences throughout Australia.
- Access to programs and events offered by the American Public Works Association (APWA) and our other international affiliated associations.

## HOW TO JOIN:

Please find out more or sign up online via our website: <https://municipalworks.com.au/>

For other enquiries, email: [ceo@municipalworks.com.au](mailto:ceo@municipalworks.com.au)