



NEWSLETTER

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A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

Interest in the RPEQ system has picked up since the Victorian Government announced plans to adopt a similar system.

Should the Victorian Parliament pass the Engineers Registration Bill, Victoria will become just the second Australian state or territory to have a mandatory and compulsory registration system for engineers – Queensland having had the RPEQ system since 1930.

You would be hard-pressed to find an engineer who does not have an opinion about registration, be it positive or negative. I do not intend on spending a great deal of time talking about the benefits of registration here, but there is a salient point that I believe most of the negative commentary about registration has missed. No matter the level of regulation and oversight, engineering failures will and do occur. Engineers, like any other professional who must be registered to practice, are fallible and can make mistakes. The value of registration as I see it is that it reduces the risk of something going wrong by setting a benchmark for engineers.

Engineers and others will have the chance to learn more about the PE Act and registration at various events BPEQ will attend in July. BPEQ staff will visit Mackay and Moranbah for seminars with the Mackay Engineers Australia group, Aurizon and mining companies from 3-5 July. From 9-12 July, BPEQ staff will attend the [9th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management](#); 10 July deliver a presentation at the 2018 [Mining Electrical Safety Conference](#) and finally attend the [2018 Queensland Mining and Engineering Exhibition](#) in Mackay from 24-26 July.

The Non-Conforming Building Products Audit Taskforce is planning another CPD course on [External Fire Spread Risk in Tall Building Design](#) from 16-20 July 2018. This course offers fire engineers a unique opportunity to acquire specialist knowledge in fire safety strategy of buildings. BPEQ encourages RPEQs in fire engineering to attend this course.

Finally, congratulations to former Board members Mrs Julianne Mitchell and Mr Gregory McLean for being recognised in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours. Julie, the immediate past elected RPEQ, was awarded the Public Service Medal for outstanding public service to transport infrastructure in Queensland. Greg, the former building and construction industry representative, was awarded a Medal in the General Division (OAM) for service to the building and construction industry.

We trust you enjoy and find the e-news useful; and please feel free to contact BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au or call 07 3210 3100 if we can assist you.

Kylie Mercer
Registrar





PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE PROTOCOL

Starting this month, Board members will contribute articles in the BPEQ e-news dealing with a topic of their choice. The Board's elected RPEQ representative Peter Evans is the first contributor. In this issue of the BPEQ e-news Peter speaks about the Warren Centre's Professional Performance Protocol.

The French Open just finished, and now the worldwide tennis community looks forward to the 2018 Wimbledon Championship in England. Nadal, Djokovic, Federer; Halep, Williams, Muguruza — whose performance will prevail?

Like a professional athlete facing new challenges in each competition, the key to success inevitably lies in doing your best and continuously improving. A professional engineer's performance is tested in every project as new challenges are overcome through the professionalism of the engineer.

Engineering professionalism consists of three dimensions: ethics (values), competency (technical knowledge) and performance.

Performance is defined as "How the Professional Engineer approaches, arranges and undertakes a new task to ensure delivery of the final agreed outcome".

In 2009, The Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering convened a broad cross-section of Australian professional engineers to write the Performance Protocol which sits alongside definitions of ethics and competency to yield a complete view of engineering professionalism.



THE PROTOCOL CONSISTS OF EIGHT ELEMENTS:

1. Relevant Parties and Stakeholders

Do you clearly understand the relationships with the people who depend on you, and those you depend on?

2. The Engineering Task

Have you discussed and agreed with the person you are working for (or who is working for you) the objectives and extent of the task?

3. Competence to Act

Do you have the skills, tools and resources required to complete the task?

4. Statutory Requirements and Public Interest

Have you identified and responded to relevant legal requirements? Have you considered and responded to issues of public interest?

5. Risk Management

Are you identifying and managing risks which may prevent the proper performance of the task?

6. Engineering Innovation

Are you considering innovative ways of undertaking your task?

7. Engineering Task Management

Are you applying the appropriate processes and procedures established within your organisation and/or project?

8. Contractual Framework

Are you considering the implications of the contract under which the work is being done?



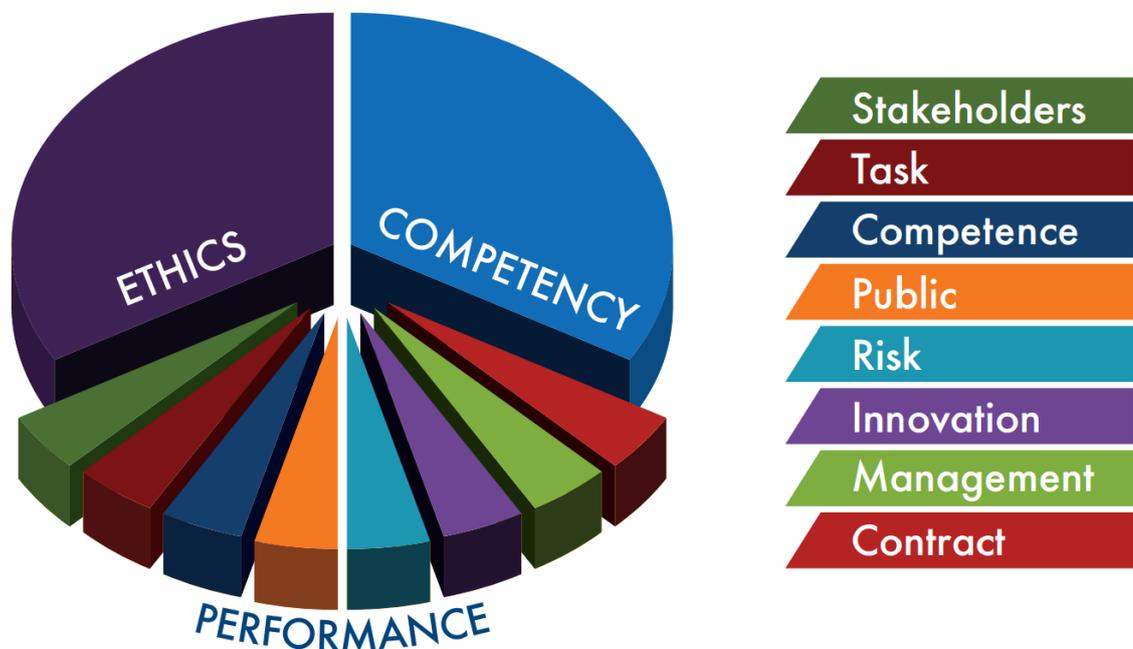
The application of the Performance Protocol is fully scalable, from a small task performed by a single engineer to a complex project.

Unlike a tennis singles competition, engineering projects are a team sport played with skilled specialists, all-round generalists and a captain who makes the final call. The Protocol is both a tool and set of principles that define performance and can lift professional performance in individual and team settings.

The Professional Performance Protocol is part of the Professional Performance Innovation and Risk (PPIR) Program. The PPIR Program is the result of almost a decade of development by a team of senior professional engineers.

Further information and resources are available online at www.ppir.com.au.

THE EIGHT ELEMENTS OF PERFORMANCE



Peter Evans was elected to the Board in March 2016. Peter started his career in local government, before joining the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) in 1982. He served as area engineer, project engineer, manager and regional director in Barcaldine, Rockhampton, Warwick and Roma and managed or directed projects in water supply and sewerage systems and road works.

Since 2010, he has held the position of Deputy Chief Engineer in DTMR and co-manages DTMR's \$3.6 million annual research program. Peter was educated at the University of Queensland and is a member of several professional organisations, including Engineers Australia, Professionals Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



DOES PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE MATTER?

Amongst the critical day-to-day tasks engineers deal with it is sometimes easy to overlook matters such as insurance and in particular, professional indemnity insurance.

The reasons for this are many and varied but it is, at least in part, a symptom of the unique position in which engineers sit, between a profession and an industry. Nonetheless, one should not discount or dismiss the importance of professional indemnity insurance which is designed to protect engineers against the inevitable costs (legal or otherwise) arising from an act, omission or breach of their professional duties while providing engineering services.

As professionals, engineers are, like doctors, solicitors and accountants, held to a higher standard than 'ordinary people' because of their more advanced qualifications. That higher standard attracts to the profession a certain duty of care not seen in other jobs or industries. Professionals are often known as 'experts' in their chosen field and consequently, if a client/customer suffers a loss or damage as a result of an expert's failure to maintain their professionalism (i.e. the professional breaches their duty of care), that expert can be sued for violation of their professional duty. Accordingly, it is prudent to be insured against such an eventuality.

The general rule of thumb for professionals is for each member of the profession to have a valid and binding contract of professional indemnity insurance that complies with the minimum requirements set-out for that profession. Obviously the 'minimum requirements' differ for each profession (e.g. the minimum standard for doctors is objectively higher than for accountants). For engineers in Queensland, in contrast to other professions, there is currently no obligation to hold professional indemnity insurance to become a registered professional engineer of Queensland (RPEQ) (however, we note some professional membership bodies require engineers to hold professional indemnity insurance to be accredited or become a member e.g. Engineers Australia's NER).

Despite the lack of an obligatory insurance requirement, the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland (BPEQ) strongly recommends that all practicing engineers hold a valid and binding contract of professional indemnity insurance either personally or through their employer.

It is a reasonable assumption to make that the cost of professional indemnity insurance for a professional registered with their governing body is lower than for those that are unregistered. For instance, the cost of professional indemnity insurance for Chartered Accountants in Australia is between 4% and 8% cheaper than the same insurance for an unregistered accountant. This is fundamentally because insurance companies look more favourably upon professionals that have more advanced experience, gone the extra mile and reached the competency threshold required to become registered/certified in their chosen field. In short, registration matters when it comes to insurance and professional indemnity insurance matters for engineers.

BPEQ notes that issues of insurance and risk management can be quite complex and given the depth, breadth and intricate nature of the engineering profession, it is imperative that engineers carefully consider their insurance options.





PROJECT BANK ACCOUNTS INFORMATION SESSION

As part of the State Government's changes to improve security of payment for sub-contractors, building work* contracts worth over \$1 million will require Project Bank Accounts (PBA) to be set up by the head contractor.

PBAs are being introduced in two phases. Under phase one (commenced 1 March 2018) Project Bank Accounts will apply to contractors and consultants where:

- 1. the Queensland Government is the Principal under the contract;**
- 2. the contract value is between \$1 million and \$10 million (incl. GST);**
- 3. at least one subconsultant is engaged under the head contract; and**
- 4. more than 50% of the contract price is for 'building work'***

In phase two, expected to commence in 2019, all contracts over \$1 million (including consultancy contracts) with local governments, statutory bodies and the private sector will also be included.

To help those affected by these changes, the Building Industry and Policy Unit is providing information sessions to head contractors and consultants (architects, engineers, surveyors, project managers). These sessions are capped at 15 people (to ensure good discussion and question time), run to 1.5 hours and cover pre-tender considerations, post-contract obligations, general observations and end-of-project considerations for PBAs.

If there is sufficient interest, BPEQ can arrange an information session on PBAs for RPEQs in urban or regional areas.

Interested RPEQs or engineering firms can contact [BPEQ's Communications and Media Adviser](#) to discuss an information session.

For more information visit <http://bit.ly/2KcBgjR>.

** Civil, engineering and infrastructure projects such as bridges, roads and tunnels and public transport infrastructure (such as busways, roads and railways) are not 'building work' for PBA purposes. (Therefore, the PBA requirements also do not apply to architectural, engineering, design, planning or site work associated with these construction activities).*

IPWEAQ STREET PLANNING & DESIGN MANUAL

IPWEAQ members and key stakeholders have expressed a view that there is a pressing need for street design and planning guidelines that address how we will live both now and in the future.

In response to these representations, IPWEAQ has undertaken to develop a new Street Planning and Design Manual (SPDM). This is a project of major significance for the Institute and its members, and one that will benefit local communities.

The SPDM will:

- provide guidelines for practitioners in the planning and design of street networks and street elements; and
- include references to codes that may be adopted in LGA land-use planning schemes and other planning instruments.

The development of the SPDM is a significant undertaking and IPWEAQ plans to apply for assistance through Commonwealth and state government grant funding schemes. To apply for funding, a business case detailing the many benefits of the SPDM is needed.

IPWEAQ is asking for your knowledge and expertise to assist with the compilation of a comprehensive list of benefits and associated costs/savings which will arise following the implementation of the SPDM.

IPWEAQ plans to complete the business case by **31 August 2018**. If you would like to assist please provide IPWEAQ with your identified benefits and costs/savings estimates by **COB Tuesday, 3 July 2018**.

For further information contact SPDM Project Manager, Trevor Parminter at trevor@rovertreviews.com or call 0437 752 996.



2018 STATE BUDGET INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING IN NUMBERS

A highlight of [Queensland's 2018/19 Budget](#) is the \$45.8 billion for infrastructure spending over the next four years. In a budget billed as 'borrow to build' the government claims 38,000 jobs will be supported by its \$11.6 billion capital works program in 2018/19.



ROADS

\$115 MILLION
for Mackay Ring Road (Stage 1)

\$534.3 MILLION
for Toowoomba Second
Range Crossing

\$487 MILLION
extra lanes in two sections of
the M1, from Eight Mile Plains to
Daisy Hill and from Varsity Lakes
to Tugun



RAIL

\$733 MILLION
for Cross River Rail

\$160.8 MILLION
for Beerburrum to Nambour Rail
duplication project



OTHER

\$176 MILLION
for Rookwood Weir

\$250 MILLION
for North Queensland Stadium

\$176 MILLION
for Cairns Convention
Centre extension

\$75.1 MILLION
for ongoing development of
Townsville and Lucinda ports

\$200 MILLION
for Works for Queensland
program – minor maintenance
and infrastructure works in
regional Queensland

The government expects to post a surplus of \$148 million in 2018/19, but revenue is expected to fall to \$57.7 billion and expenses likely to rise. State debt will rise to \$83 billion over the next four years.

To find out more about the 2018/19 Budget visit <https://budget.qld.gov.au>



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

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

Joshua FOSTER	Graeme HARDING	Aline LABORDE	Gary RIMMINGTON
John YESBERG	Tony SUCKLING	Jarek MICHALAK	Ian TEAKLE
Moataz MAHMOUD	Benoit VISENSANG	Jason FLETCHER	Zhe ZHANG
Jacob FRANKLIN	Nina ZUCHOWSKI	Daniel TSUJI	Bassem ELAFFIFY
Benjamin REGAN	Peter JASTRZEBSKI	Paul SIMPSON	Julian SALVADOR
Paul BUCKLEY	Bishoy BESHAY	Andrew TSAKMAKIS	Errol BEBBINGTON
Marina ZIUZINA	Paul ALLARD	Dean HASSALL	Sam JORGENSEN
Chaminda WICKRAMASINGHE	John GWYDIR	Kristen KOO	Daniel SPENCER
Micahel BRYAN	Scott LOADER	John TAMARESSIS	Andrew HUNTER
Alistair VERTH	Mahmoud GABR	Daniele CIMMINO	Craig MESSER
Nader SAMUEL	Mina HANNA	Helen DOHERTY	Priya GEORGE
Douglas MUTCHER	Ranil JAYASINHAGE	Jorge EL-KHOURI	Andrew MATHER
Simritpal BAINS	Bencheng YANG	Sean RICHARDSON	Federico NARDI
Bruce STREET	Narasimha CHERUKURI	Mostafizur RAHMAN	Yu Chween LEE
Graeme WEBBER	Ahmed HAMADA	Mitchell McCABE	Hugo MARTINEZ
	Arturo FLORESCA	Phillip SAAL	Paul UNO

Best wishes to the following RPEQs who have retired:

John MACKELLAR	Geoffrey RYAN	Stephen BLADES	Bruce EDWARDS
Brian HARRADINE	Mark ZAMMIT	Philip LOVERING	Stephen BOURNES
Douglas ALCORN	Simon SHYONG	Leigh MILLER	Ian MORECOMBE
John SIMPSON	Gerald BARNS	Milton CARRUTHERS	Duncan KINDER
Kevin KOUHBOR	Lewis GOMES	Brian DUNN	
Kamal LAHA	Michael NEALE	Peter STEWART	
Warwick GRAHAM	Ronald JORDAN	Andrew BELL	

CONNECT WITH BPEQ ON LINKEDIN



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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