



NEWSLETTER

# ISSUE 43

## MARCH 2018

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## A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

It is a great privilege to bring this e-news issue to you as the Acting Registrar while Kylie Mercer is on secondment at the Queensland Parole Board, and I look forward to progressing BPEQ's many projects and initiatives.

RPEQs will need no reminding that next month marks the beginning of the renewal period. Leading up to renewals BPEQ has received many registration applications and this month the 20,000th RPEQ was approved. There are now 13,000 active RPEQs from Queensland, interstate and overseas on the register.

Since 1930, RPEQs have set the standard for their professionalism, qualification and competence when the first Professional Engineers Act was passed by parliament. Now, some 88 years later, other Australian states and territories look set to follow Queensland's lead. The Victorian Government has introduced a bill to parliament that will create a system of registration for engineers, while there is ongoing discussion in the ACT, New South Wales and Western Australia about doing the same. BPEQ is ready and able to assist other states and territories if they introduce registration schemes.

The Regional and Remote Assistance bursary has received a significant amount of interest from RPEQs since being launched last month. After highlighting

the issues RPEQs in regional and remote parts of Queensland have with CPD, James Cook University and the University of Southern Queensland have contacted BPEQ to find out how they could help RPEQs with CPD. JCU and USQ invite feedback from RPEQs about CPD and the types of courses they want, to find out more read '**Universities seek RPEQ feedback on CPD**'. CPD will also be the topic of the legal discussion in this month's e-news.

Finally, best wishes to Adam Stoker who completed his tenure as a Board member this month. As the Board's legal representative, Adam brought great insight and analysis to often complex situations. A new legal representative and academic representative are expected to be appointed soon.

On behalf of BPEQ we hope you have an enjoyable Easter break. If you require assistance please contact BPEQ at [admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au) or call 07 3210 3100.

**Kaine Barton**  
A/Registrar



## THE INS AND OUTS OF CPD

Registered professional engineers ('RPEQs') must undertake continuing professional development ('CPD') to be eligible for renewal.

The compliance with the CPD requirement is monitored by both a requirement for declaration on renewal and regular audit.

This e-news article outlines both the CPD requirements and audit process. Further information about CPD can be found in the November 2017 e-news.

### OVERVIEW OF CPD

Under the Professional Engineers Act 2002 ('PE Act'), 'continuing professional development' is a 'continuing registration requirement'. For convenience and without delving into the legal details, the term CPD is used in this article.

A core aim of the PE Act is for professional engineering services to be undertaken in a professional and competent way.

The requirement for CPD forms a central pillar to achieving this legislative aim. Put simply, there are legal and professional obligations on RPEQs, under both the PE Act and the Code of Practice, to undertake regular professional learning.

While the concept of CPD is virtually universal across all professions, it is of particular importance to professional engineers. The reasons for this include the risks to the public which may arise from sub-standard engineering and the speed at which engineering develops.

Consistent with this, CPD is a significant professional obligation.

### CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – A CONTINUING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

There are three distinct instances when CPD is considered, being:

- As part of the assessment for initial registration by the relevant assessment entity;
- Renewal application;
- Audit process.

In relation to the first instance, it is a requirement under the various assessment schemes, that an applicant has achieved a currency of CPD at the time of initial registration.

The second instance, occurs on the annual renewal of registration. In applying for renewal, RPEQ's must declare if they have completed the required CPD. If they have not, the details of what has been undertaken and the reasons for non-compliance are to be provided. Other relevant information includes what CPD is scheduled or proposed to be undertaken.

The reason why this information is necessary is that, under the PE Act, in deciding an application for renewal, BPEQ **must have regard to the extent to which an applicant has satisfied the [CPD]**.

Where there is non-compliance or (more likely) partial compliance, BPEQ has a range of options depending on the circumstances. It may impose registration conditions or in serious cases can refuse to renew registration.

The third instance when CPD is considered is when audits are undertaken either by assessment entities in relation to their members or by assessment entities on behalf of BPEQ.

The differences in who undertake the audit arises from the PE Act.

### 5 STEP ONLINE RENEWAL PROCESS

1. Visit [www.bpeq.qld.gov.au](http://www.bpeq.qld.gov.au)
2. Sign-in to 'My Account'  
(sign-in name is your RPEQ number)
3. Click renew now
4. Answer online renewal questions
5. Make payment

### THE CPD REQUIREMENTS.

As a preliminary observation, while there are two distinct sources of the CPD requirement, and there are some differences in the details of various schemes, the general CPD requirement is 150 hours over three years.

The specific requirements for CPD are determined by whether or not a registrant is **registered with an assessment entity for participation in the CPD requirements of an assessment scheme**. Note, this concept is different from either initial assessment by an assessment entity or membership with them. It generally aligns with 'chartered' status or equivalent.



Put simply, if a registrant is **registered** with the assessment scheme for CPD, then they must comply with the CPD requirements of that scheme. These will be obtainable from the relevant assessment entity. The assessment entities are:

- AusIMM;
- Engineers Australia;
- Institute of Chemical Engineers;
- Institution of Fire Engineers;
- Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Queensland Division;
- Professionals Australia;
- Royal Institution of Naval Architects;
- The Institution of Structural Engineers.

If a person **is not registered** with an assessment scheme for CPD, they must comply with the BPEQ's CPD requirements which are:

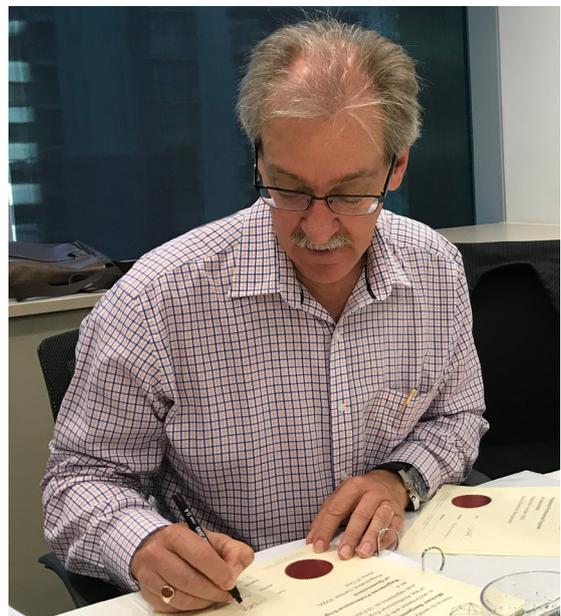
*Engineers must undertake a minimum of 150 hours of continuing professional development (CPD) over three years to continue to be eligible for registration. BPEQ has aligned its CPD requirements with those of the approved assessment entities.*

*CPD would be expected to include a combination of activities such as:*

- *Formal education and training (courses/lectures);*
- *Informal learning activities (eg. reading journals and manuals);*
- *Conferences and meetings;*
- *Presentations and papers;*
- *Service activities (eg. CPD auditor and reviewing technical papers); and*
- *Industry Involvement (for academics).*

*RPEQs are expected to record their CPD hours and demonstrate to BPEQ they have met the requirement of 150 hours of CPD over three years.*

As a few general observations, there is a degree of flexibility for both the content and the manner in which registrants can undertake CPD. However, the requirements distil to the CPD activities undertaken, individually and collectively, being of substance and meaningful in the development of engineering knowledge and skills.



*BPEQ Chair Dawson Wilkie signing the certificate of registration for the 20,000th RPEQ.*

### **AUDIT OF CPD**

In addition to registrant's declarations at the time of renewal, regular audits are undertaken both by BPEQ and assessment entities.

The objective is for all RPEQ's to have their CPD audited at least once every seven years.

As outlined above, the responsible entity depends on whether a registrant is or is not registered with an assessment entity for CPD.

If they are registered for CPD, the assessment entity will undertake regular audits as part of their management of the scheme.

If they are not registered for CPD, BPEQ will facilitate audits, using a combination of risk assessment and random selection. Of note, where BPEQ undertakes audits, it will generally engage an assessment entity to undertake the audits on its behalf.

Where audits are undertaken, BPEQ will receive a report in relation to the audit and where indicated, will consider CPD non-compliance.

For more information on CPD contact BPEQ at [admin@bpeq.qld.gov](mailto:admin@bpeq.qld.gov) or on 07 3210 3100 or visit [www.bpeq.qld.gov.au](http://www.bpeq.qld.gov.au).



## UNIVERSITIES SEEK RPEQ FEEDBACK ON CPD

After highlighting the difficulties RPEQs in regional and remote Queensland have with CPD, James Cook University and the University of Southern Queensland approached BPEQ to help.

Dr Greg Wheatley is a senior lecturer at JCU and a RPEQ in the area of mechanical engineering. He is currently working on a conveyor course for qualified engineers to learn about conveyor theory and design to increase efficiency of their plant. Areas covered in the course include:

- Overview of open and closed systems.
- Special belt conveyors and conveyor selection recommendations
- Review of basic design procedures
- Economic and technical considerations in optimising conveyor design
- Analysis of main resistances – idler indentation, idler spacing, bearings and seals, stress states in bulk solids and contribution to drag.
- calculation of belt pull force required during belt change out.

Dr Wheatley wants to develop other courses and is inviting RPEQs to contact him with their suggestions for CPD course topics.

To get in touch with Dr Wheatley email [greg.wheatley@jcu.edu.au](mailto:greg.wheatley@jcu.edu.au).

USQ provides engineering education to many students in remote areas via its distance and on-line teaching technologies and wants to explore using the same technologies to offer CPD courses for engineers.

Before going ahead with CPD courses for engineers, USQ wants the following feedback from engineers in regional and remote localities experiencing difficulty with meeting CPD requirements:

1. Engineering disciplines to which this issue applies for RPEQ's in rural and/or remote localities
2. Whether these engineers are members of a professional membership association
3. Web connectivity level available, particularly at peak traffic times, in rural and remote areas.

RPEQs who have previously identified issues with CPD accessibility are encouraged to have their say by responding to the above questions. To do so contact [admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au) by 27 April 2018.

## BECOME A QUEENSLAND CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL (QCAT) MEMBER

QCAT is recruiting Ordinary Members with engineering experience on a sessional basis, Brisbane based engineers are particularly sought after. As an Ordinary Member you will hear and decide QCAT matters as determined by the President, in consultation with senior QCAT members. QCAT is an independent statutory authority whose purpose is to provide a quick, inexpensive avenue to resolve disputes between parties and make decisions.

For more information or to lodge an expression of interest in being appointed as QCAT Ordinary Members on a sessional basis visit <https://goo.gl/EKKsX>.

**Closing date is Friday, 27 April 2018.**



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## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

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

Joonsung EOM	Suzanne BUROW	Hugh ABETZ
Zachary HOWARTH	John MORRISON	Adrian OSBORNE
Shams Ul Hassan	Reuben COLE	Mark PANTHER
Darlan ALVES DE CASTRO	Lisandro DIAZ	Li MENG
Agnieszka SZEWCZAK	Ruwan DHARMASENA	Sivasankar RAMAKRISHNAN
Craig HUDSON-TAYLOR	Sudipto CHAKRABARTI	Aimee BEHESHTI
Darren WEBB	Peter BERRY	Hanieh ZOLFAGHART
Bernadette CURRIE	Han-Wei LIN	Chongjiu CAO
Bruce WOODS	William BOLTON	Jawad ZEERAK
Nathan SORENSEN	Peter HARRISON	Stuart VICKERS
Nimal DODAMPE GAMAGE	Lisa MCLEISH	Jarrold COVEY
Herath THILAKARATHNA	Brendan FOX	Wasantha BASNAYAKE
Famous DINU	Mark ATKINSON	Jacobus TERBLANS
Polly GUAN	Mehrdad ARIA	Matthew WILLIAMS
Nan PAN	Luke JACOBS	Haydn HOWARD
Kevin BERRY	Marcin CHOLKOWSKI	Mitesh KHATRI
Pejvak PAJOOHESHFAR	Thomas MACDOUGALL	Hossam ABDELREHIM
Kiran SHRESTHA	Rakesh PRASAD	Simon EDGAR
Ramesh MANTENA	David JOHNS	Timothy CAMILLERI
Mohammad KAABI	Ronald MASTUS	Aaron BALDWIN
Thomas NICHOLAS	Alexandra COHEN	Darius VEARNCOMBE
Bifei GUAN	Mark DEVEREAUX	Erik CARLSSON
Chang ZHOU	Amit PRADHAN	Rian CALDER
Brooks SMITH	Thivanka DEDIGAMA	Thomas MINGE
Wenhao WU	Madan ATTUR	Ming Hwa LEE
Alberto MARTINEZ RUBIO	Alireza JAFARI	Hamid MIRFENDERESK
Tash McGRATH	Johannes MOMBERG	Gerry DE GROOT
Travis WITTINGSLOW	Antony HATZIFOTIS	Kah Hau LEONG
Xiang GU	Bruce SHAR	Albert NGUYEN
Mehdi JAVADI	Yong WANG	Ryan HURST
Seyed JALALI	Konstantin KOMAROV	Samuel POLLARD
Mladen KOVACEVIC	Krishneel NARAYAN	Jon TURNBULL
Azarang MASOUDTEHRANI	Bradley JONES	Steve ZERVAS
Liane MILLINGTON	Neville RAVAL	Malgorzata ELSTON
Matthew LENNON	Kurt WRIGHT	Ian EOW
Khurram SHAHZAD	Shayne LAMBERT	Anthony RAADSCHELDERS
Freeman McGRATH	Anson WONG	Michel WASEF



Adam GRAHAM

Adam GIUMELLI

Brent PERGALLINI

Abhay THAKUR

Jason GARDINER

Kevin LIANG

Todd CROWTHER

Jared HILL

Jose PENA CHUECA

Mohammed ISSADEEN

Glen POKARIER

Toby CUTHBERT-ASHMORE

Anthonie LAMBERT

Mohamed SLIEM

Leticia GONZALEZ REBOLLO

Sean DONALD

Adam FORBES

Barry HEVERIN

Ken CORBETT

Ross DENINGTON

Andrew MILES

Mohammed NOOR MOHAMMED

Konrad SCHULTZ

Colin EDMONDS

Karl RIEDL

John YUEN

## 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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