



## e-Newsletter

May 2008

### AGIC Open for Business Launch – February 28, 2008

Queensland's Minister for Sustainability, Climate Change & Innovation, The Hon Andrew McNamara, launched a program to develop an Australian infrastructure sustainability rating scheme at an Australian Green Infrastructure Council (AGIC) reception in Parliament House Brisbane on Thursday February 28. Approximately 75 supporters attended the event.

AGIC's Chairman David Hood said: "while clients are aware of the need for sustainability and designers, constructors and operators are incorporating sustainability features, there are few tools to help them assess and prioritise sustainability efforts, or to measure their projects against world best sustainability outcomes."

The Hon Andrew McNamara stated that "AGIC would help ensure government and industry created sustainable infrastructure solutions into the future, meeting environmental, economic and social criteria."

"AGIC's Infrastructure Environmental Rating System will measure, recognise and reward sustainable design, construction and operation of infrastructure such as major transport corridors, telecommunications structures, marinas and airports. The fact that the proposal was conceived and is being delivered in Brisbane is testimony to the extent of infrastructure development activity happening in the State, and to the vision of the founders of AGIC."

"We need to make sure that infrastructure is being delivered and adopted in the most sustainable way."

### AGIC Workshop – April 30, 2008

AGIC hosted a one day, professionally facilitated workshop on 30 April in Sydney to finalise the categories and themes of the proposed AGIC rating scheme.

The workshop was sponsored by Worley Parsons and facilitated by Maunsell. Twenty-three experts across industry, financial institutions, consultancies, government and non-government organisations, with knowledge in sustainability and infrastructure participated.

The key outcome of the day was the refinement of the drafted 15 categories into 7-8 easily identifiable and measurable categories for infrastructure projects. Discussion was rigorous particularly as the economic experts identified the need for a strategic justification component.

Facilitator Scott Losee is finalising the workshop report which will form the basis for the announcement of category author tender packages planned for release in the coming months (see process and timeline over).

### AGIC Board Meeting – April 24, 2008

The Board met on Thursday 24th April. The key outcomes were as follows:

- Three new memberships were approved (GHD, SMEC and Qld EPA);
- Progress the Interim Business Case to a formal business planning process;
- A number of expressions of interest have been received for the AGIC CEO position; and
- Recent publications in which AGIC has been recognised: "G" The Green Lifestyle Magazine, May 2008; Infrastructure; and Engineers Australia.



AGIC Interim Steering Group



David Hood; AGIC Chairman meeting the Hon Andrew McNamara MP



The Hon Andrew McNamara MP



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## Tool Development Process and Indicative Timeline

Nominate tool categories, themes, format and structure (involving workshops)	APRIL 2008 ✓
Appointment of a Project Manager	
Identify and appoint Category Authors	JUNE 2008
Category Author briefings (involving workshops)	
Category authors to develop content with relevant specialists in accordance with set structure and format	AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2008
Collate, assess and refine content from all categories to produce draft tool (PILOT v1) (involving workshops)	OCTOBER 2008
Trial of a single project PILOT v1	NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2008
Review results and refine tool, creating PILOT v2 (involving workshops)	DECEMBER 2008 - JANUARY 2009
Trial of 8-12 projects PILOT v2	FEBRUARY - MARCH 2009
Review results and refine tool, creating AGIC tool v1 (involving workshops)	APRIL 2009
Formal Launch of AGIC scheme v1	MAY 2009
Ongoing review and upgrade of AGIC tool	

## Previous AGIC presentations

- EIANZ Seminar  
February 2008  
Simon Cavandish speaker
- ACEA Seminar  
April 2008  
Simon Cavandish speaker

## Future AGIC Presentations

- Legalwise – Collectively Building Australia  
May 23, 2008; Sydney, NSW  
David Hood speaker and facilitator
- QELA 2008 Annual Conference  
May 28–30, 2008; Gold Coast, Qld  
David Hood to represent AGIC
- Australian Construction Industry Forum – 3rd Construction Industry Leaders Conference  
June 5 and 6, 2008; Gold Coast, Qld  
David Hood to represent AGIC

## Future Opportunities to Spread AGIC Word

- Public Forum for the 2008 Australian Innovation Festival – Is there a solution to our Urban Infrastructure Crisis?  
21 May 2008  
Parramatta, NSW
- NABERS Conference Series – Building Performance Rating  
Melbourne – Thursday 15 May 2008  
Perth – Tuesday 27 May 2008
- ARF National Roads Summit  
17 and 18 June, 2008  
Sydney, NSW
- Western Australia Infrastructure Conference – Building a Sustainable Infrastructure Future  
23 and 24 June 2008  
Perth, WA
- Subtropical Cities  
3 to 6 September, 2008  
Brisbane, Qld

## Current AGIC Members

The current AGIC members are as follows:

- Thiess
- GHD
- Parsons Brinckerhoff
- SMEC Australia
- Maunsell
- Transport and Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC)
- CRC for Construction Innovation
- Qld EPA
- Leighton Contractors
- David Hood
- Penny Townley
- Simon Cavendish

## Getting Involved

Organisations and individuals interested in getting involved in AGIC and the development of the tool, can register interest with the AGIC Secretariat on [info@agic.net.au](mailto:info@agic.net.au)

Becoming involved in AGIC's activities can be as easy as registering as a member. Other opportunities include:

- Sponsor an AGIC activity;
- Contribute to a working group;
- Nominate a project(s) for trialling the scheme;
- Promoting AGIC to your clients, colleagues and peers; and
- Sharing your knowledge.

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