

25 August, 2009

Engineers envisage a safer future for construction

The Hon. Tim Pallas, Victorian Minister for Roads and Ports, will introduce a panel of industry leaders representing clients, designers and constructors, who will present their vision for occupational health and safety in the Australian construction industry.

Peter Godfrey, National President of Engineers Australia, will chair the discussion, joined by Peter Scott, Chairman of Sinclair Knight Merz, Peter Verwer, Chief Executive of The Property Council of Australia and Bill Wild, Chief Operating Officer of Leighton Holdings.

The panel discussion marks the launch of a suite of new training materials that integrate the consideration of construction workers' occupational health and safety in the design stage of buildings and structures. The training materials are supported by three illustrated 'best practice' case studies: the upgrade of the West Gate Freeway, the construction of the Myer National Support Office in Melbourne and the construction of a desalination plant at Kurnell in New South Wales.

The training materials were commissioned by Engineering Education Australia, funded by Engineers Australia and developed by researchers in the School of Property, Construction and Project Management, RMIT University. They support the Design Stage implementation the **Guide to Best Practice for Safer Construction**, a joint initiative of Engineers Australia and the Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation.

With the aim to achieve a long term, sustained reduction in the number of construction workers who are killed, injured or become ill as a result of their work, the panel discussion will focus on how clients, engineers and designers can work together to achieve a safer and healthier construction industry.

What:

Visions for the Future Panel Discussion and Launch of Training Materials for Safer Construction: Design Stage Implementation

When:

Media access from 3pm, Wednesday 21 October 2009.
Panel discussion and launch begins at 4pm.

Where:

Conference Rooms 1 – 3, Rydges Melbourne, 186 Exhibition St, Melbourne

For more information on the CIB W099 Conference, visit:
<http://www.constructionsafety2009.com.au/index.php>