



A CHANGING OF THE GUARD & MEMBER'S SAFETY EXCELLENCE

The Steel Reinforcement Institute of Australia (SRIA) is a national non-profit organisation providing high quality technical support and information service to the Australian building industry. As we move into a new year the SRIA is looking forward to supporting the Australian Construction Industry.

In the past year the world-wide economic downturn has impacted greatly across the Australian building and construction industry including all SRIA members. Throughout 2010 the SRIA will continue developing its Charter and Business Plan in the areas of tertiary education, Australian standards and occupational health and safety. SRIA also looks forward to disseminating the important results of the strong testing program involving both Class N bar and Class L mesh with Curtin University of Technology in Perth WA.

SRIA STAFF – A CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Our Executive Director, John Keith, announced his retirement (effective 28 February 2010) from the SRIA. During the four years that John will have been with SRIA the membership has doubled, Associate Members revived, and lectures at universities around Australia have trebled. We will miss his enthusiasm and dedication to his work. The SRIA thanks John for his commitment to the SRIA and wishes him all the very best in his retirement.

The SRIA Board is fortunate to announce the recruitment of Scott Munter as John's replacement. Scott is a Structural Engineer and has a proven fifteen year track record in the Engineering Consulting design and construction field, as well as having served for seven years in the not-for-profit sector with Australian Steel Institute in a senior management role, and almost three years with BlueScope Steel. He is currently working with John and will take over as Executive Director (effective 1 March 2010) when John retires.



The SRIA recruited a permanent part time administrative assistant, Brigitte Bowling, who commenced in January 2009. This has enabled an increase in the services the SRIA provides to the design and construction industries, education program, as well as to the membership.

MEMBER COMPANY SAFETY

The Steel Reinforcement Institute of Australia (SRIA) membership now represents the manufacture and processing of the vast majority of steel reinforcement used in construction in Australia. In addition it has engaged an Associate Member base covering supplementary materials required in construction solutions that enhance and enable the efficient and cost effective use of reinforcing steel. Links to the SRIA Member and Associate Member companies can be found on the SRIA website at www.sria.com.au

The SRIA Safety Group meets quarterly around the country at members manufacturing premises. This group comprises the Safety Managers from each member Processor company and is chaired by SRIA's Executive Director. Members work together, to share their collective knowledge to ensure the member companies have a consistent approach toward a safer work environment and awareness of safety issues within the reinforcement processing industry.

The SRIA records trend data and monitors National industry statistics on lost-time injuries (LTI's) and medically treated injuries (MTI's), from participating members. This trend data enables each company to compare and benchmark their safety record against the National industry values. Historical data reveals that the Steel Reinforcement Industry over a period of the last two years has halved the LTI figures and reduced MTI figures by 30%. This is an impressive achievement

considering that the order of 0.5 million man hours per month is accrued and is a reflection of the safety conscious companies the SRIA represents. At the last SRIA Board meeting the SRIA President, Mr Steve Hamer, made special mention of this outstanding performance announcing that "this is a most significant change impacting many employees and customers in the reinforcing industry".

The following graph of the indicative trend data depicts this significant accomplishment.



STANDARDS & REGULATIONS

The SRIA strives to achieve quality and continuous improvement and is actively involved in Standards Australia, with representation on the following Committees:-

- BD-002** Concrete structures (AS 3600 December 2009 Now released);
- WD-003** Welding of structures (AS 2214);
- BD-006** Structural design actions (AS 1170);
- BD-025** Residential slabs and footings (AS 2870);
- BD-066** Tilt-up concrete construction (AS 3850);
- BD-084** Steel reinforcing materials (AS/NZS 4671);
- BD-090** Bridge design (AS 5100);
- BD-098** Pavements.

SUPPORTING INDUSTRY

The SRIA remains committed to supporting the Building Products Innovation Council (BPIC) in its three major areas covering building code reform, product certification, and sustainability.

SRIA is currently heavily involved in the BPIC/ICIP (Industry Cooperative Innovation Program) to develop data to feed into a national materials data base being developed by CSIRO for BPIC. This is part of a Life Cycle Inventory for materials used in construction. The data will be used in Life Cycle Assessment, and ultimately in Sustainability Rating Tools such as eco-labels in commercial & residential construction in an effort to make Australian building stock more energy efficient and sustainable.

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Publications and resources available from the SRIA website www.sria.com.au are listed below. The technical publications are currently being revised and updated, and will be re-issued as a Technical Note series.

TITLE

DESCRIPTION

Multi-Storey Construction

QV1	A detailed case study of a 42-storey building in Perth
Form and Function in Concrete	Case studies of prominent buildings in six capital cities
Australia's 100 Tallest Buildings	Pictorial overview, analysing them by structure, number of floors and overall height. It shows the dominance of reinforced concrete in this market and identifies reasons for this
Seismic Detailing for Reinforced Concrete Buildings in Australia	Reviews the detailing requirements of AS 3600 for building structures designed for Australian seismic conditions. Following a brief overview of Australian seismicity and relevant code requirements, specific details are presented together with commentary and supporting case studies from recent overseas earthquakes

Tilt-Up and Precast Concrete Construction

Tilt-Up Digest	An examination of recent tilt-up buildings
Tilt-Up City	Reviews the contribution that tilt-up construction has made to the Joondalup streetscape in Perth by considering several projects in the commercial, retail and residential areas – the realisation of Landcorp's vision of "A City in Harmony"
Ten Steps to Tilt-Up	Ten reasons why tilt-up is becoming the preferred construction system for many commercial and residential developments – ten reasons why you should use it on your next project

Housing Construction

10 Steps to Build a Reinforced Concrete Slab-On-Ground	Step-by-step guide for a house builder to successfully construct a durable slab-on-ground, the preferred floor and footing solution for housing
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Practical Guides for Detailing and Handling of Reinforcement

Fabrication and Site Handling of Reinforcing Bars	Includes identification of Australian reinforcing bar, recommendations for safe and effective handling on site, and covers bending and re-bending, site heating, splicing and use of protective coatings
Guidelines for Economical Assembly of Reinforcement	This Guide recommends detailing and fixing practices which will allow some flexibility when placing steel reinforcing bars and fabric

Other Publications

Why Concrete?	A classic lecture by Professor H J Cowan, AO Professor Emeritus of Architectural Science, University of Sydney. Although originally published in 1970, most of its statements are still true today
Why Concrete Framing?	There are ten good reasons why concrete is the preferred material for the vast majority of building frames

CD ROM

Resources	A CD ROM containing all these publications and more, in an easy-to-use interactive format, is available from SRIA.
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