

## *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

### World Road Association (PIARC) technical committee outputs

In future editions of the newsletter, Austroads aims to provide a brief overview about work outputs of World Road Association (PIARC) technical committees. Technical committees are made up of representatives nominated by World Road Association member countries to work on various subjects in the road and road transport field. Australia and/or New Zealand are represented on 17 of the 18 technical committees. The committees operate in four year cycles, with the most recent cycle finishing at the World Road Congress in Paris this year. A number of reports about road and road transport subjects are expected to be released by the out-going technical committees. Notification of their release will be provided in the electronic newsletter produced by PIARC, which you can [subscribe to receive](#). The reports will be based on best practice and will make recommendations for use by road and research engineers. Reports will be published in the 'virtual library' on the [PIARC website](#). Three new reports are now available for download from the 'virtual library':

- *Promoting optimal use of local materials*
- *How to apply the concepts of sustainable development to transport*
- *Integrated approach to road tunnel safety*

An overview of the outputs from **TC3.1 Road Safety** is provided in this edition of the newsletter.

A number of guidelines were produced by the Road Safety technical committee during its recent four year term. They include; A guide to Road Safety Audits; A guide to Road Safety Inspections; A guide to Crash Databases; A Catalogue of Low to High Cost Countermeasures for Design Problems on Roads; An ITS Guide; and A Human Factors Manual. These reports will be available from the 'virtual library' on the [PIARC website](#) early next year.

For many road authorities in Australia and New Zealand, the material will provide a high level overview of Road Safety.

PIARC has defined an audit as applying to a new road and an inspection as a process to apply to an existing road. These are consistent with Austroads' audit guidelines and outline the process involved, who should carry out inspections or audits, check lists that can be used and the style of report that should be written. Examples of issues that could arise during an inspection or audit are also provided.

The catalogue will provide a useful reference for practitioners, outlining a wide range of design issues and possible remedies, organised from very low cost to high cost options. It has numerous photographs and illustrations to assist. It is envisaged it will be a document that will be updated regularly as new issues and solutions emerge.

The ITS guide provides a simple overview of the many ITS applications for vehicles and roads and the database guide looks at the various elements of a crash report and associated database. The human factors guide examines various design issues that cause concerns in terms of human perception.

## [Latest publications](#)

Austrroads is continuing to develop a range of guides and research/technical reports covering the subject areas of asset management, bridge technology, pavement technology, project delivery, project evaluation, road design, road safety, traffic management and road transport planning. Over 400 publications are available through the [Austrroads publications website](#). Most publications are available for download as a PDF or they can be ordered for delivery in hard copy. The latest guides, research and technical reports to be released include:

### **Guides**

- *Guide to Asset Management Part 5B: Roughness (revision with minor amendments)*
- *Guide to Asset Management Part 5C: Rutting (revision with minor amendments)*

### **Research reports**

- *National Performance Indicators for Network Operations*
- *A Framework for Appraisal and Evaluation of Travel Demand Management Measures*
- *Evaluation of Measures and Technologies used to Improve the Level of Service of On-Road Public Transport, HOV and Emergency Vehicles*
- *Analysis of Current Practices for Improving the Level of Service of On-Road Public Transport, HOV and Emergency Vehicles*
- *Tools that Impact Network Performance (various aspects in five separate publications)*
- *Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles*
- *Strategies for Reducing the Environmental Impacts of Increased Night-Time Operations of Road Freight: A Scoping Study*
- *Guideline for Freight Routes in Urban and Rural Areas*

### **Technical reports**

- *The Durability of Australian Bitumens - 1956-2004*
- *Polyphosphoric Acid Modified Binders*
- *Laboratory Assessment of Wax Modified Asphalt*
- *Construction and Initial Testing of Brisbane City Council Asphalt Trial*
- *Temperature Susceptibility of the Ball Penetration Test – Stage 1: Laboratory Assessment*
- *Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) Review*
- *Proceedings: Austrroads National Stone Mastic Asphalt (SMA) Workshop*

## [Publication notification service – ‘RoadWatch’](#)

RoadWatch is an email based service that provides users of the Austrroads publications website with a customised notification alert. Subscribers can nominate to receive alerts about specific publications and/or subject areas, or all publications and subject areas. They are advised by email of any new publications that are released, or changes to existing publications, relevant to their specific areas of interest. For more information, or to register for RoadWatch, visit the [Austrroads publications website](#).

## [Feedback about publications](#)

Austrroads is always seeking feedback about its publications. Users can provide feedback about the technical content of a publication, the format, layout or style of the publication or whether the publication met expectations. The feedback allows us to develop publications that are relevant and informative, easy to use and that will be recommended to others. There is an electronic feedback form available on the [Austrroads publications website](#) that will take a couple of minutes to complete. Feedback is also appreciated about the usability of the publications website, downloading publications, or the ordering and payment process.

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## [Annual report](#)

The Austroads annual report for 2006-07 is now available from the [Austroads website](#). The report provides information on Austroads' operation and structure, including the changes introduced to implement the new strategic plan which commenced in July 2007.

Some of the achievements in 2006-07 include the completion of 31 projects and publishing of 56 high quality guides, research reports and technical reports. The report also includes information on Austroads' international activities including the young professionals study tour.

The annual report is available as a PDF download. Alternatively, a hard copy can be obtained by contacting the Austroads national office on (02) 9264 7088.

## [Graduate Certificate and Masters Program in pavement studies](#)

The Centre for Pavement Engineering Education (CPEE) was established by Austroads and the Australian Asphalt Pavement Association (AAPA) to provide postgraduate programs for pavement engineers. At this time of skill shortages in road engineering, CPEE courses offer a convenient way for road authority technical staff to add new skills and gain valuable qualifications. CPEE offers the Graduate Certificate in Pavement Technology consisting of four units of study and, jointly with La Trobe University, the Master of Technology in Pavements (eight Units) and the Master of Engineering in Pavements (12 Units). Study Period 1 for 2008 begins on 28 January and enrolments are now open. Visit the [CPEE page](#) of the website for detailed information about each of the programs and units offered, along with the details of enrolment procedures.

If you are planning on studying with CPEE for the first time submit an 'Application for enrolment' form from the [CPEE student forms page](#) of the website.

If you are a re-enrolling student complete and submit the appropriate form from the [CPEE student forms page](#). Contact CPEE for more information about the courses or enrolment process:

[cpee@aapa.asn.au](mailto:cpee@aapa.asn.au)

Level 2, 5 Wellington Street

Kew VICTORIA 3101

Phone: +61 3 9853 3626

Fax: +61 3 9853 3656

## [Calendar of forthcoming events](#)

### **2nd International Surface Friction Conference**

11 – 14 May 2008, Cheltenham, England

Transit New Zealand and the UK Highways Agency are sponsoring the International Surface Friction Conference with the theme 'Reducing Accidents, Saving Lives'. The conference is targeted towards an audience involved in highway design and maintenance, road network management, skid resistance, accident reduction, law enforcement, transport research, and motoring and transport organisations. There will be sessions on managing road and runway surfaces, applying good practice and improving safety. If you are interested in attending, more information is available from:

[www.saferroads.org.uk](http://www.saferroads.org.uk)

### **ARRB Conference**

30 July – 1 August 2008, Adelaide

ARRB conferences promote and facilitate discussion about issues relevant to the transport industry, and new research being undertaken on the local and international scene. Conferences are held every two years throughout Australasia, and involve local and international delegates. The next ARRB conference will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Discussions will be held about local and international research and case studies which provide innovative and practical solutions to current and emerging issues. More information is available from: [www.arrb.com.au/conferences](http://www.arrb.com.au/conferences)

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## **Austrroads Bridge Conference**

26 – 30 May 2009, Auckland, New Zealand

Austrroads bridge conferences are held every two or three years, bringing together professionals with an interest in bridge engineering to investigate the progress and future directions for bridge engineering both nationally and internationally. The conferences are relevant for any person involved in bridge engineering, including asset managers, technical staff, contractors, suppliers and consultants.

The next conference will be hosted by Transit New Zealand, in Auckland, New Zealand from 26 until 29 May 2009. Not only is this the first time the Bridge conference will be held in New Zealand, it will also link in with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Auckland Harbour Bridge on 30 May. The theme of the 2009 conference focuses on the important role of bridges within the transport network.

The 2009 conference aims to promote discussion on contemporary bridge engineering and management issues and initiatives; showcase innovation, progress and new directions in bridge engineering, management, research and training; facilitate collaboration and information sharing by bringing together bridge engineering and management practitioners; and encourage young engineers to participate through attendance as well as presenting papers.

This conference is an ideal opportunity to share information, explore opportunities, and investigate progress and future directions in bridge engineering and management.

A website for the conference is under development and is expected to be launched this month. For more information about the website or conference please contact Douceline Van Arts at [douceline.vanarts@transit.govt.nz](mailto:douceline.vanarts@transit.govt.nz)

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The Austrroads newsletter is developed and distributed bi-monthly.

Contributions for future newsletters are always welcome. Please send via email to the Communications Manager, David Armstrong, at [darmstrong@austrroads.com.au](mailto:darmstrong@austrroads.com.au)

Austrroads  
Level 9, 287 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
T: (02) 9264 7088  
F: (02) 9264 1657

[www.austrroads.com.au](http://www.austrroads.com.au)

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