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Welcome to the *CCF National Dispatch*, the official news service of the Civil Contractors Federation (National).

Having been present in the role as your National CEO for 6 months, I am pleased to report that significant progress has already been made in lifting the profile and influence of CCF at a national level. Several high level representative appointments have been offered to CCF National by the Federal Government and key regulatory/government agencies, and we have accepted and commenced our involvement as follows:

- Australian Government Security of Payments Working Group;
- Australian Government Civil Infrastructure Industry Reference Committee;
- Australian Taxation Office Fuel Tax Advisory Group;
- Standards Australia Council;
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Industry Reference Forum.

Through these respective forums (and others), CCF National will seek to influence Federal Government policy to further the interests of the civil construction sector.



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2017 CCF AUSTRALIAN INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT & NATIONAL EARTH AWARDS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Registration for the 2017 Civil Contractors Federation Australian Infrastructure Summit and the National Earth Awards is now open. This year's events will be held in Canberra on Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st November 2017.

Click here to register now: http://nationalsummitandearthawards2017.com.au/





CONGRATULATIONS to those projects and their teams that have already become 2017 State winners and GOOD LUCK to those projects and their teams for your upcoming State Awards events.



CCF National looks forward to welcoming the winning project teams and their guests to the 2017 National Earth Awards Gala Dinner here in Canberra on 21st November at Parliament House.

http://nationalsummitandearthawards2017.com.au/registration/



CCF NATIONAL CEO APPOINTED TO SECURITY OF PAYMENTS WORKING GROUP

Civil Contractors Federation National CEO Chris Melham has been appointed by the Turnbull Government to an 11 member Security of Payments Working Group. The Working Group, established under the *Australian Building and Construction Commission legislation*, will enhance protections for subcontractors by improving compliance with security of payments legislation.

Federal Minister for Employment, Michaelia Cash, said the appointments reflect a broad representation of industry stakeholders and will bring a diversity of skills and experience to the Working Group. A key function of the Working Group will be monitoring the impact the ABCC has on improving compliance with security of payments obligations. These obligations include a requirement that contractors and suppliers get paid on time and abide by any adjudication of payment disputes.

A full list of appointees and the official government media release can be found at: https://ministers.employment.gov.au/cash/appointments-security-payments-group



CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRY REFERENCE COMMITTEE

The newly constituted Civil Infrastructure Reference Committee (IRC) met for the first time on 29th March 2017, and more recently on 13th June 2017. The IRC consists of industry representatives who use their expertise to ensure that training packages meet the needs of employers and the modern economy. As the Skills Service Organisation (SSO), PwC's Skills for Australia provides support to the IRC.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Tony Baulderstone as Chair and Tanja Connors as Deputy Chair of the Committee. Following each meeting, a 'Communique' will be issued summarising the key outcomes of the meeting.

To receive information relating to changes to the Training Packages, industry updates and consultations please subscribe to PwC's Skills for Australia updates here. Alternatively visit our website at www.skillsforaustralia.com and you can subscribe to receive updates relating to the relevant area of interest.



STANDARDS AUSTRALIA INVITING PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT STANDARDS

An important stage in the development of an Australian Standard is the ability to provide comment. The Public Comment period is usually open for two to three months. Anyone who feels they have something to contribute to a Draft Standard is able to use the Public Comment Period to provide their view on its provisions. All comments are considered in detail by the relevant Committee and, if necessary, further drafting is undertaken.

If you would like to view and potentially provide comment, a full list of the Draft Standards currently open can be found at: https://sapc.standards.org.au/sapc/public/listOpenCommentingPublication.action



AUSTRALIAN BUILDING & CONSTUCTION COMMISSION (ABCC) - SECURITY OF PAYMENTS

Each State and Territory has its own Security of Payments legislation which provides legislative protections for contractors to receive payment for building work performed under a contract. While they have similar frameworks, most of the State and Territory schemes operate in slightly different ways.

The ABCC has involvement in security of payments in two important respects: through the national Security of Payments Working Group established by the Commonwealth *Building and Construction Industry (Improving Productivity) Act 2016* and through the Code for the Tendering and Performance of Building Work 2016 (Building Code).

Where to seek assistance - The agencies that can provide assistance in relation to security of payment issues are outlined in the ABCC <u>Industry Issues - Security of payments</u> section.



NATIONAL HEAVY VEHICLE REGULATOR ACCESS PERMIT PORTAL

The NHVR permit portal will celebrate its 20,000th permit application with extra functions to make it easier for access customers to plan and build their routes. AccessCONNECT Program Director David Carlisle said the NHVR Portal, which was formally launched in August last year, has processed more than 95 per cent of permit applications from over 7000 registered heavy vehicle operators.



A number of new route planning features including the integration of drag and drop, drawing tools and Google Street View will make it easier to plan and map a heavy vehicle permit route. The improvements will also make it easier to apply for permit schemes and remove the need for Journey Planner IDs in the application into the future. For more information or to access the Portal go to www.service.nhvr.gov.au



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