



March 2016



Awards & Recognition



Excellence in Concrete Repair
& Protection 2016

CONCRETE CONNECTIONS

WWW.ACRASSOC.COM.AU



Concrete Connections

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Would you like to have your project featured in our next issue?

Contact ACRA via email info@acrassoc.com.au

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Welcome to this edition of *Concrete Connections*



Message from the President.

Since its inception in 1991, the Australasian Concrete Repair Association (ACRA) has been a distinctive body of like-minded companies and personalities that values the importance of training, collegiate activities, continual growth of the core membership, adding value for our corporate members and having our industry focused on professional values.

Marking the 25th anniversary of ACRA's founding in 1991 will provide special opportunities for reflection on these values and how their manifestations over time have shaped the organisation and our vital work and impact that happens in our training programs, seminars, and industry representations.

Some of our founders are still connected to the industry, even after a span of 25 years, and we pay tribute to those early members such David Mahaffey, Noel Godson and Ian Godson here. It is a fitting reflection of our history and our present commitments that these individual continue to play a role. As each of our members has contributed something positive over those years to promote and add life to the organisation, we wish to thank those that have been involved in the past and those that are playing a vital part now; without these individual efforts ACRA would not be the organisation it is today.

This is my first letter as ACRA's president and among my normal duties I hope to add to the many bold objectives from my predecessor, Daniel Rowley. We have continued to interact with the Strata Community of Australia (SCA), Australasian Corrosion Association (ACA) and the Concrete Institute of Australia (CIA) to expand our influence and to promote our organisation within their community.

Further, 2016 is hoped to finalise the re-drafting of the Australian Standards HB84 2006 "Guide to Concrete Repairs" to a revitalised 2016 edition; stay tuned.

Along with this, the board have commenced with a complete review and industry feedback of ACRA's "Standard Method of Measurement" for concrete repairs. The process hopes to relaunch an educational focus on how and why the concrete repair industry uses standard methods to facilitate the tender process and to provide meaningful scopes of work, remuneration and properly executed repair methods by adopting the measurement criteria.

Each year we are called upon to renew and deepen the meaning of our organisation. I am grateful for the dedication that our board, members and associations have demonstrated in the past year to the ACRA's 25-years. Good luck for 2016 and the year of the Red Monkey.

~ Henk van den Heuvel, President.

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ACRA-nyms

In this edition, let's get to know ACRA member and one of our newest ACRA Board Member Harvey Welman from [Ardex Australia](#).



Name – Harvey Welman

Company name – [Ardex Australia](#)

Position in company – Waterproofing & General Construction
(specifically within the Remedial market segment)

1. How long have you been working at Ardex Australia – I have been working within the construction industry for around 26 years now, sixteen within the Plumbing industry and 10 specifically focused within the Structural & Remedial market.
I was head-hunted by Ardex, July-August last year.
2. What piqued your interest in the remedial industry – The diversity of projects and the cutting edge products used within the market is the main driver, but the people I deal with on a daily basis (specifically Remedial Builders and Consultants) make the job enjoyable.
3. What has been your most exciting project you've been involved in to date. – I've been involved with thousands of projects over the years, from small remedial projects to large projects, such as the Barangaroo development, but I am excited at the moment to be involved with an up-coming project at The Elan' at King Cross; where a holistic remedial approach has been formulated using a myriad of products under the Ardex banner, from traditional Concrete Repair, to Waterproofing, Rendering, Sealants, Epoxy Injection and Façade Coating protection.
4. What's been your greatest career accomplishment to date – To still love what I do every day and to continue to learn and grow within the industry.
5. We all started somewhere, what do you think your first boss would say about you now, and what was your first real job - My first job was straight into the construction industry as an apprentice plumber working for Stuart Bros. on the Westpac Bank in the CBD and my Supervisor was 'stoned' on pot most of the time, so I think I'd be lucky if he actually remembered me.....My other bosses would probably say I should have 1/ Stayed on the tools plumbing or 2/ Have done the smart thing and saved my body (especially the knees and back) from years of torture.



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6. What motivates you to keep doing what you're doing. – The ever changing environment of the Remedial business, the people I work with and the fact that I get to learn something new all the time.
7. Now to get personal, what song best describes you – 'Friday On My Mind'....
8. What are you looking forward to doing when you retire, what's your retirement dream – To continue my love of Woodwork. There were days when I missed being on the tools, so three or four years ago I took up Fine Woodworking. That's the plan.....



Thank you Harvey for your time with this interview and for your support of ACRA.



Contact Ardex Australia
Phone: 1300 788 780
Web: <http://www.ardexaustralia.com>

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CONCRETE PROBLEMS TODAY ARE MULTIFACTORIAL – ROOT CAUSES

BY HAMID KHAN

Regular and planned asset maintenance is vital for reinforced concrete structures. Such maintenance shall not be a 'cosmetic repair' rather a proper root cause analysis must be carried out to identify and understand the actual source of the problem. Though material selection is an important step in asset maintenance and refurbishment projects but only after the root cause has been addressed. Conducting proper root cause analysis in restoration and refurbishment projects would prevent one from falling into a vicious cycle of 'repairing the repair'. A study conducted by Jingmond and Agren (2015) has highlighted the importance to look at the root causes of the defects in concrete from the organisational perspective as well, instead of the operational level only.

Defect or problem in an existing reinforced concrete structure is multifactorial; it often stems from obscure reasons. Like the cause of a common headache is often attributed to a pathological cause leading to expensive and often needless investigations and treatments, whereas, the actual cause is a stress-triggered tension headache. Similarly, stomach infections are common during monsoons in some countries, which are due to the 100 year old corroded sewage pipes leaking into the parallel running municipal water pipes. Point to ponder here is that whether treating the gastro patient with medicines or changing water filter would make the situation better without addressing the root cause of the problem or not?

Corrosion of the steel generates iron oxides and hydroxides, resulting in the increase of volume 5 to 10 times of its original size. This increase in volume causes expansive forces to accumulate within the concrete around reinforcement and results in concrete spalling. Cracks provide easy access to oxygen, moisture, chlorides and other corrosive agents - the conditions suitable for electrochemical corrosion process. Bridge girders often exhibit unexpected end cracking upon pre-stress release, a concern for bridge asset owners. These cracks propagate into the bottom flange of the girder where strands are located and can increase in width with increased traffic loads. Leakages from bridge expansion joint penetrating the bottom flange cracks could easily trigger severe corrosion currents. In this case expansion joints leakage must be arrested prior to the crack and concrete repair activity.



Concrete Cracks provide easy access to corrosive agents

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A common and predominant form of cracking at an early age on new concrete bridge decks is known as *transverse cracking* which appear along the length of span over transverse reinforcement. These cracks accelerate corrosion rates, reduce the service life of the asset and increase maintenance costs. Multiple factors such as materials and concrete mix design, ambient temperature changes, humidity, bridge design characteristics and construction practices that contribute to volume change and/or to degree of restraint of concrete mass result in cracking. Transverse cracking cannot be attributed to all the above factors. It is important to identify the major contributing factor(s) to address the root cause of cracking.



Linear Transverse cracks on new bridge deck due to plastic shrinkage- Surface grinding to open the face of the crack and sealing with epoxy resin

A crude approach while examining the corrosion induced damage in bridge structures, particularly in the marine environment, is to assume the presence of chlorides as the main cause of failure. Chlorides might be the reason of corrosion but not the actual cause of the bridge defect. The root cause of failure of the bridge structure cannot be attributed to corrosion. There are many factors involved that could lead to corrosion and ultimately lead to failure of the bridge, such as, cracks in bridge girder web and flange, poor bridge drainage system, failed bridge deck waterproofing membrane, inappropriate bridge joints, void in the prestressed or post tensioned cable ducts due to excessive grout bleed. Other factors at macro level are related to design, material, environment and construction practices. It is important to address the main contributing factor(s) of the defects in bridge structures affected by corrosion.



Cathodic protection to bridge piers affected by cracks, corrosion and spalled concrete, using embedded galvanic anode units 'Galvashield XPT' (right) and distributed galvanic anode system 'Galvanode DAS' (left)

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It is quite common to observe local white patch of efflorescence which appears like a chalky powder at ground floors due to rising or penetrating horizontal dampness inside institutional buildings, hotels and residential apartment buildings. This phenomenon occurs due to number of factors. For example, one of the factors is the absence or damage of proper damp proof course due to which the moisture from the below ground or landscape planters outside hotel rooms seep through the external walls and result in dampness white patches along the perimeter of the internal wall. Treating the damp patch from inside could only solve the problem temporarily but it would recur unless the damp proof course is repaired.

Concrete repairs conducted without considering the actual source are 'cosmetic repairs' and last only for few months. For instance, repairing the spalled concrete of a balcony with quick-fix patch method, even applying the best quality repair mortar, would not solve the problem unless the root cause has been identified and addressed. It could be attributed to more than one cause such as leakage due to failure of waterproofing membrane, an AC drain pipe leak, faulty concealed pipe joints or the combination of these factors. Corrosion of reinforcement that has caused spalling of balcony is not the root cause here.



Balconies concrete corrosion and spalling due to multiple factors

Roof leakages in the buildings result in seepage to the flats below. This causes discomfort to the occupants and frequent disputes between the landlord and the tenant in regard to the liability to repair. The failure of roof waterproofing is often attributed to the poor workmanship. Based on this notion, the roof refurbishments are carried out but the leakages appear again after some period of time. A research conducted by Leung and Cui (2005), on roof construction defects have highlighted that the root cause of failure of the roof waterproofing membrane stems from the roof parapet wall cracks. It further concluded that the design and choice of material for roof parapet wall is critical to avoid the waterproofing membrane failures on the roof slab. Other reasons of roof leakages could be wrong termination details of the waterproofing membrane at up-stands and drains, improper selection of the waterproofing system and poor roof joint detailing.

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Soffits severely corroded due to roof leakages of a residential building

Falling of the external tiles from the building facades can cause damage to assets and pose a potential safety hazard to pedestrians. The number of casualties and injuries caused by the failures of external wall finishes is a serious concern to the authorities in many countries. Ho, Lo and Yiu (2005), in their research highlighted various factors that could lead to external tile failures such as thermal and moisture effect that induce movement of tiles, inferior quality adhesive, poor workmanship, improper joints, weathering, vibration and substrate properties. The failure could be due to a single factor or it could be an effect of a combination of the above factors. It is vital to recognise and address the major contributing factor of the de-bonding and falling of tiles.

Finding the real cause of a concrete problem rather than merely dealing with its symptoms is the key to success for a durable repair and refurbishment job. Aspirin quick-fix approach in handling concrete defects would only provide temporary cosmetic solution. The aim is to create an awareness among the civil contractors and engineers that to solve the concrete defects effectively they need to drill down through the symptoms to reach to the actual root cause. Re-examining, re-designing, re-assessing, re-selecting, re-applying and lots of 're-s', can easily be avoided by examining and fixing the *root cause* of the concrete defect to ensure the same problems are not recurring.

About the Author: *Hamid Khan working presently as Brand Manager – Concrete Durability at Parchem (DuluxGroup), Australasia, holds a bachelor degree in Civil Engineering discipline. He also holds Masters in Business Administration and Masters in Strategic Marketing (with Distinctions) from the University of Wollongong. Hamid is certified in Concrete Technology and Construction, by City & Guilds of London Institute (UK) and is a qualified expert in Concrete repair & refurbishment with 18 years of experience in the industry. He was associated with Fosroc International in Dubai for 14 years taking up roles of Regional Specification Manager and Marketing Manager Strategy-Gulf States. Hamid's experience comes from the Gulf, Middle East, Europe, East Asia and Central Asia.*



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Industry News.....

KENNARDS HIRE MOOREBANK WELCOMES THE EXPANSION OF THEIR BRANCH

Kennards Hire Test & Measure in Artarmon has always called the northern Sydney suburb home. Now, a south-westerly breeze has offered up a great opportunity for the already established offering to expand, merging and relocating to the Kennards Hire branch in Moorebank.

Moorebank is close to the M5 motorway and offers up easy delivery access to Sydney Metro, thus proving why the area is bustling with professional services. The addition of the [Test & Measure specialist branch](#) will make Moorebank a one-stop-shop for trades people across a range of industries. The Moorebank location already offers equipment and expertise in the form of a Kennards Hire Concrete Care specialist branch, as well as the standard Kennards Hire product stable.

Sean Brown, NSW Area Manager believes that the move from Artarmon will accentuate Moorebank's offering, as well as allowing Artarmon's general hire to expand.

"The business intention to relocate was to allow us to focus more on the [Test & Measure](#) product stable, as Artarmon was already busy catering to less niche, existing customers." Sean explained.

[Kennards Hire Test & Measure](#) is now up and running in Moorebank as of the 1st of February! The new store is located at 115 Newbridge Rd, Moorebank NSW.

[Click here](#) to contact your local hire centre for more information.



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MARINE & CIVIL MAINTENANCE PTY LTD

Defending Australia's assets ...

Naval Facilities, Sydney, NSW

In May 2015 Waterway Constructions awarded MCM a subcontract for two naval facilities on the Lower North Shore of Sydney.

The first of the projects was for the repair and protection of three dolphin structures at the Chowder Bay Naval facility in Mosman. The second project involved confined space works at HMAS Waterhen in Waverton. Both projects were run concurrently and with strict deadlines for completion.



Chowder Bay ...

The main wharf structure consists of two large concrete berthing dolphins and an unloading dolphin, each supported by concrete-encased steel piles.

The undersides of the dolphins had suffered from extensive corrosion, with complete delamination of concrete cover in some locations.

MCM's scope included the following:

- Concrete repair
- Crack injection
- Sea wall remediation
- Impressed Current Cathodic Protection (ICCP) to various elements, including dolphin edge beams, cross- beams, soffits, fender blocks, decks and pile encasements.

The site presented a variety of challenges, such as exposure to waves and swell, working in tidal conditions, public interfaces and Naval ship movements. These were required to be met safely and to tight deadlines for completion.



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MCM Supervisor Declan McCabe worked with Waterway Constructions' Site Supervisor Ron Peach and Project Manager Tony Matthews to meet the challenges.

Despite the difficult conditions, the team ensured the project was delivered within the required timeframe and to a high standard of quality.

The cathodic protection system, tested throughout the project, is performing as required.

Philip Bird, Project Manager, commented that *"this project has been a success, and it's down to quality work from Declan and his crew and our head contractor Waterway Constructions; a great team."*

... defending Australia's assets ...

HMAS Waterhen ...

HMAS Waterhen is a naval refuelling facility located in Waverton, Sydney.

The repair works were to be carried out without interference to the ongoing operations of the facility, and included the following scope of work in the services ducts on each wharf:

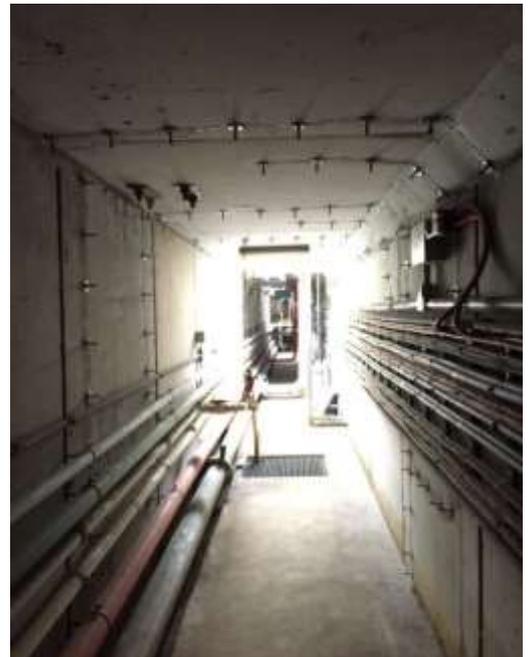
- Crack injection to the interior surfaces (confined space).
- Concrete repairs (confined space).

The areas to be treated included four box-section galleries; walls, floor and soffit. In many cases, the existing services presented significant obstacles to the work.

Almost 1.5km of crack injection was carried out using a proprietary low viscosity epoxy resin.

The floor topping in the gallery was opened up in a number of locations to assess whether the cracks were superficial or structural. They proved to be the former and were eminently suitable for low-viscosity epoxy injection.

A key challenge was delivering the entire scope of works in a confined space.



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This required fully trained specialist staff and equipment, together with a thorough daily risk assessment to identify and control hazards and deliver the project safely in accordance with the applicable codes and Standards.

MCM Supervisor Keith Gosnell worked with Waterway Constructions' Supervisor Steve Philipsen to deliver the project on time and without complication.

Project Manager Philip Bird commented:

"The site team did a great job in completing the work to a high standard and without incident in cramped and difficult conditions."



www.marineandcivil.com.au

Email: info@marineandcivil.com.au

ACRA GUIDE TO CONCRETE REPAIR AND PROTECTION HB84 - UPDATED



The ACRA Guide to Concrete Repair and Protection HB-84 is being updated, and with this update will come refreshed photos as well. This is where you, the members can help.

If you have any photos you would like to donate to this updated handbook along with a very brief description of the photo we just may use it in the guide or it may even make the cover.

Email your photo/s to info@acrassoc.com.au or phone +61 2 9645 3692 if you have any questions.

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approaching the
half-way mark on
one of our many
landmark projects*



ACRA TRAINING COURSE

Recently NSW was a sold out and we are preparing another technical training course this time out west so keep an eye on the ACRA website for more details.

Other course dates are:

Perth, WA 7 April 2016 – [Click here](#) for more detail and to register – **ALMOST FULL**

Brisbane, QLD 4 May 2016 – [Click here](#) for more detail and to register – **LIMITED TO 20 PPL**

Melbourne, VIC 26 May 2016 – [Click here](#) for more detail and to register - **LIMITED TO 20 PPL**

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Awards & Recognition



Excellence in Concrete Repair & Protection 2016

We are happy to announce the 9th biennial Australasian Concrete Repair Association Awards for Excellence. This occasion celebrates recently completed outstanding projects in the field of concrete repair in all fields from product design, investigation techniques to the actual repair projects themselves.

We have distributed a copy of the flyer outlining how the competition will be run and some of the rules along with an entry form, this can also be obtained via the ACRA website www.acrassoc.com.au
Entries close July 1, 2016.

Please note that you are encouraged to enter as many projects as you can in as many categories as you see fit so that we can really showcase some of the exciting projects which have been undertaken.

Judging will not favour project value but areas such as the success of the project, innovation and originality will be advantageous.

As many a successful project is a team effort, entrants are also encouraged to submit joint applications, if applicable, from say the Consultant and the Contractor, or Supplier and Consultant.

The winners of the "Merit" or "Excellence" awards will be awarded a framed certificate in recognition of their efforts in the field of concrete repair at the prestigious awards evening which will be held at the Sebel Hotel, Pier One in Sydney in October 2016. Details and invitations for the awards evening will be announced at a later date.

This evening will showcase all winning entries and will give you the chance to network with your peers in the concrete repair industry.

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These awardees will have their projects and award details published on both the ACRA web sites and in numerous industry publications identifying them as true leaders in the field of concrete repair and providing excellent marketing possibilities.

To view previous winning entries, please visit the ACRA web site (www.acrassoc.com.au) and click on the awards tab in the top right hand corner.

We hope you will show your support for ACRA and for this year's awards and look forward to receiving your applications. (Entry form is available in word format on request info@acrassoc.com.au)



GOOD LUCK!

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Xypex's ability to selfheal static hairline cracks up to 0.4mm wide, resist extreme hydrostatic pressure, and its chemical protection will ensure the enhancement of durability, extension of service life and reduction of future lifetime costs of the Westgate Bridge in Victoria.

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Calendar of Events

Mark your diary!

DATE	MONTH	EVENT NAME	LINK
7	APRIL	ACRA WA Seminar	www.acrassoc.com.au VERY FEW SEATS LEFT
14-15	APRIL	ACA/ACRA Training Course Corrosion & Protection of Concrete Structures (Sydney)	http://www.corrosion.com.au/Training/Calendar/agentType/View/PropertyID/110
4	MAY	ACRA QLD Seminar	www.acrassoc.com.au LIMITED
26	MAY	ACRA VIC Seminar	www.acrassoc.com.au LIMITED
23-24	JUNE	ACA/ACRA Training Course Corrosion & Protection of Concrete Structures (Melbourne)	http://www.corrosion.com.au/Training/Calendar/agentType/View/PropertyID/110
1	JULY	ACRA AWARD PROJECT REGISTRATIONS CLOSE DATE	www.acrassoc.com.au
TBA	JULY	ACRA TRADE SHOW VIC	www.acrassoc.com.au
30	AUGUST	CALCULATING ANODE SIZE & SPACING FOR CONCRETE REPAIR (INVERMAY, TAS)	https://www.concreteinstitute.com.au/Events/414.aspx

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31	AUGUST	CALCULATING ANODE SIZE & SPACING FOR CONCRETE REPAIR (SANDY BAY, TAS)	https://www.concreteinstitute.com.au/Events/415.aspx
24-25	OCT	ACA/ACRA Training Course Corrosion & Protection of Concrete Structures (Adelaide)	http://www.corrosion.com.au/Training/Calendar/agentType/View/PropertyID/110
27	OCT	ACRA AGM (members only)	www.acrassoc.com.au
27	OCT	Biannual ACRA Awards	www.acrassoc.com.au
9	NOV	ACRA Course on Concrete Repair and Protection (Auckland)	www.acrassoc.com.au
10-11	NOV	ACA/ACRA Training Course Corrosion & Protection of Concrete Structures (NZ)	http://www.corrosion.com.au/Training/Calendar/agentType/View/PropertyID/110
13-16	NOV	Corrosion & Prevention 2016 NZ	http://acaconference.com.au/
17-20	JAN 2017	World of Concrete	https://www.worldofconcrete.com/Attendee/ShowInfo

Are you interested in becoming a corporate member of ACRA?

Call us today or click on the link to register online and to view all corporate membership entitlements

Membership means **more.**

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Contact John O'Connell

0404 857 360

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NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.....

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ACRA CORPORATE MEMBERS



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