

# 'Course up-skilled me on protecting concrete'

"Since the course, I have made good use of the knowledge I gained. As site engineer overseeing cathodic protection of an abutment, I found the course had taught me what to look for in the installation of the CP."

So reports Port of Brisbane's Michael Harris, one of two course "graduates" whose opinion was sought on the usefulness of their two days on *Corrosion and protection of reinforced concrete* conducted in four state capitals so far jointly by ACA and ACRA.

## Understanding

The other was Ben Nayler of the Queensland Department of Main Roads.

Facing the imminent task of having to assess the suitability of a repair strategy on a structure and seeing it properly carried out, Ben feels "I now understand more fully the mechanisms involved in the deterioration of reinforced concrete."

"The segment on CP was helpful as were the segments about inspections, diagnosing problems and remediation strategies".

## Workshop

Ben Nayler further comments: "It was a feature of the course that any of us could bring in actual projects to be discussed by the class."

And Michael Harris says about his subsequent CP project: "I had a couple of inspection officers with me and I was able to give them a bit of training on what to look for".

Both attendees praised the presentation of the course material, particularly the lavish use of examples.

## Foundation

In its third year, the course aims to "provide a solid



foundation of knowledge about the corrosion of both reinforcement and concrete, so that those working in this field can reach more effective solutions in the prevention and remediation of this ever-growing problem".

The course designers say that the course is suitable for anyone with year 10 science, but that those with less schooling who have technical experience should have little trouble.

## Targeted at...

The course is suitable for asset, building and bridge maintenance managers, for port, plant, consulting and heritage structure engineers, for architects and specialist contractors, for construction materials suppliers, and for asset condition inspectors and overseers.

The course covers: characteristics of cement and concrete, deterioration mechanisms, corrosion of rebar in concrete, survey and diagnosis, on-site and laboratory measurements, repair and protection of reinforced concrete, repair of damaged concrete, electro-chemical methods including CP, and preventive measures.

Points towards ACA certification are awarded to any who opt to do a following case history exam. In any case, a certificate of attendance is issued.

## Book early

Courses for the rest of this year are: August 12-13 in Melbourne and November 05-06 in Sydney.

To book, visit the ACRA website. ■