

Checklist your concrete repairers. See Awards!

Could you use a checklist of what to look for in a concrete repair team?

Then you can't go past the categories of ACRA's biennial *Awards for Excellence in Concrete Repair*, which will be announced soon.

(See this issue's feature, *Australian awards showcase best concrete repairs*, for a summary of the entries.)

Look at these categories and you will see that they embody all the skills and qualities you could hope to bring to bear on your concrete repair problem.

Investigation

For starters, would you not expect the very best in investigative skills?

The root cause of concrete deterioration is rarely a forgone conclusion and must be fully understood before the best repair strategy can be developed. Thus, ACRA have included an *Investigation* category to acknowledge excellence in diagnosis.

Innovation

You would also surely want a team to be showing **state-of-the-art leadership in the its field**. Even if your project didn't need such technologies, surely you would rather have a team that knew how to make use of CP, chloride extraction, realkalisation, and so on—than one ignorant of such options.

Acknowledging its importance, ACRA rewards **Innovation in Concrete Repair and Protection** as a category.

Jobs big & small

No matter the suspected size of your concrete repair projects—whether residential, commercial, industrial, civil or marine—you would understandably like to know that you are dealing with those

for whom there is no project too big or too small.

The Awards give this assurance through categories:

- **Projects up to \$250,000**
- **\$250,000 to \$1,000,000**
- **\$1,000,000 and above.**

Long lasting

You would also like to know that the solutions applied to your project are lasting ones.

The category *Long-term performance for projects completed more than seven years* is your guarantee.

Cross the board

And don't be quick to cross off your checklist the final category as too general. *Repair Industry Excellence Award* is for the entry that "through its outstanding achievement or contribution to the repair industry, promotes the goals of the association and its members".

Take note that **this category is not awarded every year and only when the achievement or contribution is truly outstanding.**

When it is, you gain a **useful benchmark against which to judge** all those you invite to tender for your work.

So, next time you see entries to the ACRA Awards, don't merely be blown away by the skills of the entrants, but think about how **you can use the categories as a checklist to apply in choosing those you would care to entrust the important job of rehabilitating and protecting your or your client's concrete assets.**

