



**MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH COMBINED
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Held on Sunday March 3, 2008 at 10:00am
at the Novotel Hotel, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. NSW

ATTENDING:

Menno Henneveld	-	Chairman of ASTT
Trevor Gosatti	-	Western Australian Council Representative
Chris Frangos	-	Victorian Council Representative
John Monro	-	New South Wales Council Representative
Kane Scott	-	South Australian Council Representative
Graeme McArthur	-	Tasmanian Council Representative
Andy Krumins	-	Queensland Council Representative
Grant Binns	-	New Zealand Council Representative
Jeff Pace	-	Secretary / Treasurer

Also attending were: David Lilley, Stewart Brown and Chris Bland.

1. Open Meeting.

Menno Henneveld Chairman of the ASTT opened the meeting and welcomed the Councillors and members and thanked them for attending.

The agenda was reviewed, and those attending were provided with the opportunity to advise of any items to be included in General Business.

2. Apologies.

An apology was received from Chris Geehman.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held in Brisbane dated October 30, 2006 were accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved Trevor Gosatti and seconded by Kane Scott.

4. Chairman's Report

International Report

Menno informed the meeting that he was no longer the ISTT Chairman as this role was now being undertaken by Mr Dec Downey.

Menno advised the meeting on the 2008 Moscow International Conference and Exhibition stats. Currently there are 88 Exhibitors with the initial target set as 50. 2250 square metres of exhibition space sold where the original estimate was 800 square metres. 67 delegates have registered to date with some 280 estimated to attend. All indications point towards a successful event. The main areas of concern to the ISTT relate to travel and accommodation costs.

The São Paulo 2008 event held last February was a regional event supported by the ISTT. Some 400 delegates and 40 exhibitors were involved in this successful event. The Brazilian Society is also considering putting in a proposal to the ISTT to host 2010 International No-Dig also possibly at São Paulo. Singapore may also be the venue for the 2010 International No-Dig.

In 2009, the venue for the 2009 International No-Dig will be Toronto in Canada. This event will be sponsored by both the ISTT and the NASTT.

Other items were mentioned including the de-affiliation of the Indian Society for Trenchless Technology.

The German Society (GSTT) has now paid all their outstanding fees to the ISTT.

In China, there were 3 Societies looking at combining into a single entity. This work has ceased due to the passing away of Mr Gong. Mr Gong was going to facilitate this merger.

The Swiss Society has withdrawn from the ISTT family.

The ISTT is currently reorganising itself with the imminent appointment of a new Executive Secretary. There now exists the ISTT Strategic Plan 2K12 which sets the direction of the Society for the next 4 years. This plan can be viewed on the ISTT website.

Profundus to remain as the Company responsible for the maintenance of the ISTT web site.

National Report

The Brisbane International No-Dig that was held in 2006 was extremely successful and Andy Krummins and his team were once again congratulated for his efforts on this event.

Income from the magazine "Trenchless Australasia" has assisted in putting the ASTT in a very sound financial position. The magazine is a good tool to assist with membership and it now gives the ASTT a professional face. Membership is relatively stable.

On the Communications side, the latest Trenchless Directory has just been released to coincide with this National Conference and the ASTT web site continues to receive a constant number of hits. The one day seminars also are proving to be well received.

On the training side, the level of uptake is not as good as expected.

Planning for the Sydney Conference is professional and we are expecting around 350 attendees.

5. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

5.1 Financial Report

Jeff Pace reported on the financial status of the Society.

He informed the meeting that because there was no AGM in 2007, that this financial report will be for both 2007 and 2006 for which copies of both Audit Reports were made available to those attending this meeting.

In 2007 the Society boosted its performance with a positive outcome of \$111,619 compared to \$21,870 in 2006. This boost was mainly due to the profit of \$67027 from the 2006 Brisbane International Conference.

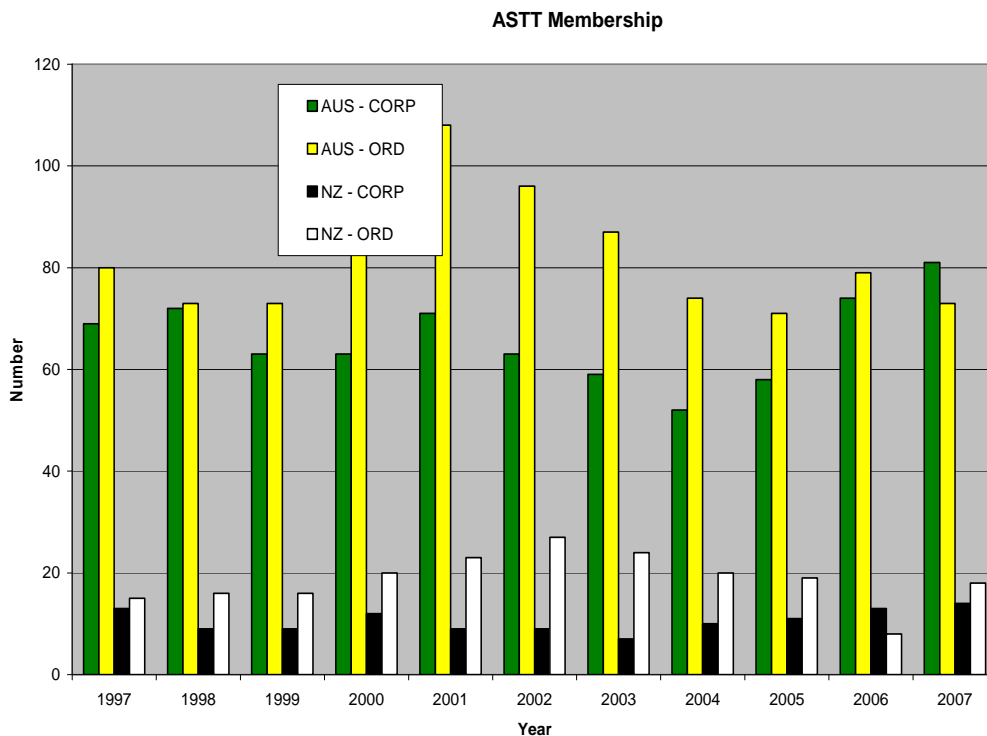
The income generated from the Trenchless Australasia magazines and Australasian Trenchless Directory was once again extremely positive. The Society outlaid \$30000 in 2007 for a return of \$46,692 resulting in a tidy profit of \$16,692 and \$20,000 in 2006 for a return of \$36,250 also resulting in a tidy profit of \$16,250. Membership was also reasonably stable when compared to previous years.

The 2006 and 2007 Audit Reports was accepted as tabled.
Moved Grant Binns and seconded by Trevor Gosatti.

5.2 Membership

The current trend is pleasing once again because it shows the overall membership is once again starting to grow from 174 in 2006 to 186 in 2007. This represents a growth of 7%.

Both Australia and New Zealand have reached new milestones with Corporate Memberships. As at February 10, we have a combined total of 98 Corporate Members which is up from 94 in 2007. This gradual incline of corporate members provides a positive impact on the Societies income. The table under reflects the current and past position on memberships.



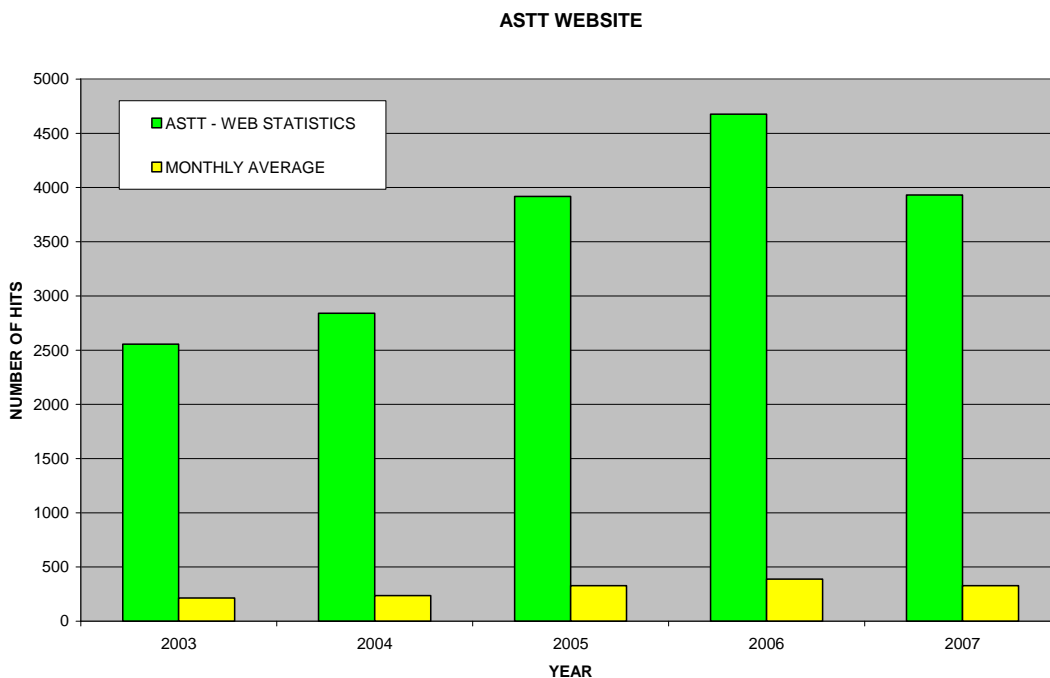
As in the past, it is worth noting that the society spends an enormous amount of time and effort in chasing up members that un-financial. This year was no different from the last.

Members probably do not realise that payment of the Affiliation Fee to ISTT is directly related to the number of members (financial or otherwise) that the Society has on its books as at March 31 of each year. Therefore the Society carries the risk of paying for members that may end up cancelling their membership after March 31.

Members are also reminded that if they shift addresses, to forward their new address and contact details to me. This info will then immediately be passed onto the ISTT.

5.3 Internet

ASTT's homepage is constantly being upgraded. For 2007 we averaged 328 hits per month, as we did in 2005. The higher average in 2006 of 389 was due to the Brisbane International No-Dig. The table under reflects the current and past activity.



A Members Area was added to the website with access through a member ID and password. This area currently provides a direct link to the vast range of past conference papers that have been collated on the ISTT website. Access will also shortly be made available to NUCA-TAG which is a tool for assessing the range of trenchless options/solutions that can be considered when assessing projects.

5.4 Directory of Services

All members are requested to visit the Member Services area of the ASTT website and confirm that the information stated is still accurate. This also means that should any member change addresses to immediately let me know so that I can notify the ISTT, Great Southern Press and update the member's database for future correspondence etc.

Great Southern Press produced a very comprehensive Australasian Trenchless Directory in 2007 with another recently released in 2008.

5.5 Trenchless Australasia

In September 2004, the Trenchless Australasia magazine was introduced for our members. To date Great Southern Press has produced 13 magazines and 2 Trenchless Directories, all of which have been very well received by industry. This arrangement continues to be a success story for the ASTT and I am confident that it will continue to realise a benefit to all involved in the trenchless industry. Circulation is currently around 2500 mainly across Australia and New Zealand with magazines also going to Asia, Europe and the United States.

5.6 Ozwater Exhibition 2007 – Sydney

The Australian Water Association has continued to support the ASTT by way of offering us a Complimentary Booth at their annual events. In 2007 the ASTT and Great Southern Press shared a booth at AWA's Ozwater Exhibition that was held in Sydney.

This combined presence is proving beneficial for both parties with Great Southern Press chasing up new contacts and articles for our magazine and the ASTT promoting the benefits of membership, trenchless technology and future Conferences. The magazine is proving to be a very popular freebee to hand out at venues like these.

Approval has also been given to allow the ASTT to participate at the next AWA Enviro 08 event in Melbourne this May.

6. Councillor's Reports

6.1 New South Wales - By John Monro

NSW members have again maintained enthusiastic support for the aims of the ASTT over the past year.

An important activity of the Branch is the holding of quarterly meetings, which are typically attended by 8 - 12 members. This year we have been grateful for the hospitality of Sydney Water, Ditch Witch, and Department of Commerce and SASTTI who have kindly allowed us the use of their premises for these meetings. As well as valuable networking opportunities, these events enable members to be kept up to date with Society initiatives and to discuss matters of industry interest.

Invitations are emailed to all NSW members, and we aim to keep our members in remote locations involved by emailing Meeting Reports.

These meetings include a presentation by a prominent industry specialist. Presentations over the past year have been:

- Mick McGill: "Latest developments in Microtunnelling from Japan, including Kinder Corporation's J-curve Pipejacking Method." The presentation included a case study of a project in Osaka where they constructed a 1.5 metre diameter tunnel which incorporated a 30 metre radius bend.
- Craig Kennedy, State Manager NSW for Mono gave a comprehensive presentation on pressure sewers and the range of specialised products Mono has available to meet the requirements for this growing market. Pressure sewer programs offer an important opportunity for the HDD industry.
- Nick Apostolidis (Director and Leader of GHD's Water Business Stream): "Major Sewer Upgrades and Wastewater Recycling Schemes in Queensland." This was a fascinating presentation on major works the Company is involved with in South East Queensland, including the BMP Alliance major sewer upgrading scheme for the Gold Coast City and the Western Corridor Wastewater Recycling Scheme.

- Trevor Gossatti, ASTT WA Councillor and MD of Vortex Pipes Limited delivered a presentation and participated in a discussion on the development of qualifications in the Trenchless Technology industry.

The situation regarding training in the Trenchless Technology industry has been a constant point of discussion at our meetings, particularly regarding the availability of seemingly parallel qualifications:

- Certificate III in Civil Construction (Trenchless Technology) ... and ...
- Certificate III in Drilling - Trenchless Technology

The situation needs to be resolved and a single credible qualification program offered that can advance the industry. We suggest the ASTT takes the lead on this.

The opinion of our NSW experts is that the ADITC's (drilling) program is currently more advanced and more relevant to the industry than the CCF WA's (civil construction) program. However it needs further development and investment to be complete.

In late 2007 the ADITC obtained a subsidy from the Department of Education Science and Training for 12 candidates to be assessed for Certificate 3 Drilling (Trenchless Technology). Peter Brown, one of our members, worked with the ADITC assessor (who was experienced in drilling but not HDD) to carry out a meaningful assessment program. Peter commented on the high quality of the assessment materials that had been prepared.

The participants obtained Certificate 2, 3 or 4 as appropriate through the recognition of their prior learning. Promotion of these qualifications offers an opportunity for the ASTT. Promoting those companies whose personnel have obtained the qualifications would be an important benefit to them and would provide additional reasons for members of the HDD industry to obtain the qualification, so enhancing the standing of the industry, and to become members of the ASTT.

6.2 Western Australia – By Trevor Gosatti

Once again, the Western Australian civil construction industry has been very strong throughout the last year in a very buoyant economy and this has meant continued strong activity in the growth of the trenchless technology sector.

Early in the year, the MetroRail City Project (Client : Public Transport Authority), which was reported upon in previous years reports, was completed successfully by the Contractor, Leighton Kumagai Joint Venture. The project involved approx. 744 metres of twin bored underground rail tunnel under the city of Perth and the rail line is now in operation.

Contractors, DJ & MB MacCormick continued to complete several large micro-tunnelling and pipe jacking projects. The Perth Main Sewer project (for the Water Corporation of W.A.) as reported last year was completed. The company was recognized during this period with an ISTT Award for the Best Product for their micro-tunnelling retraction system to install a DN1200mm casing around the gas pipe at the Otway Gas Project.

The Water Corporation of W.A. continued to provide works that allow for trenchless technology. The Infill Sewerage program, which was commenced by the Water Corporation back in the early 1990's still has a small program of works completed every year (approx. \$30 million), and many micro-tunnelled pipes are installed in back yard and difficult street situations.

The Corporation also continued a sewer rehabilitation program (approx. \$20 million/annum) for strategic areas of potential failures near the Perth river systems. The two selected panelists Drillline Pty.

Ltd and Interflow Pty. Ltd., have been rehabilitating areas under various contracts. The Corporation has also been rehabilitating other small pockets of sewer failures around the Perth area, throughout the last year.

During the year, pipe rehabilitation company, Premium Pipe Services, won a contract with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder to reline and pipe burst sewer pipes (approx. 1.8kms) by offering a trenchless alternative bid to the originally requested tender to dig up and relay pipes.

The use of CIPP to rehabilitate pipes has expanded amongst several of Perth's councils who are instigating small programs for rehabilitating drainage pipes, many of which are damaged by root intrusion or materials failure of the host pipe.

The use of directional drilling for the installation of underground power and communications has continued to grow and several large contracts are being completed.

The conversion of pole top power to underground power continues to be completed throughout selected suburbs (mostly by trench-less methods) and it is intended that these programs will be expanded further. Larger companies such as Underground Services Australia continue to specialise and complete many of these types of works as well as the many smaller contractors entering the market.

As a recognition of the increasing skill requirements in directional drilling, an Underground Services Australia employee became the first trainee to be awarded a Level 3 Certificate in Civil Construction (Trenchless Technology) under the updated AQF Training Packages which now incorporate trenchless technology in the civil construction sector.

6.3 South Australia - By Kane Scott

As requested, please find below an update on Trenchless Technology within SA during 2006/07 from South Australian ASTT members.

Bore-Tech (SA) Pty Ltd

- Installed several HDPE pipes of 180mm diameter in Newport Quays (Port Adelaide) area below water table. Sewers had to be installed to grade.
- Installed several small diameter HDPE pipes for small developments, road crossings, under existing structures and properties.
- Installed 1 x 400mm steel sleeve under a main road near Loxton.

Rib Loc Australia Pty. Ltd.

Number or recent projects executed in Adelaide by Interflow using Expanda Pipe system.

- Multiple projects executed in WA, QLD, VIC, NSW, TAS and NZ by Interflow using Expanda and Rotaloc system.
- Contracts for rehabilitation of culverts using the Ribline system have been awarded. Several large diameter culverts, 2.2m and 2.7 m, are to be rehabilitated by Interflow using the Ribline system.
- Major success in Singapore with over three rehabilitation projects using Expanda Pipe underway.
- Rehabilitation of sewer pipes in Malaysia using Ribline system: 900 to 1600mm

- First ever projects executed in South Africa using Expanda and Ribline systems: 450mm and 900mm
- Nordipipe CIPP system approved for potable water with first ever project awarded for structural repair of water mains.

SA Water Sewer

As stated in previous ASTT reports, SA Water owns and manages over 8,000 km of sewer mains throughout SA with sizes up to 2600mm and some dating back to the 1880s. In 2002 a risk assessment model was developed to manage these assets. Trenchless Technology is a vital component on the ongoing management strategy, as outlined in the following examples:

- A comprehensive, prioritised 5 year program of CCTV inspection of the pipe systems began in June 2004. The work will be done using the latest equipment, digital recording and classification in accordance with the new WSSA Sewer Inspection Reporting Code.
- A rehabilitation strategy has been developed for the assets at greatest risk, ie large diameter concrete mains installed prior to 1939. A 10 year re-lining program commenced in early 2004.
- SA Water is developing an overflow abatement program. Trenchless technologies will be increasingly used in the cleaning and rehabilitation of the smaller diameter mains that are the major cause of overflows.
- As part of sewer extensions in the Adelaide Hills, directional drilling has been used for both sewer pumping and gravity sewers using a variety of local based contractors. Pipe diameters are at the smaller end of the HDPE range and generally less than 100m in length.

The application of Trenchless Technology within the last year on sewer assets includes:

- CCTV Program: The CCTV of approximately 57km of sewer mains. This included approximately 8.4km in the country regions.
- Relining: Relining of an approximately 8km of wastewater mains, primarily RCRJ gravity mains, ranging in size from 225 to 525mm diameter. Ribloc spiral wound liners were used for all of this work.
- HDD: Horizontal directional drilling of several small diameter sewer pumping mains as part of the Adelaide Hills Backlog Sewers asset program through undulating easements. This work was undertaken by SA Directional Boring Pty Ltd.
- Vapor Rooting: United Water trial being undertaken in the metropolitan Adelaide area applying Lincoln Chemicals RootOut product. Effectiveness and costs of application to be compared to Sanafoam VaporRooter. Several country regions are also considering trialling RootOut.

The likely application of Trenchless Technology planned for the short-medium term on sewer assets includes:

- Continued rehabilitation of poor condition sewer mains identified through the CCTV program. This would appear to be primarily on reinforced concrete gravity mains between 150mm and 525mm dia and 50m to >1km in length, primarily within the metropolitan area.

- The lining of sewer mains prone to groundwater intrusion as a result of poor condition joints and/or root intrusion in combination with high water tables.

Water

The key issues of relevance to Trenchless Technology in the water networks is the provision of filtered water to small River Murray townships and the rehabilitation of old, large diameter trunk mains.

SA Water has also performed a risk assessment on all of SA Water's trunk mains (≥ 375 mm dia) to identify those mains that present various levels of risk to SA Water. These mains have been flagged for possible rehabilitation through the application of Trenchless Technology.

The application of Trenchless Technology within the last year includes:

- Minor HDD/bore works on various projects for road or railway crossings.
- The installation of a filtered water pipeline across the River Murray from Tailem Bend to Jervois is due for completion in the 2007/08 financial year. This will require approximately 560m of 355mm diameter HDPE pipe using HDD to traverse under the River Murray.
- The application of Swiftpipe plough in technology for the installation of approximately 8.25km of HDPE water main ranging in size from 63mm to 125mm and lengths from 950m to 2,600m.
- The commencement of the first significant project under SA Water's Water Network Trunk Main Renewal asset program. This project commenced in June 2007 and involves the swage lining of 650 MSCL riveted pipe over approximately 960m in the South Parklands.

The likely application of Trenchless Technology planned for the short-medium term on water assets includes:

- Condition assessment techniques on large diameter, unprotected (eg. no cathodic protection), mild steel trunk mains within metropolitan Adelaide identified as presenting the highest potential risk to SA Water.
- The rehabilitation of the above trunk mains post condition assessment if the assessment deems rehabilitation necessary.

Trenchless Pipelaying Contractors

Work completed over the past year has been primarily for Telstra cabling and the private industry. All work undertaken has been in South Australia.

6.4 Tasmania – By Graeme McArthur

In this the 18th year of the Society and 16th year of my involvement with the Tasmanian Trenchless scene I am pleased to report that Tasmania knows about Trenchless, even though there is a feeling we do not use it enough.

With this feeling in mind, the Society was well represented and strongly promoted at the last TAMMS/IPWEA State conference with the theme "Water Under Pressure" in Nov. 2008 by myself and Laura Harvey from Trenchless Australia magazine producers Great Southern Press.

Some 170 delegates attended and with an ASTT brochure in their satchels, and the 2008 conference brochure handed out with a Trenchless Australia magazine, trenchless technology was well advertised.

We asked them to consider their “Water Assets under pressure?” and “Why not try Trenchless?”. Only time will tell if the message got through.

Thanks must go to the organizers TAMMS/IPWEA committee for the free booth space and Great Southern Press and ASTT-Jeff Pace for supporting literature, laptop paper and handouts and Launceston City Council for the posters etc.

Sadly we cannot report that membership has increased as we are now down to four for the State. Some new entrants into the municipal and public works fields were at least enlightened as to the potential of TT so again we can only wait for them to see the need and use it and or become members.

.With the internet these days the knowledge that people used to seek verbally is largely gained by direct access to the company profile after a bit of internet searching, lessening the personal interactivity. The latest goings on and what people are up to usually only comes out when jobs are underway.

Some good projects have not had the appropriate field days the industry deserves and it would be good to improve this aspect of our work. Maybe we can in this new year ahead.

Since the inception of TT all manner of products and technologies have been tried in Tasmania from the technically interesting swage lining, through to the CIP lining very well utilized at present across the state and HDD still being the most used technology mainly by the Gas utility in extensions and services. A couple of Councils have purchased their own small diameter drills for local services and under road crossings.

Jobs reported over the last 18months include about 8kms of CIPP lining by Tasmanian based UAS who also reports the significant exporting of technology , cctv and linings to the mainland. About 60kms by HDD with P.E insertion lining ,the vast majority being for the Gas network and the remainder for water services and main road service crossings. My best sources advise me that this work was done by about 8 regular Tasmanian based contractors, a significant increase in number from five years ago.

Following up with the University of Tasmania I am pleased to report a renewed interest in the ASTT Educational CD and an interest in TT presentations to lunchtime student sessions etc. More of that later in the year for me I suspect.

Following on from last Conference where ASTT assisted the Tasmanian Branch of IPWEA, FAMET grant of \$2000 with reduced entry fees to the 6th International No-Dig Conference in Brisbane , Owen De la Motte the successful applicant attended and came back to do a quite successful presentation to the IPWEA AGM in June 2007. He highlighted all the interesting aspects of the conference and was well received as noted by the number of questions he received after his presentation.

Thanks again go to the Brisbane Conference committee for supporting this young engineer in his personal development and the spreading of the word into the next generation of engineers. I think it should be a regular practice maybe for each state to endeavour to promote the TT industry by offering such assistance to new engineering practitioners.

Running with the theme of the state conference last year “Water under Pressure” , I went to some length to find out about water asset rehabilitation and could not satisfy my needs. It appears to me that very limited work is being done in this field and perhaps it may come as the next avenue for TT in which to expand in Australia. If we are doing it then maybe more publicity is required.

As we venture in to the new year Tasmanians now have to look forward to the new challenge of the reform of the state water and sewerage industry.

A Ministerial Water and Sewerage Taskforce has been set up to identify structural and regulatory changes to ensure the sector transitions to long-term sustainability.

Changes are expected to current rules, regulations and ownership of assets, how assets are managed and services delivered in conformance with the National Water Initiative Agreements. The outcomes are expected to produce more transparency and reflect the true cost of service and infrastructure provision. Models being promoted include a state authority or three regional bodies that could be owned by the local councils or state. At present indications are that some decisive direction may be coming out by the end of this year. We will look forward to the spin-off in asset creation and reconstruction to provide the appropriate levels of service when the new authority arrives and settles down

6.5 Victoria – By Chris Frangos

Overview

Following the retirement of Chris Geehman from the position of Victorian Councillor in late January 2007, I have attempted to fill the void left by Chris.

I would like to thank Chris for his contribution and raising the profile of the ASTT during his period of service.

Trenchless Technology in Victoria continued to grow throughout 2007. The prolonged drought has raised the profile of the water industry in general and investment in infrastructure as a result will continue to increase in the foreseeable future.

As part of this increased investment more and more projects are seeing trenchless options raised as viable alternatives to traditional construction techniques. Many trenchless methods are now considered main stream and no longer considered 'new methods' for example sewer relining, directional drilling.

Membership

Membership in Victoria has stayed constant. There were 38 members in 2007 and most have renewed their membership for 2008.

Very few membership enquiries have been received. A number of project managers called requesting assistance with project specific directional drilling queries. A request for assistance in organizing a microtunnelling seminar was received and in conjunction with assistance from Great Southern Press a short course has been organized to coincide with the 7th National ASTT Conference.

Promotion of Trenchless Technology

Trenchless Australasia has undertaken the role of promoting the industry in a professional and very visible manner. The series of one day seminars held in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane helped to keep Trenchless Technology visible throughout the period between conferences.

Water Industry Overview

Renewal Projects

Sewer rehabilitation continues to be predominantly via trenchless methods across the state along with other low dig methods such as sliplining and pipe bursting. Authorities in Victoria are spending in excess of \$25 million per annum on trenchless sewer rehabilitation mainly in the diameter range 150mm to 900mm.

Water main renewals using pipe bursting have grown especially as this technique becomes more established for routine renewals. In metropolitan Melbourne between 80% and 90% of water main renewals are undertaken in this way especially in reticulation diameters (100mm-225mm), however in regional Victoria there is a large variation from authority to authority.

More and more regional authorities are investigating trenchless and semi trenchless options. It is expected that growth in trenchless methods will continue.

A number of large water main renewal projects were undertaken during 2007 in inner urban areas by a number of techniques ranging from microtunnelling, sliplining and pipe bursting. Larger projects using these techniques will continue in 2008 due to the costs of reinstating other infrastructure and private property associated with open cut techniques.

New Infrastructure

The current increase in infrastructure investment has seen an increase in large tunnelling projects to extend major trunk sewers for example the Northern Sewer Project. Projects of this type have necessitated the creation of joint ventures and alliances to enable deliver of these large projects.

Challenges for 2007/08

Following on from the impending success of the 7th National ASTT Conference in March, it will be important to continue the momentum generated with a survey of Victorian members to determine what they require from their membership and what level of interaction is required.

It is planned to arrange Bi-Annual networking meetings with the possibility of a guest speaker similar to the format adopted in NSW. Timing will be discussed with Great Southern Press in an attempt to reduce duplication with any potential seminars planned for 2008.

6.6 Queensland – By Andy Krumins

Since my last Report in November 2006, construction activity in the State has increased with a mining boom that has dried up the available workforce and the persistent drought especially in South East Queensland.

At the Qld Conference in Brisbane last year, the Deputy Coordinator General presented a paper on these and other major projects that have passed the \$6Billion mark and heading for \$10Billion plus.

Parts of these Infrastructure Projects are pipelines and not only are pipes in short supply, but many river, creek and road crossings are and will be constructed by trenchless technology techniques.

Some of these projects have been reported in our magazine.

It is good to see that Infrastructure Projects can not be exported overseas and that there is a realisation of the general lack of experienced people to meet the demand and the cost of competing with the mining industry for skilled personnel, and the cost of using unskilled, unexperienced resources to meet deadlines.

Queensland has a large population growth with the South East being one of the most rapid in the Western world.

This presents an opportunity to have trenchless techniques for Greenfield Development, and a must for Brownfield.

In Brisbane alone redevelopment and rezonings that allow large population increases within the CBD and nearby precincts are now putting large demands on ageing and under capacity networks, and with the city having nearly reached its original “ultimate” planned targets, duplications and capacity increases planned in the near future are only capable of being delivered by trenchless means in most cases.

One of the drought outcomes in South East Queensland has been the current and future restructure of the water industry by the State Government. Some 15 Councils that were water authorities will become 10 Councils that are not. The water business will be provided by a bulk entity, bulk network, a manufactured water entity, a grid manager, some 3 to 7 retail entities and a single distribution entity responsible for water retic, sewerage treatment and sewer network – from Noosa to the Gold Coast and west to Toowoomba.

These entities will allocate, treat and distribute treated water and manufactured water (desal and indirect potable reuse), and provide sewerage treatment services to the region.

The billions of dollars of infrastructure previously mentioned, will be operated by these businesses, some of which will be owned by the State Government and some by all the Councils, but the rate of expansions and developments will only grow the need for trenchless as the future availability of water becomes assured.

6.7 New Zealand - By Grant Binns

State of the Market

The Trenchless technology market in New Zealand is growing steadily. We are now seeing some significant projects taking place or being planned and there are a number of clients who look at TT solutions first. In saying this there is still a large part of the market that needs educating in Trenchless Technology Solutions.

Perhaps we need to promote trenchless technology solutions more aggressively to the greater industry.

As I commented last year, education and promotion is the key to the future of the trenchless technology industry. We need to get more involved with other industry groups and encourage our members to present case study papers at other conferences.

In New Zealand, industry growth has seen the recent purchase of a Vermeer Navigator D100x120 directional drill. This is now the largest New Zealand based directional drilling rig.

We have also seen innovative projects such as the Torbay tunnel sewer upgrade which was entered in the Project of the Year Awards.

There continues to be a fluctuating workload for technologies such as micro tunnelling and pipe ramming. Directional drilling and rehabilitation projects continue to offer an increasing workload and these should continue to show steady growth as many local authorities acknowledge their deteriorating infrastructure.

The ASTT had a presence at the NZ Water & Waste Association conference in Rotorua. A lunch time presentation was made and some of the different technologies were displayed in the field. Thanks to Philip McFarlane for Putting it together.

The ASTT in association with ProjectMax Ltd held a forum on “The Investigation & Rehabilitation of Private Wastewater Sewers”. Held in Auckland, the forum was attended by 42 people.

It is planned to run a number of these on a range of different topics. Based on the success of the first one we may look to run them in other parts of the country.

Summary

The ASTT members in New Zealand need to become more proactive and help the industry to grow, develop and gain more acceptance from the civil market place.

Those in the game have to continue to maintain and improve on their professionalism and continue to develop their techniques and knowledge to ensure that client requirements are achieved.

They also need to support those who are helping to develop the industry they are working in.

7. Election of Council

A call for nominations for election to council was posted to all members on December 1, 2007.

As there were no nominations received by close of business on February 1, 2008, Council will remain as it currently is.

Council for 2008/2009 is as follows:

Western Australia Trevor Gosatti	Tasmania Graeme McArthur	Queensland Andy Krumins	New Zealand Grant Binns
New South Wales John Monro	Victoria Chris Frangos	South Australia Kane Scott	Northern Territory Vacant

8. Election of Federal President.

One nomination has been received and that was from Menno Henneveld.

As there were no other nominations put forward, Menno Henneveld was re-elected unopposed by Council.

Moved Chris Frangos and seconded by Trevor Gosatti.

8.1 ASTT Representative to ISTT Board.

The nominated ASTT Representative to the ISTT Board for the next 12 months will be Menno Henneveld also moved Trevor Gosatti and seconded by Kane Scott.

9. Appointment of Secretary Treasurer.

As there were no expressions of interest received from Councillors, Jeff Pace will continue to be the Society's Secretary Treasurer.

Moved Grant Binns and seconded by Graeme McArthur.

10. Election of Vice President.

In accordance with the Constitution, a Vice President may be elected from Council if considered necessary. John Monro from NSW was re-nominated.

Moved Trevor Gosatti and seconded by Grant Binns.

11. Appointment of Auditor.

Chartered Accountant Gary Ogden has undertaken the Society's Audits since 1992. Gary has advised that he no longer wants to undertake this type of work. I have made some enquiries and propose to trial the services of Mr Terry Machin, Accountant for Coldale Constructions in Osborne Park, a Perth suburb. Terry's audit experience is precisely what I am looking for as he undertakes several audits on Associations like ours.

Moved Trevor Gosatti and seconded by Grant Binns to trialing Mr Terry Machin as the Society Auditor for 2008.

12. Business Plan – Progress of Initiatives

12.1 Business Direction

The ASTT has negotiated a “Heads of Agreement” with Great Southern Press for a trial for the managing of our 7th National Conference and Exhibition that will be held in Sydney in 2008.

Great Southern Press has continued to produce quality magazines for the ASTT and the target of 4 magazines per year will continue.

Our relationships with the AWA, CCF and the NZWWA continues to grow. Evidence of this is by way of permitting the ASTT to have a complimentary booth at events run by AWA and NZWWA. The CCF has been our focal point for the development of trenchless competencies.

12.2 Standards and Guidelines

Work is continuing with NUCA – TAG. Progress has been slow mainly because of the difficulty in liaison with the Louisiana Tech University in the United States of America on what my expectations are for the program. Currently they are working in two parallel paths. They have updated the stand-alone version to incorporate all the changes I have requested and are now in the debugging process. At the same time they are also working on the various aspects of the web-based version. To date the data including all texts and figures have been linked to the basic forms programmed in .asp.net format. Progress can be viewed by logging into test area that is now available. (contact me for logon details) The current plan is to make the system available to members only when finalised through the ASTT website. Access will be as per the ISTT website to keep log-ons the same. All newly identified problems to be logged and rectified after release. I expect this release to be by mid 2008.

12.3 Training and Education

A series of one day trenchless seminars have been held in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. These seminars are managed through Great Southern Press and will continue. Tentative plans are to provide these in New Zealand and Perth.

12.4 Promotion

The Society has continued to be active in this area by way of promotion of the ASTT and activities like this Conference at various venues in Australia and overseas. Last year we had a complimentary booth at the Enviro 07 Conference at Sydney. Our magazine Trenchless Australasia has also been utilised for promotion. Modest membership increases reflect the benefits of continuing the promotional work.

13. Trenchless Competency Update

Trevor Gosatti advised the meeting that Certificate III in Civil Construction (Trenchless Technology) can now be undertaken for the areas of HDD, Microtunnelling and Rehabilitation.

He also mentioned that the ADITC had pre existing Competencies for HDD and that the CCF had Trenchless Competencies developed for HDD, Microtunnelling and Rehabilitation.

Listed under are the Competency Training packages that have been endorsed by Australian National Training Authority (ANTA)

New Installations

BCCTT3001B – Conduct fluid assisted directional boring

BCCTT3002B – Conduct impact moling, ramming and augering

BCCTT3003B – Control micro tunnelling and pipejacking

BCCTT3004B – Undertake on-line replacement for existing pipeline systems

BCCTT3005B – Undertake localised repair and sealing of existing pipeline systems

Rehabilitation

BCCTT3006B – Install cure in-place linings for existing pipeline systems

BCCTT3007B – Spray lining for existing pipeline systems

BCCTT3008B – Install close fit linings for existing pipeline systems

BCCTT3009B – Install slip lining in existing pipeline systems

BCCTT3010B – Renovate large diameter pipes and chambers

Trevor explained that the Competencies were there and all that was needed was for industry to take them up. Industry can make these a mandatory requirement if they wish to do so. This would ensure the take up if they did. There is also a need to get the RTO's excited about providing assessments. They will not however do much unless there is a financial reason to do so.

Therefore what can the ASTT do?

Firstly it must encourage the take up of the training. There is a need to align with RTO's to arrange the assessments. The RTO's must be competent to deliver what we require, not just a "tick and flick" exercise which does not provide any benefit to the industry.

Trevor suggest the ASTT put out an "Expression of Interest" to RTO's to deliver the training packages and invite them to be considered to be on a Panel recognised for use by the ASTT. The ASTT's main concern would be focussed on consistency of training delivery.

Also the ASTT to facilitate the RTO's whether on a Panel or not and to encourage them to take on the competency assessment work. The RTO's main question will be, How many people will be undertaking the training locally and Nationally?

Training can only be undertaken through (RTO's) Registered Training Organisation accredited to deliver these packages.

The ASTT needs to develop a Business Case and to address the following if this initiative is to proceed.

- Confirmation on what RTO's will be involved;
- Confirmation on how much seed funding is required;
- Confirmation on the amount of take up.

ACTION:

It was agreed that Stewart Brown talk with the ADITC about HDD competency training. Stewart to also see how many of his customers require training and that this information to be forwarded to Trevor Gosatti for consideration and possible further action.

Trevor also advised the meeting that AQF levels 4, 5 and 6 have now been endorsed and will be made available next year.

Companies that want to have their employees assessed to Certificate level 3 need only approach a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) to facilitate this recognition.

Consideration also to be given to undertaking a survey of ASTT members to determine the training needs and potential take up. Once all this information has been received, the ASTT's ultimate aim should be to develop a Policy on Trenchless Competency

14. Review of Relationship with Great Southern Press.

14.1 Magazine

In September 2004, the Trenchless Australasia magazine was introduced to our members. To date Great Southern Press has produced 13 magazines and 2 Trenchless Directories, all of which have been very well received by industry. The ASTT will continue this successful arrangement.

14.2 Conference Management

Great Southern Press put forward a proposal to undertake the management for our future events. After consultation with the ASTT Council, it was agreed that Great Southern Press be given the opportunity to trial their proposal and that we would review the ongoing frequency and management at these events. Prior to this meeting, Council was also asked to provide its views on the 2009 event so that Great Southern Press could distribute promotional material for the proposed 2009 event at this Conference.

14.3 2009 Conference and Exhibition

Council was asked to consider holding the next National Conference and Exhibition next year in Melbourne prior to this meeting so that preliminary bookings and some modest advertising could be arranged for use at the Sydney Conference. The general consensus to this request was positive. The frequency of events was raised as an issue by Grant Binns, he felt that we were simply preaching to the converted if the events are to be held annually, He would rather see the preaching going out to the uninitiated. For example, at the NZWWA conference, there was a lot of interest from non ASTT members.

Further comments and objections including corporate financial support etc were raised from John Monro and Chris Frangos. The issue was then put to Council for a vote and the outcome was that 4 were for the event and 3 were against.

ACTION:

It was then agreed that the ASTT would trial the next conference in Melbourne and review its effectiveness after the event in 2009. It was also agreed to allow Great Southern Press to manage it.

The 8th National Conference and Exhibition will be held in Melbourne. The proposed venue is at the Moonee Valley Racecourse and the proposed dates are March 1-4, 2009

15. General Business

Training

The issue of training was raised and the discussion focussed on the work that Jonothan O'Brien from the University of NSW had undertaken for the ASTT some years ago. Several attempts have been made with the tertiary institutions throughout Australia to introduce this training package, regrettably the take up is extremely poor.

Consideration could now be given to attempt the same take up but through Environmental groups as enquiries about the ranges of technologies are now coming from this sector.

Councillor Meetings

Councillors discussed holding regular meetings as they considered this a good activity to undertake. This concept was considered an issue for New Zealand because of the country layout and the dispersment of the membership.

ACTION:

In general terms it was agreed that after each Councillor initiated meeting, a summary report will be sent to all Councillors via e-mail. It was also agreed to advertise the meeting schedules to Councillors so that Corporate members could attend in different States etc.

Sydney Conference and Exhibition

Chris Bland reported on the Sydney Conference. He advised that the exhibition was bigger than he had expected with some 59 exhibitors participating in Sydney. Some 400 have registered to date. Thousands of Trade passes have been distributed throughout New South Wales. The International and National speakers were all of a high standard. Sponsorship was also extremely positive.

Concerns were raised from Stewart Brown concerning venue location and costs to exhibit. Chris responded by advising that Darling Harbour was booked out and that the costs for this event were based on the Brisbane rates.

Stewart also queried as to why Ditch Witch was requested to pay additional costs to exhibit his equipment at the venue. After some discussion on this point, it was agreed that this was an administrative function and to be resolved with Great Southern Press outside this meeting.

16. Next Meeting

Tentatively, the next combined Council and Annual General Meeting will be held in Melbourne at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Sunday March 1, 2009.

Minutes compiled by:
Jeff Pace
Federal Secretary
March 8, 2008
