STEELING THE FUTURE

We have a busy three months ahead: SCNZ will organise and deliver 19 events around the country in this time. The main event will be Steel Agenda in Hamilton – the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference.

On the agenda for next month’s AGM are two resolutions to change the SCNZ Constitution. If you are a voting member, have your say by either attending the meeting in person or sending your proxy vote. Details of the proposed rule changes are detailed in a letter, which SCNZ members should have already received.

A highlight of the Steel Agenda conference will be the launch of the Steel Fabricator Certification (SFC) scheme. A two-page overview of the scheme has been prepared to accompany this Steel Futures edition. The SFC scheme will bring us in line with international best practice and will raise the compliance bar for locally fabricated steelwork. HERA Certification Ltd, the independent auditing authority for the scheme, is currently auditing eight steel fabrication companies prior to the scheme’s launch. These companies span Auckland to Christchurch, and range in size from small operators with less than 20 staff to one of the largest companies. A priority of the SCNZ manager in the first half of FY15 will be to meet with engineers, builders, regulators and project managers to promote the compliance benefit of specifying certified fabricators for building and infrastructure projects. He will also meet with fabricators to get them on board with the SFC scheme.

Planning is already underway for our biennial Steel Innovations conference, which debuted in Christchurch in 2013. This conference, which will feature as part of a Metals Week in September 2015, will explore the latest practices in the design and construction of steel building and infrastructure projects. Watch out for details of this upcoming event.

We also have a series of workshops and seminars coming up for professional engineers, fabricators, steel erectors and construction supervisors. These include a Bolt Tensioning course (September/October), Regional Fabricator Forums (Northern, Central and Southern chapters in November), a Slab Panel Workshop (Auckland, Christchurch), and our ever-popular Steel Structures Seminar series (Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch in November). For further details, refer to the articles appended, or visit the SCNZ website www.scnz.org.

These events give a little insight into the activities of SCNZ. For those members wanting a fuller appreciation of the breadth of SCNZ activities, we encourage you to read our annual report. The report will be sent to all members prior to next month’s Steel Agenda conference.

In another milestone, this will be the final Steel Futures newsletter in a pdf format. The first single-page newsletter, published in August 2003, was entitled Steels the Future. Somewhere in the intervening 11 years, the title morphed to Steel Futures. The October edition will feature an e-letter format with a new look and feel. It will allow content to be better targeted to the SCNZ readership – fabricators, structural engineers and builders.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Health and Safety Regulations ........................................ 2
Bolt-Sure: High Strength Bolting Courses ................... 3
HERA House is getting a makeover! .................. 3
Shorter, simpler .nz names coming soon.............. 3
SCNZ AGM and Conference .................................... 4
Update: Commercial case for steel construction..... 4
New Members .............................................................. 4
Steel Construction in Building Today magazine...... 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

2014
2 Sept Slab Panel Workshop Auckland
9 Sept Slab Panel Workshop Christchurch
Sept/Oct Bolt Tensioning Courses
24 Sept SCNZ executive Council meeting
25 Sept Steel Agenda
4,5,6 Nov Steel structures seminar series
Nov Regional Fabricator forums

Steel Agenda Venue—Claudelands Event Centre, Hamilton
HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

Introduction
The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) in conjunction with WorkSafe has released a discussion document outlining proposals for new health and safety regulations (Regulations) in New Zealand. These Regulations will accompany the Health and Safety Reform Bill (Bill) and help duty holders to comply with their duties under the new legislation. They will be particularly helpful for “persons conducting a business or undertaking” (PCBU), which becomes the primary duty holder under the Bill. The intention is that both the Bill and Regulations will take effect from 1 April 2015.

Overview
The discussion document outlines the two phases that are planned for implementing the new Regulations. The first phase is concerned with the development of Regulations in five key areas:

1. General risk and workplace management
   Regulations in this area will inform PCBUs of what they must do to eliminate health and safety risks arising from work, as far as reasonably practicable. Suggestions in this area include:
   - Introducing a prescribed risk management process, which would be mandatory in specified high-risk situations or activities;
   - Introducing an amended definition of personal protective clothing and equipment, as anything used or worn by a person to minimise risk to their health and safety; and
   - Introducing a new requirement to ensure that any flammable substances kept at the workplace are kept at the "lowest practicable quantity".

2. Worker participation, engagement and representation
   Regulations in this area will dictate how increased worker participation will occur in practice. Suggestions in this area include:
   - Introducing a requirement on PCBUs to negotiate with workers and worker representatives to determine "work groups" for the workplace;
   - Specifying criteria for who can be a health and safety representative; and
   - Specifying the process for health and safety representatives to access training.

3. Asbestos
   Regulations in this area will provide a more robust regulatory framework in relation to asbestos. MBIE has identified "some deficiencies" in the current framework. Suggestions in this area include:
   - Introducing a prohibition on all work activities involving asbestos and asbestos-containing materials unless they comply with the Regulations or are exempted by the Regulations;
   - Introducing more explicit requirements for health monitoring, training and competency of workers carrying out asbestos removal work; and
   - Introducing a licensing regime for asbestos removal.

4. Hazardous substances
   Regulations in this area will clarify the obligations where hazardous substances are present. Suggestions in this area include:
   - Introducing a requirement to ensure that an inventory of all hazardous substances used, handled or stored is prepared and maintained at the workplace;
   - Introducing a requirement to ensure that PCBUs provide information, training, instruction and supervision to workers who use, handle, generate or store hazardous substances; and
   - Introducing a requirement on PCBUs to ensure health monitoring is provided for workers who may be exposed to any hazardous substance which poses a risk to their health.

5. Major hazard facilities
   Regulations in this area will expand the regulatory framework for facilities with major accident potential. MBIE has identified a lack of specific Regulations and supervision for certain facilities, such as chemical manufacturing sites. Suggestions in this area include:
   - Introducing a requirement that WorkSafe designate a facility as a major hazard facility where quantities of specified hazardous substances above a particular threshold are held;
   - Introducing a requirement for operators of major hazard facilities to prepare an emergency plan and safety case that demonstrates to WorkSafe how the control measures will maintain safe operations; and
   - Introducing a requirement for operators of major hazard facilities to notify WorkSafe of "any incident or near miss event" that could have led to a major incident in different circumstances.

The second phase of regulations will be developed with two years of the new legislation coming into force. Among other things, this phase will look at Regulations around:

- Hazardous work;
- Plant and structures;
- Geothermal operations; and
- Quarries.

Conclusion
Unlike the current Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995, the new Regulations will likely be more prominent, and as such, they will need to be carefully reviewed and implemented by all businesses so as to ensure appropriate compliance with health and safety duties.

SCNZ acknowledges Andrew Shaw and Marianne Dutkiewicz, Lane Neave Lawyers (www.laneneave.co.nz) for this article.
BOLT-SURE: HIGH STRENGTH BOLTING COURSES

Need to tighten up on your bolting skills? Sign up to SCNZ’s Bolt-Sure: High Strength Bolting Course, a “learn and apply” session presented by Dr Clark Hyland, Director and Principal at Hyland Fatigue + Earthquake Engineering. You will learn:

- How to correctly order high-strength bolt assemblies
- How to develop and maintain a bolting quality and control system
- Bolt tighten procedures
- The varying ability of manual, air powered and hydraulic tools to achieve the required tensioning in different size bolts
- The effect of lubrication and galvanising on achieving specified bolt tension

Bolt-Sure will run for two and a half hours and finish with refreshments. The course will be repeated at several venues across the country from mid-September to late October.

Head to the SCNZ website for more information and a registration form: www.scnz.org.

HERA HOUSE IS GETTING A MAKEOVER!

HERA House, home to SCNZ, is undergoing a significant – and long overdue – renovation, including a major overhaul of the phone system and fibre-optic network. The upgraded SCNZ office will provide a much improved working environment for staff and a more welcoming space for visitors.

While the work is underway, SCNZ staff have temporarily relocated to another part of the building. Regrettably, the relocation has played havoc with our communications systems, in many cases hampering members’ ability to contact us. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this has caused.

Please bear with us for the next three months as the work is completed – we will do our utmost to ensure our operations and our members experience as little disruption as possible.

However, if you do have any difficulty communicating with SCNZ, please contact either the SCNZ Manager Alistair Fussell on 021 636 937, or Senior Structural engineer and Office Manager Kevin Cowie on 021 202 3923.

SHORTER, SIMPLER .NZ NAMES COMING SOON

Once-in-a-generation changes don’t often occur, but that’s exactly what’s about to happen in the .nz domain name space.

From 1pm, 30 September 2014, the second level domains you’re so used to seeing – like the ‘.co’ in ‘.co.nz’ and the ‘.org’ in ‘.org.nz’ – will become optional and you could register names with them, without them, or both.

For example, if your business’s domain name is ‘anyname.co.nz’ you may also be able to get ‘anyname.nz’.

This is a big change. These new types of .nz name shorter and simpler, and create an exciting new registration choice. If you don’t already have a .nz domain name and the change has got you curious, this is the perfect opportunity for you to explore representing yourself online with .nz.

But, most importantly, if you or your business already has a website or email address that ends in .nz there are some very important things you need to know about. So, please, read on.

Check the status of your name

First of all, you need to talk to your domain name provider or visit the Domain Name Commission’s anyname.nz website to check the status of your existing .nz name. This is because, depending on when you originally registered your name, you’ll find there’s different options available to you.

Learn about your options

After you’ve checked your status you may find you’re eligible to register the shorter version of your .nz name before anyone else. Or, you may be able to reserve it for free for up to two years. If you’re eligible for either of these options you’ll be able to do so from 1pm, 30 September 2014.

Alternatively, you could find that your .nz name is listed as ‘conflicted’. This means, for example, that you’ve got anyone.co.nz and others have got anyone.org.nz and anyone.net.nz. If this is the case, you’ll be able to have your say on who you’d like to get the shorter version from 1pm, 30 September 2014.

The Domain Name Commission doesn’t want you to miss out on any of the options available to you. So, it’s important that you talk to your domain name provider or visit the anyname.nz website now.

If you’re not interested in this change, that’s fine. You should know that your .nz name will continue to work as it always has and you’ll always be able to register and use names under existing endings like ‘.co.nz’ and ‘.org.nz’.

Remember, for more information contact your domain name provider or visit the anyname.nz website.
SCNZ AGM AND CONFERENCE

Join us for this year’s SCNZ annual conference and AGM, the newly dubbed Steel Agenda, as we discuss the important issues and opportunities that will set the agenda for the year ahead.

- Find out how to get involved in the industry-led quality initiative, the Steel Fabricator Certification scheme
- Get an overview of what’s in store for the national construction industry through to 2019
- Hear from industry leaders, including the heads of MBIE and Fletcher Construction
- Discover the art of getting variations paid
- Learn what it takes to lead a winning team, from a coach that knows how to win on and off the field, Sir Gordon Tietjens.

For more information and to register, visit www.scnz.org.

UPDATE: COMMERCIAL CASE FOR STEEL CONSTRUCTION

We’ve updated our Commercial Case for Steel Construction. Our new analysis of a model four-storey office building is based on construction and rental rates in both Auckland and Christchurch.

Key take outs from the revised study include:

- Steel is similar in cost to concrete – 2% less and 3% more expensive in Auckland and Christchurch respectively – and 8% cheaper than timber in both centres.
- Structural steel allows a faster construction programme – more than three weeks faster than timber and eight weeks faster than concrete

The earlier completion dates that steel provides leads to earlier rental income streams for owners and developers – this translates to increased earnings of $120k and $320k over timber and concrete respectively.

Put simply, when compared to alternative materials, developers and owners can procure a seismically resilient steel building solution with the additional commercial benefits of a faster build and earlier rental streams, without paying a cost premium.

For more information about the study, visit www.scnz.org.

NEW MEMBERS

SCNZ welcomed seven new members during the second quarter ending June 2014.

Full (Steel Constructor)
- United Engineering Services, Auckland
- Hellacious Enterprises, Napier
- Triangle Steel Construction Ltd, Auckland
- GH Engineering Ltd, Palmerston North

Professional (Engineer)
- Auckland Draughting, Auckland
- Arup NZ Ltd, Christchurch

Associate (Steel Detailer)
- GH Engineering Ltd, Palmerston North
- Nexsteel Detailing Services Ltd, Christchurch

STEEL CONSTRUCTION IN BUILDING TODAY MAGAZINE

SCNZ is running a steel construction feature with Building Today. In each feature we will be promoting excellence in steel construction. In particular we are looking for projects big or small in which a member company has shown excellence in some or all of the following:

1. Quality management in the workshop and on-site
2. Technical innovation
3. Project management
4. Health and safety practices
5. Environmental management in the workshop and on-site.

SCNZ will write the article, you just need to tell us what you have been doing.

If you have a project you would like considered for an article please contact Rebecca at rebecca.symonds@scnz.org or phone 09 262 6682. Thank you.

Previous articles can be viewed in the Building Today magazines or at www.buildingtoday.co.nz.