Launch of Road Safety Guides a Success for Austroads

By Adrian Paton, Austroads

Austroads launched their full suite of road industry guides at the ARRB offices in Melbourne on 1 July. Five years in the making and with over 300 people involved during this time frame, the commitment to complete the range of guides was made by Austroads in 2004. Since then both Austroads and ARRB have collaborated to see the guides through to the finished product.

The guides have been developed to update methods and processes that have been previously documented, as well as encompassing new technologies and procedures. In their entirety they cover the complete gamut of road design, construction, maintenance and operation, and provide cutting edge and contemporary information regarding the road network.

Around 200 people attended the launch from road agencies, contractors and consultants, and people involved in the writing, research and production of the guides. An overview of the guides was provided including their purpose and objectives, approach to their development, the role of ARRB, the types of new guides and their adoption by road authorities, the relationship to earlier Austroads material, and arrangements for updating the new guides.

Overviews of five of the guides (Road Safety, Asset Management, Road Design, Pavement Technology and Traffic Management) were presented which described what’s new, some specifics on their content and how they will affect and influence the road agencies in Australia and New Zealand in road transport matters.

All road agencies across Australasia have agreed to adopt the Austroads guides, which is a positive step towards further consistency and harmonisation.

To view or purchase Austroads publications please visit the Austroads publication website at www.austroads.com.au