



CETANZ

Civil Engineering Testing Association New Zealand



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

➔ Message from the Chair

➔ Careers and Events

➔ Women in Testing

➔ Technical Group update

➔ CPT update

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Nau mai, haere mai to the first edition of CETANewZ for 2022.

Written as we all prepare for a wave of sickness and isolation whilst trying to go about life as normal.

Though we have not produced much in the way of communications, the new committee formed at the conference in last year are busy in the background working on things that give benefit to the membership.

Please take the time to welcome in William Gray, Charlotte Mellar, Marco Holtrigter, Francois Fonternel, Steven Franc, Brigitte Sargent, Clark Yparraguirre, Andreas Baptist, Sarah Amooore, Steven Anderson, Trevor Whitmore, Corey Papu-Gread and Frank Hu.

It was good to see you all again, and in some cases meet you for the first time at the conference. We have received the collated feedback this week on what those who attended thought of the conference and the responders were happy with what was presented to them and those in the wider industry over the two days. 92% of attendees are keen to attend again next year, and selected comments include *'a conference every year, alternate conferences between the North and South Island's '*, *'to hear more from the chair '*. The last one – Really, I thought I caught Portly snoring in the back benches when I was presenting the annual report on the Friday!

A second independent salary and wage survey has seen the same independent third party, Strategic pay engaged to collect, hold and collate the raw data to send on in report format to the member labs participating.

We are looking at another couple of initiatives to get involved in, but if you have an idea for a site visit presentation or function in your area, the team would like to hear from you.

Continued on to the next page...

CONTINUED MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Danny Wyatt
CETANZ Chair

On that, we are working through the hosting of our email address with ENZ and in this interim period if your email gets bounced back, we have normally also still received it so please bear with us while we work through this issue.

The Technical group have been working on several initiatives including:

A Proficiency testing round for Concrete (Thanks to Stevenson Group). Another for CBR – the one held a year ago brought some variable results, so this year we will be tightening the scope of what is required. Please read the instructions on this very carefully prior to completing your test if involved. A third for NDM operators, this will be held regionally and will also be quite specific in what is required so look out for comms on it.

Percent saturation testing prior to sealing as required by the Waka Kotahi document B2 was also discussed at our most recent meeting. The discussion involved what was being asked from Labs regarding testing and then again on how it was reported. We have since sent a letter to the NPTG outlining the CETANZ opinion on this which is. Both density results and percent saturation results taken prior to sealing should not be reported in isolation. This letter was received and CETANZ will be on a working group for this.

The CPT group has now been issued TG6 as an official document and it is up on our website for reference. Marco and his team spent many hours on this, and it is great to see this work come to fruition. To all the CPT members, it has been awesome to see you all form together and agree on a standard we can all use and be confident of in New Zealand!

I look forward to seeing the great content that Andreas is getting together in this issue and having plenty of time to read it whilst out catching no gamefish each weekend.



CAREERS AND EVENTS UPDATE

It's been over 6 months since the CETANZ conference in Rotorua, another successful event bringing our industry together, and this time shared with Nulca. Now, this means that there's only 18 months to go until our next conference in 2023! The team will soon be hard at work putting this event together for you and we're looking forward to get it going.

It's a privilege of mine to be the new lead of the Careers and Events group and to carry on the fantastic work that's been put in by John King and the crew. Despite the challenges that we continue to face with Covid-19, we're working to keep the movement going in the careers and events space and learning to adapt with the times.

There's activity happening in the careers space right now with the group reaching out to educational bodies to spread the word about our industry with the aim to get more students aware of a pathway in our industry. The team is also putting together ideas for potential regional get-togethers and networking events. On that note, we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on what you'd like to see more of from us in the future!

The salary survey is well underway and we encourage your participation in this. The survey results are only available to participants and they give extremely valuable information in regards to remuneration and conditions within our industry. The survey is run by Strategic Pay so you can ensure your information is collated and reported in an entirely confidential and independent manner.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with us via the contact us page on our website or via LinkedIn. Also, be sure to join the CETANZ group in LinkedIn to find our latest updates!

Women in Civil Engineering Testing

Spotlight on: *Stacey Walker*

With people resource shortages throughout the industry we need to attract new candidates to choose testing as a career. With women currently under represented in testing and having a focus on diversity and inclusion, we took the opportunity to speak with Stacey from Fulton Hogan and ask her a few questions about her experience in the civil engineering testing industry so far:

How did you get into the civil engineering testing industry?

It was actually a fluke really! I was working in a pharmacy and wasn't enjoying it so applied for a role on Seek. I got an interview and accepted the job without having any idea what I would be doing.

What are you currently working on?

I'm currently the lab manager on the Te Ahu A Turanga Project (Manawatu-Taranaki Highway). We have just built a new laboratory on site and the team and I are working hard, getting through the busy summer season

What are your favourite aspects of working in the industry?

I really enjoy the diversity of the role, working on so many different sites and watching them come to life is really interesting. Also the people I have met throughout my career have all been so supportive.

Is there anything you would like to see improved for women in civil testing?

I think the industry needs to work on access to PPE and work clothing for women. There is not many options out there and a lot of it is ill-fitting, uncomfortable or pink... Trying to find PPE can also be a challenge. For example, finding heat proof gloves that fit smaller hands.

How do you think we could encourage more women to get involved in geosciences, civil testing and construction?

I think we need to advertise all the different roles available in construction. If you ask anyone outside the industry what kind of work they can do in our industry, they will only know about know civil engineers, traffic management and operators so showcasing the different roles available will not only encourage women into the industry but also others who may believe they don't have a place in the industry. I've hired 18 staff this year to create a lab and field team. In most of the interviews people had no idea what the role was.

Do you have any advice for women wanting to get into the industry or for those working within civil engineering testing?

My main piece of advice is to say yes to any opportunity that comes your way. No matter how much it may scare you. There so many opportunities and doors open to people working within this industry and you never know where you may end up.

Big thank you to Stacey for sharing her experiences and insights with civil engineering testing. Stacey is doing some remarkable work and we look forward to watching what other awesome things she achieves in testing!

CETANZ careers & events group have a focus on Women in Testing with an aim to support, develop and increase the number of women in our industry. Please get in touch if you would like to recognise any woman doing outstanding work in to the attention of Charlotte at info@cetanz.org.nz.



Technical Group Update

Responses have been received from a number of labs to participate in the Concrete proficiency round. This information will be sent to IANZ when samples are sent out in early February 2022.

The technical working group have agreed on a CBR Proficiency retest where three samples (silt, sand and aggregate) could be used. Francois and William to prepare the draft test methodology and work plan for technical working group approval. The target date is March 2022

In regard to NDM Proficiency, the Technical working group agreed that on-site Proficiency testing, in multiple locations around NZ, targeting Bulk Density outcomes, and seeking to understand how "operator variability" can affect these test outcomes on the same ground is the most appropriate approach. In addition, each operator will advise the uncertainty levels for each NDM based on the current calibration certificate. Frank and William to prepare the draft test methodology and work plan for Technical working group approval. The target date is March/April 2022

We have recently received a query from the NPTG in regards to best practice for pre-seal base course compliance testing as per NZTA B/2. After full discussion the technical working group is in agreement that compliance should mean both density and saturation ratio at the time when the pavement is being presented to seal. This was put in a letter and sent to the NPTG, as a result a subgroup has been formed with members representing contractors, consultants and labs to discuss this and met in early March.

Also from the NPTG meeting held on the 17th of February, lack of research opportunities and funding for roading was raised. Danny met with another subgroup on this in early March and presented some topics of interest from a testing perspective. These were gathered from technical group members and generally focused on problem tests. CETANZ was also keen to discuss how research topics may be considered, funded and tendered so that all member labs might have the chance to apply for this should it occur in the future. We will report back more thoroughly as this progresses.

CPT Update

TG6 – Industry best practice guideline for performing cone penetration testing (CPT) in New Zealand is now available on the CETANZ website under the guidelines tab.

The CPT group is now taking nominations for potential auditors technical auditors to carry out audits across the country.

