

RIG SAFETY

Workshop In Victoria

– by Simon Fitzgerald

In an attempt to establish a set of safety guidelines acceptable to all parties who operate within the geotechnical and environmental sectors in Victoria, a workshop was held in Blackburn attended by 63 consultants, drilling contractors, rig manufacturers and associated individuals. A joint initiative between the ADIA, the Australian Consulting Engineers Association (ACEA) and the Australian Contaminated Landfill Consultants Association (ACLCA), the principle objective is to develop a minimum standard (guideline) covering safety equipment and systems, to ensure that all parties are complying with the OH&S Act.

"The ultimate aim must be safe and productive workplaces", said CEO Simon Fitzgerald in his opening remarks. "It is vital therefore that we all work together to achieve this aim, because we are all part of this sector".

Four presentations were given that covered the Drilling Contractor's perspective; the Law; the Consultant's point of view, and the issues associated with fitting (and retro-fitting) certain safety devices to small rigs. Special thanks to Norman Abrams, Peter Brown and Kevin Ewing for their contributions.

The members then set about reviewing some dot points put forward by a group of drilling contractors; and each table was given the opportunity to expose the merits (or otherwise) of these points and any others that they felt were important.

It is pleasing to note that there was a fair degree of unity on most, and some fine-tuning will be needed on others. However, the most important feature was that we had begun the journey, and all parties are very keen to see this strategy progress.

NOTE: *It is important to realise that many of the consultants are national organisations and a few international groups, so our guidelines will hopefully help other states, etc. shape their own policies on this important issue.*

We expect to form a small working party and work through the various points ASAP. This was in my opinion an important 'first step' and the first time we have sat down with our clients in a co-operatively endeavour. "To begin is to progress".



THE MOST COMPACT - LOWEST WEIGHT - MOST EFFICIENT

COOLING SYSTEMS FOR DRILL RIGS

- ✓ **HIGH STRENGTH**
- ✓ **HIGH AMBIENT CAPABILITY**
- ✓ **EASY CLEANING**



- ✓ **V PACKS**
- ✓ **BOOSTER COOLERS**
- ✓ **HIGH PRESSURE COMPRESSOR OIL COOLERS**
- ✓ **HEAVY DUTY RADIATORS**
- ✓ **HYDRAULIC OIL COOLERS**
- ✓ **WATER / OIL COOLERS**
- ✓ **VARIABLE PITCH COOLING FANS**



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