



The Institute of Quarrying
AUSTRALIA



IQA 2026 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

BUILDING THE FUTURE TODAY

6-8 OCTOBER 2026

GOLD COAST CONVENTION
AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

CPD HOURS

NSW: Up to 12 hours

QLD: Up to 6 hours

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 1 – Tuesday 6 October 2026

10.00am – 5.00pm

Conference registration opens, Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC)

8.00am – 4.00pm

Site Tour | Wolffdene Quarry (Heidelberg Materials) || **Technical & Operations**

Harts Rd, Luscombe

Session 1 departs 8.00am | **Session 2** departs 11.30am

Coaches depart from and return to GCCEC

4.30pm – 6.00pm

IQA National AGM – Room 1, GCCEC

Hitachi Welcome Reception – Lobby F, GCCEC

Drinks, canapés and the chance to connect as the conference begins

Dress code: Smart casual

6.30pm – 9.30pm

MC: Nigel Collin

- Presidential handover – the passing of the chains of office to incoming IQA President
- Entertainment

Day 2 – Wednesday 7 October 2026

Master of Ceremonies: Nigel Collin

6.30am – 4.30pm	Registration Desk and Exhibition open, GCCEC
7.00am – 8.45am	Welcome Refreshments & Trade Exhibition
9.00am – 9.20am	Welcome from IQA President Welcome to Country / Acknowledgement of Country
9.20am – 9.45am	Ministerial Address and Sector Outlook Sector Outlook Hon Dale Last MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development
9.45am – 10.05am	IQA Welcome Jane Schmitt, IQA CEO
10.05am – 10.50am	Keynote: Global and Australian Economic and Market Outlook Sector Outlook Besa Deda, Chief Economist, William Buck
10.50am – 11.20am	Morning Tea & Trade Exhibition
11.20am – 12.10pm	Sector Leaders Panel Leadership & Management Facilitator: Jane Schmitt, CEO, IQA • Anthony Clarkson, Regional General Manager – Western Region, Heidelberg Materials • Michael Close, Specialist – Operational Excellence, Adbri • Duncan Harris, Executive General Manager, Concrete and Quarries South, Boral • Kane Salisbury, CEO, Hallett Group • Incoming IQA President
12.15pm – 12.40pm	CAT USA Technical & Operations <i>Speaker to be announced</i>
12.45pm – 1.40pm	Lunch & Trade Exhibition
1.45pm – 2.45pm	Keynote: 22,000 Volts: A Survival Story Safety & Risk Theo Venter, Author, Public Speaker, Culture Change Facilitator and Safety Ambassador
2.45pm – 3.30pm	National Regulators Panel Safety & Risk Facilitator: Andrew Dutton, National Education Lead, IQA • Hermann Fasching, Chief Inspector – Mineral Mines and Quarries, Resources Safety and Health Queensland (QLD) • Angus McDouall, Inspector of Mines, NSW Resources Regulator (NSW) • Renee Palmer, Chief Inspector Regulatory Operations, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Resources Victoria (VIC)
3.35pm – 3.40pm	MC wrap up
3.45pm – 5.00pm	Trade Exhibition & Networking (including Member draws & prizes)
6.30pm – 10.30pm	Komatsu Conference Dinner – The Star Garden Kitchen and Bar <i>An evening of entertainment and fine food</i> Dress code: Smart casual Theme: Formula 1 MC: Nigel Collin • IQA Awards • Entertainment

Day 2 – Wednesday 7 October 2026 – Running alongside the conference

→ For Delegate Partners

9.00am – 4.00pm
Partners Day Excursion
– Byron Bay, The Farm
Sponsored by Orica
Depart from and return to GCCEC



→ For Year 10–12 Students

9.30am – 11.30am
That's Solid Careers Day |
Dig Into Your Future
Sponsored by John Deere and Kleemann
Parallel stream for Year 10–12 students



JOHN DEERE



KLEEMANN

Day 3 – Thursday 8 October 2026

6.30am – 4.00pm **Registration and Exhibition open, GCCEC**

7.00am – 8.30am **Welcome Refreshments & Trade Exhibition**

8.30am – 9.05am **20 lessons over 20 years || Leadership & Management**
Clayton Hill, Technical Director, Construction Materials & Services – Asia Pacific, SLR Consulting

9.05am – 9.45am **Keynote: Lessons in Risk and Engineering Failure || Safety & Risk**
Dr Sean Brady, Forensic Engineer, Managing Director, Brady Heywood

9.45am – 10.15am **Simulation, AI, and the Future of our Industry || Technical & Operations**
Chase Walker, Scientific Visualization Manager, Astec

10.15am – 10.40am **Morning Tea & Trade Exhibition**

10.40am – 11.40am **Keynote: Preparing Now for What's Next || Sector Outlook**
Michael McQueen, Futurist and best-selling author

11.40am – 12.10pm **Quarry AI: Unlocking Value with Smart Processing || Technical & Operations**
Toni Peltomaki, Director, Automation Solutions, Metso

12.10pm – 12.40pm **Brisbane 2032: Opportunity for the Sector || Sector Outlook**
Dominique Lamb, Director of Community Affairs, Brisbane Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games

12.45pm – 1.30pm **Lunch & Trade Exhibition**

1.30pm – 2.00pm **That's Solid: Rock the Narrative Panel || Sector Outlook**
Facilitator: Andrew Dutton, National Education Lead, IQA

- Michael Close, Immediate Past President, IQA
- Sarah Morgan, Managing Director, Bespoken Agency
- Jane Schmitt, CEO, IQA
- Kerry Sheehan, Sales and Logistics Manager, Divall's Earthmoving & Bulk Haulage

Day 3 – Thursday 8 October 2026 – continued

2.00pm – 2.20pm

The Art of Quarrying

Dugald Gray, Principal, Ecoroc Consulting Engineers

2.20pm – 2.40pm

The End of Stockpile Guesswork | Real-Time Volume Monitoring || **Technical & Operations**

Ralf Pfefferkorn, CEO and Founder, Sodex Innovations

2.40pm – 3.00pm

Strengthening Safety & Health Competency for Frontline Supervisors: Findings from Queensland's Cross-Sector Competency Review || **Safety & Risk**

Libby Humphries, Lecturer and Research Fellow, Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre, The University of Queensland

3.00pm – 3.45pm

Sector Legends Storytime Panel || **Leadership & Management**

Facilitator: Clayton Hill, Technical Director, Construction Materials & Services – Asia Pacific, SLR Consulting

- Mike Cooper, Principal, MD Cooper Consulting
- John Mawson, EB Mawson & Sons
- Karen Normanton, Senior Technical Services Engineer, Quarries and Construction, Orica
- Shane Braddy, Managing Director, Construction Materials Consulting Services (CMCS)

3.45pm – 3.55pm

Supplier Acknowledgement Award

3.55pm – 4.10pm

Conference Close

- Nigel Collin, MC
- IQA President

6.00pm:

Buses depart GCCEC

6.30pm – 10.00pm:

Dinner

10.00pm:

Return buses

Caterpillar Finale Dinner – Movie World

A spectacular finale to close the conference in style

Dress code: Cocktail | Theme: Hollywood

- IQA Awards Presentation
- Rides
- Entertainment

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