

AiBEC Newsletter

Association of Insurance Building & Engineering Consultants



Tony Libke AiBEC CEO

Dear Members, Allied Supporters and Friends

As I prepared this newsletter, I realised that 21 November marks the six-month anniversary of the launch of AiBEC. During that short period there have been major advancements across many areas. Our advocacy efforts have seen us engage in meaningful dialogue with numerous organisations including ICA, AFCA, ACIL, GI CGC, ANZIIF, NIBA and insurers. Dr Daniel Mulino, Chair of the Federal Government Flood Inquiry, recently held an informative meeting with our Technical Committee and we intend to hold a follow-up meeting with ASIC. Our intention is to be involved in a positive manner in addressing areas identified as needing improvement in expert reports in the claims process. The Technical Committee is finalising a submission to ICA providing feedback on their Expert Reports-Best Practice Standard. We will be looking to engage with ICA early in the new year to discuss our submission.

Our objective is to raise awareness of AiBEC's existence and to engage other parties in planning and policy formation when matters directly relate to areas of operation and expertise of our members and allied supporters.

A highlight during the past month was the Cocktail Launch Function held at the Babylon Rooftop in Sydney. The event provided an opportunity to network with members, allied supporters and leading insurance industry representatives at what was an outstanding evening. A copy of my address is available on the following page. Photos from the event are available on the AiBEC website [click here...](#)

Webinars have proven popular and we sincerely thank those who have contributed for their time and the knowledge they imparted for the benefit of AiBEC members, allied supporters and guests. The three recent webinars were presented by Paul Muir, Compliance Advocacy Solutions, Lisa Carter, Clear Insurance and Dr Jared Orth and Chris Jelly from the General Insurance, Code Governance Committee. This concludes our webinars for 2024 with the first in 2025 scheduled for mid-February.

The first AGM for AiBEC will be held on 25 March 2025 with nominations for directors called in February to fill the six director positions. Persons to be eligible for election will be individual founding members. Following the AGM the Board will look appoint two further directors from amongst the allied supporters. The AGM will represent a further milestone in the evolution of the Association.

Planning has begun for the inaugural conference for AiBEC to be held at the Amora Hotel Sydney on 23 July 2025. An organising committee is being formed and anyone keen to be involved in developing a high-quality program is invited to contact me at admin@aibec.co.

Allied Supporters represent an important part of our structure and represent a wide range of organisations who share our aims of achieving higher standards for those operating in the insurance sector. Recent Allied Supporters to join AiBEC were insurance broker Marsh, ARC Projects, KASE Building and Restoration and RCC National.

For a full list of Allied Supporters see below:

- Abril Building Solutions & Restorations
- ARC Projects
- Ezy Projects
- IAG
- Kase Building & Restoration Group
- Marsh
- National Leak Detection Pty Ltd
- Procure Claims & Risk
- RCC National
- Riverwall
- Steamatic

An open forum of Allied Supporters is scheduled for 17 December to identify matters they believe should be investigated through an Allied Supporter Advisory Committee.

As we continue to evolve as an Association, we are looking to establish a category for individuals who do not meet one of the existing categories of membership but wish to part of the AiBEC community. Further details will be released in the near future. I ask those of you who are already members or allied supporters to encourage your colleagues and qualified associates to become a part of AiBEC as we strive to develop a strong, sustainable and respected professional Association.

This being the last newsletter for the year on behalf of directors Deniz Bekir and Andrew Morse, I wish you and your families a safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards
Tony Libke



AiBEC – Cocktail Launch Function, Sydney 31st October 2024

Welcome members, allied supporters and friends to this cocktail launch function.

This is a historic event to celebrate the formation of a new body – The Association of Insurance Building and Engineering Consultants (AiBEC).

My name is Tony Libke and I am the CEO of AiBEC

I would like to acknowledge those here as people who recognise the benefits of AiBEC and the role it can play in improving claims outcomes for all parties in the insurance process.

I would like to thank in particular Emma Curtis, Chief Ombudsman Insurance-AFCA (a late apology), Alexandra Hordern, Manager Regulation and Compliance – ICA and Mark Silveria, Manager Industry Engagement – ANZIIF, Paul Muir – Managing Director of Compliance Advocacy Solution and GICOP Independent Review Panel Member. Dr Daniel Mulino – sent an apology tonight as did a number of others.

The challenges of establishing a new association are significant and so are the opportunities. We are not new but for the first time we are coming together to give a voice to a group that has been largely unrepresented in discussions on matters relating to their areas of expertise. Having myself been involved in the insurance industry for many years I have seen the relentless and exponential rise in the importance of expert reports in claim settlements.

It is amazing to see the advances made by AiBEC since our start in late May, just five months ago. I would like to recognise the commitment of the founding directors Deniz Bekir and Andrew Morse, they have provided me with unwavering support and advice, and I see in them the passion and commitment they have for the vision of AiBEC.

We believe AiBEC will have an important role to play in assisting to meet the challenges identify by AFCA, the Flood Inquiry Commission and others in achieving higher standards in expert reports and better claims outcomes.

I wish to acknowledge those here tonight, Individual Founding Members and the following Corporate Members of AiBEC:

- Restoration Industry Consultants RIC
- Tachara Group, and
- Halliwell Global

AiBEC recognised early that there were many companies that provide quality services to the insurance industry but did not qualify for membership. To recognise this important group, we have established the Allied Supporter category.

Thank you to the following Allied Supporters that have embraced our objectives:

- IAG
- Steamatic
- Riverwall Constructions

- Procure Claims & Risk
- Abril Building Solutions
- Ezy Projects
- National Leak Detection
- Kase Building & Restoration Group
- RCC National

And I am pleased to announce tonight that major insurance broker Marsh has joined AiBEC as Allied Supporters. Representatives from many of those organisations are here tonight and we thank you for your early support.

I believe AiBECs primary objective is to provide quality training for members and allied supporters. In this regard we are working with Michael Thomlinson from Pointsbuilt to offer short technical courses. I am also pleased to announce that AiBEC will be joining with ATTAR to offer members a high-quality comprehensive course, 'The Art & Science of Technical Writing'. I wish to thank those organisations who have offered webinars for AiBEC (It is hard to refuse an invitation from Deniz) Alexandria Hordern- ICA, Paul Muir – Compliance Advocacy Solutions, Lisa Carter – Clear Insurance, Dr Jared Orth and Chris Jelley – Code Compliance Committee and there are others planned in the pipeline.

I am proud that our joining procedures require applicants to answer a General Insurance COP questionnaire and also all members once admitted are enrolled in the ANZIIF course, 'Caring for the Vulnerable Customer', something suggested by Emma Curtis when we met with her when we were just starting our Information Meetings around Australia. The AiBEC website is largely complete and will soon be enhanced with additional information including the experience and qualifications of members and individual allied supporters

The first of our technical committees has been established and is chaired by Dr Adrian Grosvenor from ATTAR, they are looking at Expert Reports and will provide feedback to AiBEC members, ICA and others. We also intend to tap into the expertise of Allied Supporters by establishing Allied Supporter Advisory Committees in the near future.

There are two special presentations to be made by Andrew and Deniz, the first to Brendan Colgrave from Built Environment Investigations and Solutions who is the first Individual Founding Member of AiBEC, congratulations Brendan. The second presentation is to ATTAR represented here tonight by Glenn D'Costa and Dr Adrian Grosvenor as a Corporate Founding Member. Thank you Glenn + Adrian. That conclude the formalities.

Thank you all for attending this evening and for your support of AiBEC and it will be interesting in five and ten years from now to reflect on being here tonight at this historic occasion.

Tony Libke
AiBEC CEO

