



THE INSTITUTE OF QUARRYING NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

Presidents report February 2004

At the time of writing this report it is another cold Wellington morning. A strong southerly blowing and 7 metre swells in the Cook Strait but the crushing plant is roaring away and product is still been produced. One therefore must acknowledge within our industry the men and woman who operate our machines daily in all weathers.

I finished my last report with "The challenge for us as an Institute in 2004 is to continue to meet the ever increasing needs of our members and to work with other organisations on promoting our industry image to the public".

A constant theme that is emerging in New Zealand is that even with strong growth in trainees through EXITO employers are still having trouble finding skilled staff. And then there is our image. The extractive industry now faces a number of additional pressures particularly from the very users of our end products. Awareness by the public is an impression of an industry with a huge capacity to alter the landscape. While I strongly believe we are gaining ground in this area there is room for improvement. The recent success of Peter Jackson's "*Lord of the Rings*" is one example. A majority of this film was filmed at Winstone Aggregates Dry Creek Quarry site and on Wellington's south coast in the closed Owhiro Bay Quarry. These two examples used in the right way can offer an opportunity for us to show the public what the extractive industry contributes to New Zealand.

Brian Bouzaid

President
Institute of Quarrying
New Zealand Incorporated

From the Executive

This month our board will meet in Hamilton with a full agenda of issues to discuss but most importantly will be confirming this year's industry seminar. As reported last month these seminars will cover a range of topics and will build on the current Jim Macdonald memorial lecture, which has been a great success.

Of equal importance will be the reviewing of all Institute activities to ensure that our members and their employers receive the best possible, membership value and service.

The board will also review the recently published DRAFT code of practice for the use of explosives.

The Institute is on the Internet

Murray Discombe is pleased to report that the first stage of the new look site has emerged from the depths of the quarry and work is well under way to complete the remaining sections, which should be available early March. Murray has asked that should any member / reader have any suggestions or comments please email Murray. www.ioqnz.co.nz

“Snippets”

Auckland Group secretary – Andrew Dronjak has recently changed employer and is now supervisor of Holcims Manukau quarry. Andrew's achievements last year saw him nominated for and winning the Goughs Caterpillar award and the B R Webster educational scholarship.

Andrew is however not stopping there and with the support of Holcim and Goughs, Andrew will head off in April to Canada (North West Territories) and then across to Iceland where he will present a paper on how the Surface Extractive Industry operates in a climate of six months daylight and six months of darkness. An unusual but interesting topic for a paper. On his return Andrew will be presenting his paper at this years Wairaki conference.

H&S Seminar

On Monday the 9th of February EXITO, on behalf of the Aggregate and Quarry Association (AQA); Coal Association NZ (CANZ); and NZ Minerals Industry Association (NZMIA); facilitated a H&S seminar in Wellington.

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss the various strands of Health and Safety that their differing groups are promoting, with the intent of deciding whether there is a need to create a single Health and Safety Committee/Council to meet the greater needs of the extractive industries.

Currently as an example there is a very successful Codes of Practice Committee that meets on an as-needs basis. EXITO has a role in issuing and renewing Certificates of Competence with an EXITO sub committee as the conduit for changes to those C of Cs. The group also has a draft Code of Practice for Mine Surveyors under it. There is also the AQA draft discussion paper re self-regulation that has been presented to the annual AQA/loQ Conference.

Taking into account all of these initiatives, each with merit in their own right, the Joint Group wishes to explore whether these moves and other issues such as central reporting of incidents; a formal relationship mechanism with OSH etc. should be under the guise of a single nationally selected and representative extractive industries committee or council.

The seminar was well attended a further report will follow.