

Update to all ASDE Members

Last week the ASDE National Committee met for its annual face-to-meeting and I need to report quite quickly on some of the outcomes in view of the timescales involved. The matters decided, some of which are the culmination of previous work of the members of the Committee, were as follows:

- ASDE is sponsoring a Conference on defence engineering with Defence Materiel Organisation to be held in Canberra at ADFA on Tuesday 23 November 2010 with a dinner in the evening. Further details will be issued shortly but for now you need to be aware that ASDE members will be admitted free of charge but will have to pay for the dinner if they attend. Engineers Australia will handle the registration via its website and registrations are expected to open within a few days so watch the website as places are expected to fill quickly. We will advise you as soon as we have the final details of the Conference and registration process.
- We will be coordinating the presentations/events from all five ASDE Chapters and issuing details of them to all Members via a Quarterly Newsletter to be made available by email, with links to the various issues raised in it, including copies of presentations. These Newsletters will be issued in the second half of February, May, August, and November the first being this coming November.
- ASDE will be involved in events highlighting the role of defence engineering as part of Engineers Australia Year of Humanitarian Engineering in 2011. The November Newsletter will provide more information.
- The National Committee will be making greater use of Honorary Membership for one year to selected personnel involved in defence engineering to publicise the activities of ASDE. More details will follow in the November Newsletter.
- Finally, the National Committee noted that at a special meeting on 27 and 28 July 2010, Engineers Australia's National Congress finalised a complete rewrite of the Royal Charter and By-laws which will not change the governance or membership structure, but which contains one significant policy change -it will allow associate and technologist members to vote in future membership ballots for changes to the Royal Charter and By-laws. The ASDE National Committee does not express a view on this change but urges all Corporate Members of Engineers Australia to vote in the membership ballot to approve the new documents to be held in October 2010. Those Members eligible to vote will receive more information on this subject via EA channels.

Doug Roser FIEAust CPEng
National Chair Australian Society for Defence Engineering
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