Mark Lamont, Information Resources Manager

It has been very gratifying to see a steep rise in usage and enquiries about the IPWEAQ Knowledge Centre access in recent months.

This has been inspired in part by the quality and scope of the presentations delivered at the 2017 state conference in Townsville, the podcasts of which have been in high demand. The PowerPoint decks for those presentations are available with general access to the Knowledge Centre, as are most other Collections including podcasts from our various branch conferences. The state conference podcasts are available by subscription and can be purchased as a package or individually on a user needs basis.

IPWEAQ convened 2018 President’s Breakfast in February which included two informative and thought-provoking presentations. Mike Brady, from Toowoomba Regional Council and IPWEAQ 2017 Engineer of the Year, offered broad reflections and speculations on the future of public works, touching on professional and personal elements involved in a career in public works engineering, and emphasising the importance of a sensible and considered balance between the two. Dr Rob Fearon, Director, Innovation Partnerships at QldWater, spoke about the work being done by the Queensland Water Regional Alliances Program, which seeks to provide regional approaches to water infrastructure and asset management. These presentations can be accessed within the ‘Other Special Events’ Community, in the ‘President’s Breakfast February 2018’ Collection.

Most other collections are continually updated to ensure the materials within them keep pace with contemporary developments and publications. The latest IPWEAQ and Department of Housing and Public Works annual reports, for example, have now been added to their relevant collections.

What’s New in the Knowledge Centre?

Login Process Reminder: Your user name will be the email address you have provided to IPWEAQ. This email address acts as your ‘fingerprint’ identity and the system reads that to grant access (not the user’s actual name or other details). Once you enter the email address, you can create your own password and then you will be granted access to all Collections in the Knowledge Centre that are not restricted to subscribers. If you wish to subscribe to restricted materials such as standard drawings or state conference podcasts, your email identity will be added to those groups and you will immediately have access to all the subscriber materials.
Finally, in the December issue of Engineering for Public Works (EPW) we looked at the Native Title and Cultural Heritage Compliance System IPWEAQ are developing to assist our members and affiliates in ensuring any infrastructure and other public works they engage in are carried out in full compliance with the Native Title Act 1993. Work on the project is progressing well and we hope to launch the Native Title Portal at the 2018 IPWEAQ state conference on the Gold Coast in October. I will go into more detail regarding the compliance system and its applications as we get closer to that event.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you encounter any problems accessing or using the IPWEAQ Knowledge Centre, or if you have any suggestions of papers or other material you think would be useful to our users.

The new IPWEAQ Knowledge Centre is an essential resource for anyone involved in public works in Queensland.

The Centre is fully searchable by title, speaker/author, subject, keyword, event or date. Resources available in the Knowledge Centre include:

1. Podcasts of state and branch conferences (accessible only to paid conference delegates or conference proceedings subscribers). The podcasts are accompanied by the presenters’ PowerPoint presentation so you can follow the presentation while listening to the podcast.
2. Podcasts with accompanying video of all other IPWEAQ events
3. Papers submitted for state and branch conferences
4. Articles published in our quarterly e-journal, Engineering for Public Works
5. Articles of relevance to Queensland practitioners sourced by our Information Resources Manager from other states/territories and internationally.
6. IPWEAQ technical publications including Standard Drawings (accessible only to subscribers)
7. Podcasts of interviews of delegates taken at state and branch conferences
8. Photos of delegates taken at state and branch conferences

The Knowledge Centre is only accessible to IPWEAQ members. Conference podcasts/videos are only accessible to paid conference delegates. Technical publications are only accessible to subscribers of our technical products.

Join IPWEAQ today to access this vital resource for the public works sector in Queensland.