Thanks to our Principal Partner Komatsu for hosting our most recent Technical Tour at their Wacol facility on 20 June 2018.

The Komatsu Wacol facility functions as a sales, service, assembly and remanufacturing site for mining and construction. With six main buildings across 61,000 square metres of land, it’s an impressive operation with mining and construction machine assembly, service workshop and remanufacturing functions, and a fully enclosed wash bay building, boiler-maker and track press shop, and an extensive paint-shop building.

Rainwater harvesting, energy efficient lighting, temperature controlling insulation and a bio-retention basin are all featured on site. And a particular highlight is Komatsu’s Condition Monitoring Services’ oil-testing laboratories.

October is around the corner and we will soon be descending to the gorgeous city of the Gold Coast for the state conference. I am waiting for this opportunity to learn and share experience and catch up with friends and colleagues about the latest trends in the industry.

As for me I have been away in Sweden for 5 weeks visiting family. It was a very warm summer and I enjoyed swimming in fresh water lakes in and around Gothenburg and also the beaches of the North Sea.

So much has changed in Europe since my last visit in 2015. Many things are going towards a smart city and in fact may be too smart, in that you pay for your car parking through an App or SMS. You also need an App to pay for your transport and sometimes for your food. Lots of places and even bank refusals to take cash and instead they use a system called Swish, to pay through your smart phone or mobile. That even includes paying for a honey jar outside a farm gate using Swish to a mobile number.

Climate change is apparent and clear when you see such hot dry summer that is causing forest fires in Sweden. So much has changed that most of Europe could not cope with the heat wave.

I also managed through my IPWEAQ contacts to meet with Göran Werner, Managing Director, Technical Services for the City of Molndals. We spent most of the day looking at their organisational structure, processes and infrastructure asset design, planning and construction.

In the afternoon we toured the town and inspected some roadworks, line marking and bike ways.

Raad Jarjees
SEQ Branch President
Light poles and directional sign truss structures

Edge of concrete/asphalt path line marking

Bikeway and Pedestrians line marking

Council’s fleet of electric cars

Lunch at the Hills Golf Club at Gothenburg