



NEWS

Back to school for infrastructure

Abevy of infrastructure and construction organisations have joined forces to launch the Supply Chain Sustainability School with the aim of improving industry standards in Australia.

The nationwide industry led initiative has been founded by John Holland, Mirvac, Stockland, Downer Tenix, McConnell Dowell, the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia, Laing O'Rourke and the Dulux Group.

It also has some powerful backers with the NSW government, Sustainability Victoria and Construction Skills Queensland all providing additional funding and support. The online school will be delivered by the Net Balance Foundation, with support from Ernst & Young.

Leveraging the success of a similar UK model, the school comprises a self-assessment tool for businesses, e-learning modules and a resource

library. The school's founders said these will address topics such as waste, water, carbon and energy, environmental management and climate adaptation.

John Holland's group manager for sustainability and co-chair for the school, Renuka Sabaratnam, said there was a growing expectation that construction and infrastructure projects would be built in a sustainable manner.

Mirvac's procurement manager for construction, who is also co-chair, Roderick Petre, said the school would address "some obvious knowledge gaps" and offers a way for the infrastructure industry to collaboratively work to educate contractors and suppliers. He forecast that this would enhance the efficiency of the supply chain.



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