

Acoustic Feedback



Introduction

Well we're churning them out nowadays! This will be the second time in a row that the Acoustic Feedback has been issued within 2 months of the last one.

In this issue, we again update you on the 2005 AAS Conference, which is fast approaching but coming along very well thanks to the hard work of the Conference Committee. We provide a summary of the most recent technical meeting and again welcome Steve Barlow as our newest member (I was able to harass him for a blurb on himself). Of most importance will be the AGM (see below), scheduled for Wednesday night, 24 August 2005, with RSVP's required by 17 August 2005.

Terry George

Annual General Meeting

This years AGM will be held at AQWA Function Centre, located at Hillarys Boat Harbour. It will commence at 6.00pm for pre-dinner drinks in the aquarium, followed by dinner and at some point, the AGM (this should only take 10 minutes). During the night, Chandra Salgado Kent from Curtin University will provide a brief presentation of her work with acoustics and marine mammals:

The deep blue... and lots of bizarre sounds – A Brief Overview of Marine Mammal Acoustic Studies at CMST

C.P. Salgado Kent, R. McCauley, C. Jenner. and M-N Jenner.

The underwater world is, of course, very noisy. Our main focus during the past decade at CMST has been to describe, identify, track, and find patterns in underwater sounds along the Western Australian coast. More specifically, to find out when and where marine animals (mainly whales and fish) occur in aggregations, and how we can use passive acoustics to identify these patterns so that potentially disturbing human activities can be planned around them. This presentation represents an auditory and visual tour of some of our work.

Chandra P. Salgado Kent – Joined CMST in 2003 and is originally from Venezuela and the US, working in the area of marine mammal vocalisation and ecology. She has a PhD. from Charles Darwin University (Northern Territory) in 2004, MSc from Florida Institute of Technology (US) in 1998, and BSc. in Biology in 1994. She has been working in a multidisciplinary group of researchers in Western Australia on humpback whales and blue whales since 2002, where behaviour and ecology are studied using satellite tagging, photo-identification, aerial surveys, boat surveys, biopsy sampling, and passive acoustic sampling. She has worked in a variety of areas as a marine ecologist, from forest rehabilitation, to crustacean ecology and cetacean ecology.

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Details for the AGM are as follows:

Where: The Aquarium Function Room – AQWA, Hillarys Boat Harbour (www.aqwa.com.au)

Date: Wednesday, 24 August 2005

Time: 6.00pm

Cost: \$60.50 (incl GST) for members and members' partners

\$82.50 (incl GST) for non-members

Payment to be cash or cheque (made payable to AAS WA Division) – on the day is acceptable

Cost includes dinner, drinks and entry into AQWA.

Please RSVP to Terry George by **5pm Wednesday 17th August**.

Email: terry@lloydacoustics.com.au

Phone: 9409 2999 (wk)

I would encourage you, your partner and interested friends and colleagues to come along as it is a great time to get together on a social basis and as well as dinner and drinks, you get to go to Australia's largest aquarium and underwater tunnel. Also, some of the committee members are up for re-election and some other positions are vacant so some fresh people on the committee would also be encouraged...don't be shy!

Terry George

Past Technical Meeting

On the 14th July, a small group of nine attended the meeting about the WA Planning Commission's recently released draft noise policies. When finalised, these policies will be State Planning Policies and hence have a significant influence on statutory planning and development processes.

Robert Griffiths from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) presented an overview of the first policy, Road and Rail Transport Noise. This policy will apply to proposals for road or rail infrastructure development and also to noise sensitive developments adjoining such infrastructure. In seeking to manage potential noise impacts, the policy:

- establishes criteria to be used in the assessment of proposals involving noise-sensitive development in the vicinity of major transport corridors;
- identifies measures that can be adopted to reduce road and rail traffic noise; and
- describes the circumstances when such measures are required.

Imre Szito from DPI then presented an overview of the second policy, Metropolitan Freight Network. This policy applies to the primary freight roads and freight rail routes, and includes:

- development of freight handling facilities in relation to designated freight routes; and
- development within associated areas of influence of the designated freight routes.

The policy relates to proposals to develop a freight route or land adjoining a freight route. The noise impact criteria used are those contained in the Road and Rail Transport Noise policy.

Robert and Imre fielded a range of questions, and it was noted that the comment period for these documents closes on 31st August 2005 (although is likely to be extended). Anyone still interested in these documents can find them at:

<http://www.wapc.wa.gov.au/Publications/Statements+of+planning+policy/default.aspx>

Murray Limb

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Acoustics 2005 Conference Update

The response to the Call for Abstracts was outstanding, with some 90 abstracts being submitted, covering a wide range of topics in various areas of acoustics, vibration and underwater acoustics. Most of these have now been received as final papers, so the program is looking great.

Two excellent plenary speakers have been confirmed; Joe Rice (USA) on underwater acoustic communications and Neville Fletcher (ACT) on acoustic systems in biology.

There will be two substantial pre-conference items, both of which will be held on Wednesday 9th November:

- Workshop on Active Noise Control (at UWA), and
- Short-course on Transportation Noise (at Abbey Beach Resort)

A number of shorter workshops on particular topics of interest will be held during the conference. These are likely to include:

- The NSW construction noise guidelines,
- The future of acoustics research in Australia,
- Environmental impacts of underwater noise, and
- Noise modelling.

The Conference Registration Form is now available on the website (www.acoustics.asn.au/divisions/2005-conference.php) and we would be delighted to receive your registration (early registration closes 30 September 2005). The Abbey Beach Resort accommodation rates are also on the website.

See you there!

*Alec Duncan
Chair, Acoustics 2005 Organising Committee*

Member Update



Steve Barlow is the newest member of the Australian Acoustical Society's WA Division. Steve has a Bachelor of Science (Physics) from Kent University in the UK. As a postgraduate, Steve qualified as a Materials Engineer and spent 8 years working as a Polymer Chemist. In 1992 whilst working for Tiflex Ltd, he became the Product Specialist for anti-vibration systems for the railway industry. This involved specifying floating slab bearings, ballast mats, under-sleeper pads and other resilient track products.

Steve has worked on several major projects, some being the London Jubilee Line Extension, KL Sentral project in Kuala Lumpur and Tsing Ma Bridge in Honk Kong just to name a few.

Steve moved to Pandrol Ltd to provide technical back up for their range of anti-vibration track products. He now resides in Perth as Track Support Engineer, with the bulk of his work being in Southeast Asia on new and existing metro projects, particularly mainland PRC.

Welcome aboard Steve and we look forward to your input into the society.

Terry George

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2004 – 2005 Committee Members

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Chairman	Alec Duncan	9266 3599
Vice Chairman	Terrance McMinn	9266 7175
Secretary	Norbert Gabriels	9474 5966
Treasurer	Daniel Lloyd	9300 4188
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