

Official newsletter of the Weighing Industry Association of Australia

Mar 2025

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# JSTRALIA WEIGHING IN

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### President's Report

Firstly, a message to our Members on the East Coast of Australia with the cyclone impact about to be felt. We are all thinking of you and wish you the best – stay safe!

A quick heads up that the Online General Meeting scheduled for Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March will be postponed one week to the 20<sup>th</sup> March 25. This is an excellent Forum for matters relating to the Weighing Industry and Members generally. It is an opportunity to provide input and get support on matters you feel relevant while providing a framework for open discussions. Please save the date with more detail below.

As the year quickly gathers momentum, we are pleased to advise the WIAA are finally making headway with the UKWF and CECIP Mutual Affiliations, the UKWF should be finalised in the coming weeks and CECIP should be finalised soon after – more on this below.

We have had some reports of the WIAA Logo being used by Businesses other than actual WIAA Member Businesses. We would ask you keep an eye out for examples of this so the Board can take it up with those concerned. The use of WIAA materials is strictly for use by Members and we need to address those "riding coattails" – more on this below.

As the months go by, we are learning more about our members wants and needs which will be reflected in the "Weighing In Newsletter" in future editions. An example is our regular section "NMI Q&A". We have made good inroads with NMI and have direct communication lines to assist our members with any concerns or gripes – more on this below.

In closing, your board is being proactive in many areas, locally, nationally and internationally – this has never been a better period for the W.I.A.A.

Cheers and thanks,

Darren Putland

President.



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### Calendar



The board agreed to formalise a calendar for the 2025 year. Dates have been set for all Board meetings, Online General meetings and release of the "Weighing In" Newsletter.

This will help our members by knowing when the appropriate meetings are to be held so they can raise their issues in advance.

The full schedule is on the website <u>here</u>. This page will be revamped to make it more "user friendly", but it's a starting point.

### W.I.A.A. Annual General Meeting

The 2024 A.G.M. was held in Glenelg, S.A. and was one of the biggest in years. A total of 27 people attended from 13 member companies. That's about 35% of our current membership base.



The day commenced with a tour of the Adelaide N.M.I. branch, followed by the A.G.M., lunch and an Open Forum.

For 2025, in line with the National theme, it has been suggested we may proceed to Western Australia with a date of 13<sup>th</sup> November. Lock in the date and more information will be coming in future issues.

#### **Mailing List**



It is extremely important to relay to your team to "whitelist" wiaa.com.au for receipt of emails. Some people are not receiving them which is extremely disappointing. It may be because we are using our own identity now and it is fresh. The more people who whitelist, the better chance for others to see our emails.

Anyone in your organisation can sign up to the mailing list now by clicking the link on the website <a href="http://www.wiaa.com.au">www.wiaa.com.au</a>

#### Training & Development

The Training & Development subcommittee have been working behind the scenes compiling information ready to take to N.M.I. with a view of streamlining the processes to get verifiers approved. We have approached NMI with the suggestion of a 'book end' approach where 6.1-6.3 training could be conducted on the one day with the



Observations conducted the following day. We will advise more as things progress.

If you have not already submitted your information, please forward to <u>secretary@wiaa.com.au</u> as soon as possible. We need ALL members on board for this so we are taking accuracte numbers to N.M.I.



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## C.E.C.I.P. Update

We are awaiting the outcome of the recent CECIP Board Meeting with regards to "Reciprocal agreements of Mutual Membership" where CECIP look to amend their Statutes to allow CECIP Membership by Weighing Associations outside of Europe. We then look to establish Mutual Affiliation with CECIP once this has been ratified by their Board. CECIP are the driving force behind the ICW26 (International Conference of Weighing – Japan 26) and conducted the inaugural event in Hamberg ICW23. We see this as an exciting prospect to align with CECIP on matters relating globally with OIML etc.

### U.K.W.F. Update

We are in the final phases of Mutual Affiliation with the UKWF (United Kingdom Weighing Federation) where the WIAA will become Affiliate Members of the UKWF and the UKWF will become Affiliate Members of the WIAA with no Voting rights for either parties. We see this as increasing our international reach and presence uniting on issues concerning the Weighing Industry that effect Industry Members both here and internationally. This should be finalised in the coming weeks with Membership Invoices being paid.

### Inductions at Customer Sites



A member has raised concerns about the number of their customers and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> Party services such as Damstra and Rapid Global requesting more and more personal information of employees attending site. This includes Medicare Cards and Passports.

There are genuine concerns regarding privacy and the 100 point check Identity check. How secure is this information that is held and is it even legal to ask for it? W.I.A.A. is currently investigating what can and cannot be asked and we will relay this to our members in due course.

### **Online General Meeting**



Our next Online General Meeting will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March and we welcome all members to jump online to discuss any issues, concerns or raise some ideas for future promotion, training, etc.

This meeting is scheduled to start at 10am sharp with no set end time.

#### <u>Here is the link</u>

#### Use of W.I.A.A. logo

It has come to the attention of the board that certain companies are using the W.I.A.A. whilst not being members. The board will be drafting a "Guideline For Use Statement" to ensure we can stop this blatant abuse of a Member Privilege. We will have more information at the upcoming Online General Meeting.



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## Ask N.M.I. (via W.I.A.A.)

We would like to get an understanding of N.M.I.'s responsiveness in matters of your direct inquiries. We have had reports of complaints being forwarded to NMI, with little to no response, in areas such as; M7 Compliance by End-Users; Non-Compliance of unmanned Public Weighbridge Systems; Inappropriate use of Non-Trade units in Trade environments; Online purchases and use of equipment that should be NMI approved; etc. etc.

To facilitate a more prompt and meaningful response, for you, our member - we would encourage you to use the 'Ask NMI' mechanism we have established where the WIAA submits these types of matters directly to N.M.I. on your behalf (anonymously if requested) for a considered and committed response – more on this in the upcoming Online General Meeting –  $20^{th}$  March 25.

### **Banking Details**

Please note the W.I.A.A. is now using a different bank account for membership payments so please change the details in your accounts/banking system. If you need a copy of our bank Account statement as per you're A.M.L. Policies, etc, please email secretary@wiaa.com.au

Name:Weighing Industry Association of Australia LtdB.S.B. #:032-591Account #:461373



### **Primary Contacts**

President - Darren Putland - <u>president@wiaa.com.au</u> Vice-President - Mario Xuereb - <u>vicepresident@wiaa.com.au</u> Secretary/Treasurer - Steve Dickson - <u>secretary@wiaa.com.au</u> Secretariat – Finehaus Management – <u>admin@wiaa.com.au</u>