Ash Utilisation – an Australian Perspective

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ABSTRACT

Australian producers and marketers of Power Station Ash formed the ADAA (Ash Development Association of Australia Inc.) in 1991. The primary objectives are to conduct research and technology transfer on behalf of members to exploit market opportunities in the use of ash materials.

In achieving these objectives the ADAA have sought to increase user awareness of the benefits arising through the effective utilisation of this valuable industrial mineral by-product, which if realised, has benefits for industry, the environment and the community as a whole.

Ash produced during 2001 approximated to 12Mt (million tonnes) for Australasia. Of the total ash produced for that year, some 3.85Mt can be said to have been effectively utilised. The main contributors are cementitious applications at approximately 1.229Mt, non cementitious applications at 0.389Mt, with the balance of 2.232Mt used in projects offering some beneficial use (i.e. mine site remediation, local haul roads etc.) These applications and growth potentials will be discussed.

The challenge for the membership ahead is identifying the next incremental step for the increased utilisation of domestic Ash production. The industry sectors participating in the use of Ash materials will be discussed, including new areas requiring greater research and investment.

About author:

Craig Heidrich is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Ash Development Association of Australia, and holds a Bachelor of Business an MBA and currently completing his DBA (Phd) with the University of Wollongong.

Craig's company HBM Group was contracted to the ADAA in 1999 to manage the Research and Educational aspects of the Associations activities, moreover to develop and implement appropriate strategies to achieve the primary goal of increasing the effective utilisation of the available ash materials in Australia.

He is a member of the Concrete Institute of Australia and NSW Branch Committee member, also an Associate Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, Associate Fellow of the Australian Marketing Institute and Certified Practicing Marketer (CPM).