

# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

3 - 5 May 2012 | Sydney - Australia

Dispute Resolution Board Foundation. *Moving projects forward* since 1996.



## THE BENEFITS OF DISPUTE BOARDS TO MAJOR PROJECTS Proactive Dispute Avoidance

The Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (DRBF) and its Australian Chapter, the Dispute Resolution Board Australasia (DRBA) invite you to the 12th DRBF International Annual Conference in Sydney from 3 – 5 May 2012.

The DRBF is the global membership organisation dedicated to promoting the speedy and economical resolution of disputes between parties to contracts through the use of Dispute Boards (DB).

In the last two decades, the DB process has emerged as a highly effective means of avoiding and resolving disputes in major construction and commercial projects, as well as improving outcomes in terms of delivery time and out-turn cost. The value of Australian and New Zealand DB projects, completed or underway is now approaching \$10 billion.

Hosted for the first time in Australia, the conference will focus on the innovation of DBs and the experience and lessons learnt by practitioners operating across a number of different cultures and legal systems from around the world, bringing together speakers and delegates from Australia, New Zealand, Europe, North and South America, Asia, the Middle East and Africa. An optional one day training workshop preceding the conference will introduce those interested in becoming involved with DBs (including owners, contract drafters and potential DB panel members) to industry best methods and practice.

The conference will be held at the **Dockside Conference Centre**, a stunning, modern venue affording panoramic views of Cockle Bay Wharf and Darling Harbour. Located just minutes from Sydney's Central Business District, the area is one of the world's great waterfront destinations and one of Australia's major attractions.

Discount arrangements for delegates' accommodation have been negotiated with the award-winning international hotel, **Four Points by Sheraton**. Overlooking Darling Harbour, Australia's largest hotel is a short walk from the conference venue and Sydney's major entertainment and shopping districts including Pitt Street Mall, Queen Victoria Building and Chinatown. To obtain the benefit of the discount rates, reservations must be made at [www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/drbf1](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/drbf1)

A number of social functions have been organised including a **Welcome Cocktail Reception** at the Star Room in Darling Harbour and a **Networking Drinks Reception** at Clayton Utz's stunning, new premises in Sydney's first high rise six-star Green Star office building. The **Gala Dinner** will be held at one of Australia's leading cultural institutions, the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

After the Sydney conference, delegates can attend the Society of Construction Law Australia conference in Melbourne from 6 – 8 May 2012. [www.constructionlaw2012.com](http://www.constructionlaw2012.com)

For registration and details of the conference program, speakers and sponsorship opportunities visit: [www.drba.com.au/conference/](http://www.drba.com.au/conference/)

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**Early Bird Discount  
Ends 3 March  
BOOK NOW!**

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## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



**Thursday 3 May 2012**

### Pre-Conference DB Advanced Training Workshop

0830 – 1700 Sessions include: Establishment of a DB, Routine DB Operations, 'Informal' and 'Formal' Referral Processes & Lessons Learned – How to Do Better?

### Conference

1700 – 1930 **Welcome Cocktail Reception (Star Room, Darling Harbour)**

**Friday 4 May 2012**

0830 – 0900 Registration and Morning Refreshments  
 0900 – 0910 **Welcome Addresses and Official Opening**  
 0910 – 0930 **Keynote Address**  
 0930 – 0935 **Principal Sponsor Address**  
 0935 – 1100 **Session 1:** Dispute Board Concepts Internationally - Divergence or Convergence?  
 1100 – 1120 Morning Tea  
 1120 – 1250 **Session 2:** Dispute Avoidance – What does a Dispute Board offer?  
 1250 – 1400 Networking Lunch  
 1400 – 1530 **Session 3:** Owners' Perspectives on Dispute Boards  
 1530 – 1550 Afternoon Tea  
 1550 – 1710 **Session 4:** Future Opportunities for Dispute Boards  
 1715 Close of day  
 1800 – 2030 **Networking Cocktail Reception at Clayton Utz**

**Saturday 5 May**

0900 – 0950 **Session 5:** FIDIC's Experiences with Dispute Boards (Keynote Address)  
 0950 – 1110 **Session 6:** Key Legal Issues for Dispute Boards (International Panel session)  
 1110 – 1130 Morning Tea  
 1130 – 1300 **Session 7:** Recent Experiences with Dispute Boards  
 1300 – 1400 Networking Lunch  
 1400 – 1530 **Session 8:** Future of Dispute Boards in the Pacific Region  
 1530 – 1550 Afternoon Tea  
 1530 – 1600 Closing Address  
 1830 – 2230 **Gala Dinner at the Art Gallery of NSW**

## SPEAKERS

Introduction: **Professor Doug Jones AM** DRBA President, Partner & Head of National Construction and Major Projects Group, Clayton Utz (Australia)  
 Welcome Address: **Volker Jurowich** DRBF President & Contracts Consultant (Germany)  
 Official Address: **TBA**  
 Keynote Address Day 1: **The Hon Nick Greiner AC** Chairman of Infrastructure NSW and Premier & Treasurer of NSW 1988 – 1992 (Australia)  
 Keynote Address Day 2: **Geoff French** President of FIDIC, Vice President of ICE & Managing Director of URS Scott Wilson (UK)  
 Principal Sponsor Address: **Peter Brecht**, Managing Director, Infrastructure Lend Lease & President, Australian Constructors Association (Australia)  
 After Dinner Address: **TBA**

### Confirmed Chairpersons and Panellists (as of 19 January 2012)

- **Richard Appuhn** Consulting Engineer, DRBF Region 2 President (Italy/USA)
- **Romano Allione** Engineer & Project Management Consultant & Member of DRBF Board of Directors (Italy)
- **Roger L Brown** Managing Partner, R Brown Consulting Group LLC & President Elect, DRBF Executive Board of Directors (USA)
- **Ian Briggs** Partner & Head of National Construction Engineering & Infrastructure, Minter Ellison (Australia)
- **Peter H J Chapman** Chartered Arbitrator, Chartered Civil Engineer and Barrister-at-Law (UK)
- **Amanda Davidson** Partner & Head of Construction & Infrastructure (Sydney), Holding Redlich (Australia)
- **Graham Easton** Consulting Engineer, Lawyer, Chartered Arbitrator & Mediator (Australia)
- **Ron Finlay** Lawyer and Chief Executive, Finlay Consulting (Australia)
- **Dr Paula Gerber** Associate Professor Monash University Law School (Australia)
- **George H Golvan QC** Queen's Counsel, Victorian Bar (Australia)
- **Gordon L Jaynes** Attorney at Law, Consultant to World Bank & Chair, MDB Liaison Committee (UK)
- **Richard A Kell AM** Consulting Engineer and Director of Cardno International Pty Ltd (Australia)
- **Kerry C Lawrence** Partner, Lawrence & Finkelstein PLLC (USA)
- **Chris Lock** Deputy Director General of the Transport Projects Division, Transport for NSW (Australia)
- **Alan McLennan** Specialist Consultant in Relationship Contracting (Australia)
- **Deborah Mastin** Assistant Broward County Attorney in Ft Lauderdale & President Elect, DRBF Region 1 Board of Directors (USA)
- **Professor Dr Toshihiko Omoto** Construction Management Consultant & Professor at the Graduate School of Management (MBA), Kyoto University (Japan)
- **Graeme M Peck** Consulting Construction Engineer & Co-founder Evans & Peck (Australia)
- **Robert Regan** Partner & Head of Projects, Energy & Resources teams, Corrs Chambers Westgarth Lawyers (Australia)
- **John Sharkey AM** Consultant, Norton Rose (Australia)
- **Tim Sullivan** Director of Contract Administration Group P/L (Australia)
- **Colin J Wall** Chartered Arbitrator and Accredited Mediator (Hong Kong)
- **Michael Weatherall** Partner & Head of Construction Law Team, Simpson Grierson (New Zealand)