

PREVIEW: Concrete NZ conference 2019

Bernie Napp - Fri, 05 Jul 2019

“Concrete for Life” is the theme of the 2019 Concrete NZ Conference, to be held in Dunedin on 10-12 October.

“This is an undoubted highlight of each year for the concrete and wider construction industry, offering a combination of quality technical content, outstanding social functions, broad industry representation, and value for money that is unsurpassed by other conferences,” says Concrete NZ chief executive Rob Gaimster.

Keynote speakers are Dr Andy Davids, who will cover the design and construction of the world’s tallest buildings, and David Rowland, the NCTIR Coastal Structures team lead, on progress with the Kaikoura rebuild.



“We are excited to be travelling to the deep south for the first time, with the conference being held at the Dunedin Centre, which includes the beautiful Town Hall in the city centre,” Gaimster says. “Being close to the Octagon is ideal, as conference accommodation is just a few minutes’ walk away.”

The keynote presentations will be supported by a host of technical and operationally-focussed papers in a [technical programme](#) spanning the Thursday to Saturday.

“Challenges Facing the NZ Aggregates Sector,” is the title of a presentation by Wayne Scott, chief executive of the Aggregate & Quarry Association and of MinEx.

Other topics covered by the speakers include – the Auckland City rail loop; careers in concrete; “spacecrete” (the final frontier for concrete construction); 3D printing of concrete houses; and the collapse of the Morandi Bridge in Genoa, Italy.

Gaimster says of the conference partners, “Our patrons this year are Golden Bay Cement, Holcim (New Zealand), Pacific Steel (NZ), and Sika (NZ), who along with confirmed sponsors Ancon Building Products, Technical Welding Services, and BASF offer fantastic support on a regular basis.”

Sponsorship and trade exhibit opportunities are still available. Contact the conference secretary on 09 536 5410, or email concrete@bluepacificevents.com

Rob notes that the consolidation of six concrete industry associations into Concrete NZ, which has been progressing over the past three years, is reaching completion.

“The final consolidation piece to be put in place at conference will see New Zealand Concrete Society members vote to formally wind-up and move into the future as the Concrete NZ Learned Society.”