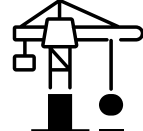


3rd annual

Women in Construction

SUMMIT 2026



RISE TOGETHER: SKILL UP, MAKE CONNECTIONS & BREAK BARRIERS

6 - 7 MAY 2026
SYDNEY

13-14 MAY 2026
MELBOURNE



I was blown away by the inspiring women who have paved the way, making a such a difference within the construction industry. ”

Workforce Development Manager, DT Infrastructure (past attendee)

REGISTER
TODAY!

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womeninconstructionsummit.com.au

Supporting partners:



Organised by:



Sydney Summit Speakers Include:



Rebecca Sostarko
General Counsel, Director -
Work, Health & Safety
Australian Chamber of
Commerce & Industry



Sandra Nilsen
General Manager - Design
& Engineering
BESIX Watpac



Ashley Barnes
Head of Design
Management
Icon



Gladys Woods
General Manager
Haslin Constructions



Sinéad Redmond
General Manager -
Infrastructure Delivery
GeelongPort



Sonja Syre
Director
Denton Corker Marshall



Vanessa Riley
Chief People Officer
Richard Crookes
Constructions



Margot Brassil
Executive Director, Strategy,
Planning & Innovation
Infrastructure NSW



Robyn Simpson
National Manager
Environment & Sustainability
Coates



Elouise Robinson
Principal Digital
Engineering Lead
WSP



Melbourne Summit Speakers Include:



Cathryn Greville
Chief Executive Officer
NAWIC



Kate Wingad
Group Manager,
Engineering & Design (Rail)
John Holland



Amy Lezala
Chief Engineer - Rail
Department of Transport
VIC



Sally Law
Commercial Director
Snowy Hydro 2.0 Future
Generation JV
Clough



Sam Linke
Transport Leader -
Victoria & South Australia
Aurecon



Lauren McCormack
Director
McCormack



Roxy Shirvani
Director, Commercial
Major Road Projects
Victoria



Angela Oaten
Chief People & Business
Services Officer
Multiworks



Karin Wallin
Sustainability Operations
Lead
Laing O'Rourke



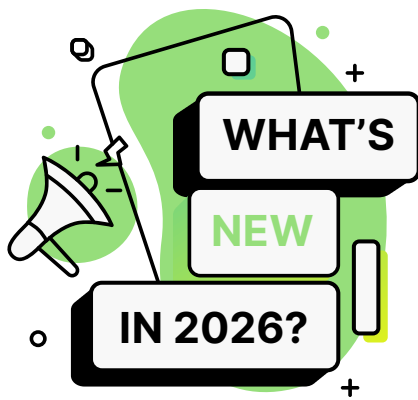
Christina Hung
Commercial Manager
Nacap

A new way to build your construction career

At the Women in Construction Summit 2026, you'll gain the knowledge, in-demand skills, and leadership tools needed to achieve project and career success.

This year's all new event features a more engaging, interactive, and rewarding environment, with an agenda designed to help you learn from and connect with your peers. You'll experience brand new interactive roundtables, group problem-solving sessions, interactive discussions with industry leaders, facilitated connection building, career-defining masterclasses, and much more.

It's not just a summit, it's a hands-on, collaborative experience built to help you grow your skills, improve your project outcomes, expand your network, and shape the next stage of your career.



- 2 cities, 2 dates - choose your preferred location and date
- Crowdsource solutions to the challenges you're facing with collaborative problem-solving workshops
- Guided connection building to help you easily meet your peers
- All new interactive champagne roundtable sessions
- New career-defining masterclasses to supercharge your skills & professional growth

“ The conference was a great success with a high calibre of speakers; I connected with some great people and came away with a different lens on what some women face within our industry and how we can strive for better equality on site. ”

Product Manager + Special Projects, Southern Vale Homes (past attendee)

Top 7 Reasons to Attend:

- 1 Move your career & organisation forward with the premier event for women in construction
- 2 Experience dynamic learning & make real connections with champagne roundtables, collaborative problem-solving workshops & guided networking
- 3 Elevate non-technical skills like critical thinking, decision making, time management & leadership
- 4 Gain practical takeaways on how men and women can work together to drive DEI
- 5 Explore how to use your construction background & skills to unlock new career opportunities
- 6 Discover proven tools & tactics to change site culture & succeed in the day-to-day reality of construction work
- 7 Explore how top companies are tackling technology, sustainability, safety, & climate resilience challenges

Main Conference Day 1 Wednesday, 6 May

08:15 Registration and welcome coffee

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair

09:00 **Building safer, fairer workplaces in construction**



Rebecca Sostarko
General Counsel, Director -
Work, Health & Safety
**Australian Chamber of
Commerce & Industry**



Melissa Byrne
National Director,
Policy & Legal
Master Builders Australia

CAREER CLARITY FOR WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

09:40 **Owning your career journey: how to advocate for yourself at every career stage**



Jennaya Suddick
Pre-Construction Manager
Hicon

10:10 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Getting ahead and moving up: what practical actions actually lead to leadership or alternative career success?**
Panellists:



Sandra Nilsen
General Manager -
Design & Engineering
BESIX Watpac



Gladys Woods
General Manager
Haslin Constructions



Diana Bowden
Project Manager, Social
Infrastructure & Citizen
Services
Downer



David Collett
Director - Victoria & South
Australia
BG&E

10:50 **Construction Conversation Starters + Morning Tea**

Engage in a lightly structured networking session with relaxed prompts, quick activities, and easy ways to strike up a conversation. It's networking that doesn't feel like networking.

NON-NEGOTIABLES: SKILLS THAT SET GREAT CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS APART

11:30 **SKILLS SPOTLIGHT: Mastering 5 critical non-technical skills that every construction professional needs**



Sinèad Redmond
General Manager - Infrastructure Delivery
GeelongPort

12:00 Partner presentation

12:20 **SKILLS SPOTLIGHT: Connect, influence & lead: mastering collaboration on every design and construction project**

12:50 Lunch and Connection Building

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO DRIVE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

13:50 **How can we build our own paths and achieve success in a male dominated industry?**



Michelle Doolan
Principal Track Engineer, Engineering Manager
John Holland

14:20 **FIRESIDE CHAT: What I wish I knew earlier: real world triumphs, failures & lessons learned on the path to diversity & career progression**
Panellists:



Chantelle Yousif
General Manager
ARA Fire



Greg Rafferty
Head of Social Impact
DT Infrastructure



Hannah Tierney
Principal, Development &
Infrastructure
CBRE



Leanna Fuller
Stakeholder & Community
Director
John Holland

15:00 Afternoon tea with your peers


INTERACTIVE CHAMPAGNE ROUNDTABLES

Discuss ideas, gain practical tips, and work through challenges faced by women across the construction landscape. This is a unique opportunity to have all your questions answered while you network and build relationships with people you otherwise may not have access to. You will be able to choose three of the below to attend with each roundtable running concurrently over three time slots:

Round 1  15.35 to 16.05

Round 2  16.05 to 16.35

Round 3  16.35 to 17.05

Roundtable 1  **Navigating new horizons: identifying & moving into new roles & career opportunities**




Angela Lopez
Retail Project Manager (Construction)
Deicorp

Roundtable 2  **Managing a diverse team on a high-pressure project**



Mona Chao
Development Manager
HYECORP

Roundtable 3  **Overcoming imposter syndrome: strategies to build confidence and thrive**




Kate Leone
Project Engineer
UGL

Roundtable 4  **Shaping high impact culture & high performance through leadership**




Ashley Barnes
Head of Design Management
Icon

Roundtable 5  **Overcoming gender bias and ensuring your voice is recognised and valued**



Jillian Rheinberger
Project Director
RP Infrastructure



Roundtable 6  **Navigating challenging conversations and uncomfortable situations**

Roundtable 7  **How to attract and retain diverse talent by broadening perceptions and partnering with aligned sectors**

17:05 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:10 End of Day 1 & drinks celebration

REGISTER TODAY!

 A reminder on how women overcome, and on the empowering energy and support it enables through gatherings that can never be undervalued. The journey is not to endure but to flourish and thrive! Information is knowledge and knowledge is to EMPOWER. To empower is to be part of the voice of change and change is the journey, empowered communities is the destination. 

Construction Inspector, **WorkSafe Victoria** (past attendee)

Main Conference Day 2 📅 Thursday, 7 May

08:30 Welcome coffee
08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair

TRANSFORMING WORKPLACE CULTURE

09:00 **Tools, tactics and behaviours to change site culture from the ground up**



Vanessa Riley
Chief People Officer
[Richard Crookes Constructions](#)

09:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How can mentorship, skills development and real opportunities drive long-term change for women in construction?**

Moderator:



Louise Azzopardi
General Manager
[Empowered Women in Trades](#)



David Madden
Founding Director
[MBM](#)



Amin Mangat
People & Capability Manager -
Rail & Transport
[John Holland](#)



Ashley Barnes
Head of Design Management
[Icon](#)

10:10 Partner presentation
10:30 Morning tea with your peers

11:00 **Solving challenges together: A collaborative problem-solving workshop**

Get ready for a lively session where you'll team up with fellow attendees to tackle the real challenges facing women in construction. Each table will receive a different issue to unpack, discuss, and solve together. Once the group discussions wrap up, tables will share their ideas, and the facilitator will spark a room-wide conversation to take them further. This is a practical, supportive, and collaborative space designed to surface real solutions you can take back to your workplace. You'll learn from the lived experience, creativity, and wisdom of the women around you.

Issues to explore include:

1. What do you do if you're underpaid, undervalued or overlooked, and how do you get the promotions and pay you deserve?
2. How do you push for fair work allocation, project opportunities and "stretch" roles instead of being stuck with low-visibility or admin-heavy tasks?
3. How do you deal with a difficult, hostile, or challenging colleague, and how does the situation change if it's a peer or a superior?
5. How can you secure flexible work, parental leave, or a unique working arrangement without it being a setback for your career?
6. What do you do if you feel unsafe, isolated or excluded at work, and what approaches work to overcome those challenges?

12:10 Connection Building Lunch
13:10 **Building green, building forward: how sustainability is reshaping construction & your role in 2026**

NAVIGATING EMERGING TRENDS & COMPLEXITIES IN CONSTRUCTION

13:40 **Building green, building forward: how sustainability is reshaping construction & your role in 2026**



Robyn Simpson
National Manager Environment and Sustainability
[Coates](#)

14:10 **Female innovators and the next era of digital construction**

From BIM and drones to AI-powered project management, women are at the forefront of digitising construction. This session explores how technology is transforming safety, efficiency, and project outcomes. and how female innovators are influencing this change.

14:40 Afternoon tea with your peers

15:00 **Leveraging data-led digital engineering to elevate your projects**



Elouise Robinson
Principal Digital Engineering Lead
[WSP](#)

15:30 **From resistance to results - turning industry shifts into project success & career growth**



Sonja Syre
Director
[Denton Corker Marshall](#)

THRIVING IN CONSTRUCTION

16:00 **FIRESIDE CHAT: How do you thrive on site or in the office? Real strategies for succeeding in the day-to-day reality of construction work**

Panellists:



Louise Azzopardi
Speaker and Life Coach
[Empowered Women in Trades](#)



Annaliese Thomsen
Site Manager
[Metricon](#)

16:40 Closing remarks from the Chair

16:45 End of Women in Construction Summit 2026



“The presentations were excellent and there were really good networking opportunities.”

Contract Administrator, [Building Engineering](#)

REGISTER TODAY!

Main Conference Day 1 🕒 Wednesday, 13 May

08:15 Registration and welcome coffee

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair



Roselli Hedditch
Senior Specialist, Sustainable Design
[Deakin University](#)

09:00 **Turning knowledge into progress: redefining the future for women in construction**



Cathryn Greville
Chief Executive Officer
[NAWIC](#)

CAREER CLARITY FOR WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

09:30 **Owning your career journey: how to advocate for yourself at every career stage**



Gosia Suchorska
Project Director
[Winslow Infrastructure](#)

10:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Getting ahead and moving up: what practical actions actually lead to leadership or alternative career success?**

Moderator:



Megan Small
Organisational Development & Communications Manager
[Nacap](#)



Kate Wingad
Group Manager, Engineering & Design (Rail)
[John Holland](#)



David Collett
Director - Victoria & South Australia
[BG&E](#)

Panellists:



Lauren McCormack
Director
[McCormack](#)



Sam Linke
Transport Leader - Victoria & South Australia
[Aurecon](#)

10:40 **Construction Conversation Starters + Morning Tea**

Engage in a lightly structured networking session with relaxed prompts, quick activities, and easy ways to strike up a conversation. It's networking that doesn't feel like networking.

NON-NEGOTIABLES: SKILLS THAT SET GREAT CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS APART

11:20 **SKILLS SPOTLIGHT: Mastering 5 critical non-technical skills that every construction professional needs**



Sally Law
Commercial Director Snowy Hydro 2.0 Future Generation JV
[Clough](#)

11:50 Partner presentation

12:10 **SKILLS SPOTLIGHT: Connect, influence & lead: mastering collaboration on every design and construction project**



Lauren McCormack
Director
[McCormack](#)

12:40 Lunch and Connection Building

PROVEN SOLUTIONS TO DRIVE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

13:40 **How can we build our own paths and achieve success in a male dominated industry?**



Clea Smith
Chief Executive Officer
[Tradeswomen Australia Group](#)

14:10 **PANEL DISCUSSION: What I wish I knew earlier: real world triumphs, failures & lessons learned on the path to diversity & career progression**

Panellists:



Greg Rafferty
Head of Social Impact
[DT Infrastructure](#)



Hannah Yap
Environmental & Sustainability Advisor - Program Lead
[Fulton Hogan](#)



Meg Cairns
Site Engineer
[Symal Infrastructure](#)



Tica Can Ge
Senior Structural Engineer
[WGA](#)

14:50 Afternoon tea with your peers

INTERACTIVE CHAMPAGNE ROUNDTABLES

Discuss ideas, gain practical tips, and work through challenges faced by women across the construction landscape. This is a unique opportunity to have all your questions answered while you network and build relationships with people you otherwise may not have access to. You will be able to choose three of the below to attend with each roundtable running concurrently over three time slots:

Round 1 🕒 15:30 to 16:00

Round 2 🕒 16:00 to 16:30

Round 3 🕒 16:30 to 17:00

Roundtable 1 🕒 **Navigating new horizons: identifying & moving into new roles & career opportunities**



Kate Wingad
Group Manager, Engineering & Design (Rail)
[John Holland Group](#)

Roundtable 2 🕒 **Managing a diverse team on a high-pressure project**



Portia Pitt
General Manager, Transport
[Ventia](#)

Roundtable 3 🕒 **Safety in action: implementing effective on-site protocols to drive safety & results**

Roundtable 4 🕒 **Overcoming imposter syndrome: strategies to build confidence and thrive**



Roxy Shirvani
Director, Commercial
[Major Road Projects Victoria](#)

Roundtable 5 🕒 **Navigating challenging conversations and uncomfortable situations**



Karin Wallin
Sustainability Operations Lead
[Laing O'Rourke](#)

Roundtable 6 🕒 **Shaping high impact culture & high performance through leadership**

Roundtable 7 🕒 **Mentorship and how to reach out to gain a mentor relevant to your career path**




Tica Can Ge
Senior Structural Engineer
[WGA](#)

17:00 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:05 End of Day 1 & drinks celebration

REGISTER TODAY!

 Fantastic, inciteful and well worth attending. Networking was great with all attendees being very approachable. 💬


Marine & Defence Sales, AusPress Systems (past attendee)

Main Conference Day 2 📅 Thursday, 14 May


08:30 Welcome coffee
08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair

TRANSFORMING WORKPLACE CULTURES


09.00 **Tools, tactics and behaviours to change site culture from the ground up**
Phoebe Theodore


 **Elizabeth McMahon**
Senior Associate, Stakeholder Engagement & Communications ANZ
[Jacobs](#)


09.30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How can mentorship, skills development and real opportunities drive long-term change for women in construction?**

Moderator:  **Angela Oaten**
Chief People & Business Services Officer
[Multiworks](#)

Panelists:

 **Pauline Duncan**
Head of People & Culture
[Mazzei Group](#)

 **Cassandra Chalmers**
Alliance People, Capability & Inclusion Manager
[Fulton Hogan](#)

 **Sophie Green**
Site Engineer
[Wamarra](#)

10.10 Partner presentation
10.30 Morning tea with your peers

11.00 **Solving challenges together: A collaborative problem-solving workshop**
Get ready for a lively session where you'll team up with fellow attendees to tackle the real challenges facing women in construction. Each table will receive a different issue to unpack, discuss, and solve together. Once the group discussions wrap up, tables will share their ideas, and the facilitator will spark a room-wide conversation to take them further.

This is a practical, supportive, and collaborative space designed to surface real solutions you can take back to your workplace. You'll learn from the lived experience, creativity, and wisdom of the women around you.

No theory. No generic recommendations. No platitudes or wishful thinking. Just real-world solutions from peers who've faced down challenges and came out on top.


Issues to explore include:

1. What do you do if you're underpaid, undervalued or overlooked, and how do you get the promotions and pay you deserve?
2. How do you push for fair work allocation, project opportunities and "stretch" roles instead of being stuck with low-visibility or admin-heavy tasks?
3. How do you deal with a difficult, hostile, or challenging colleague, and how does the situation change if it's a peer or a superior?
5. How can you secure flexible work, parental leave, or a unique working arrangement without it being a setback for your career?
6. What do you do if you feel unsafe, isolated or excluded at work, and what approaches work to overcome those challenges?

12.10 Connection Building Lunch

NAVIGATING EMERGING TRENDS & COMPLEXITIES IN CONSTRUCTION


13.10 **Building green, building forward: how sustainability is reshaping construction & your role in 2026**

 **Karin Wallin**
Sustainability Operations Lead
[Laing O'Rourke](#)

13.40 **SKILLS SPOTLIGHT: Communicating complex concepts with clarity and authenticity across disciplines**


 **Siobhan Maxwell**
Group Manager, Hydrology & Drainage, Construction & Engineering Division
[John Holland](#)

14.10 **Female innovators and the next era of digital construction**


 **Rebecca De Cicco**
Global Chair
[Women in BIM](#)

14.40 Afternoon tea with your peers

15.00 **Building the future with data-led digital engineering**


 **Marelise Knobel**
Digital Engineering Lead
[WSP](#)

15.30 **From resistance to results - turning industry shifts into project success & career growth**


 **Sonja Syre**
Director
[Denton Corker Marshall](#)


THRIVING IN CONSTRUCTION


16.00 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How do you thrive on site or in the office? Real strategies for succeeding in the day-to-day reality of construction work**

Moderator:  **Melinda Davis**
General Manager
[Empowered Women in Trades](#)

Panelists:

 **Christina Hung**
Commercial Manager
[Nacap](#)

 **Michelle Riley**
Director Risk & HSE
[Development Victoria](#)

 **Phoebe Theodore**
Director
[ConnellGriffin](#)

16.40 Closing remarks from the Chair

16.45 End of Women in Construction Summit 2026

REGISTER TODAY!



What attendees love the Women in Construction Summit



Very valuable for all women in all stages of their construction careers. ””

Group Commercial Business Systems Manager, **Buildcorp**



Truly invaluable experience. I was impressed with the topics covered over 2 days. ””

Branch Manager, **CNW Electrical Wholesale**



The passion within the room was incredible. ””

Organiser, Construction, **Australian Workers' Union**



It was great to participate in an event with excellent speakers, relevant topics and to socialise with female peers. Sharing experiences and learnings in a safe space reminds you you're not alone. ””

Project Manager, **Zinfra**



Incredibly inspiring and empowering. ””

APM, **Orion Group** (past attendee)



A very diverse collection of women from all aspects of the construction industry, working collaboratively towards a common goal. ””

SMP Operations Manager, **ACCIONA** (past attendee)

Registration

2 DAY STANDARD PACKAGE

Sydney | 6-7 May

Melbourne | 13-14 May

Full access to the 2-day main conference session
All networking sessions
Regular price \$3,695

2 DAY SMALL CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS PACKAGE

Sydney | 6-7 May

Melbourne | 13-14 May

Full access to the 2-day main conference session
All networking sessions
Regular price \$2,695

All prices are inclusive of GST

* Small Construction Business pricing applies only to builders and trades with 50 or fewer employees who actively undertake construction work (self-perform or hold construction contracts). Consultants, vendors, suppliers, technology providers, and other non-building organisations must register at the standard rate.

Important: please familiarise yourself with our cancellation policy and all other terms and conditions before registering for the event. If you have any questions, please call the booking hotline on +61 (0)2 9977 0565

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3-6
delegate package

20%

7-10
delegate package

25%

11+
delegate package

Please note, any eligible group discounts will be applied automatically once the final delegate registration has been completed.

Call our Account Executives with any questions or to discuss the best discount options for you.

Skyla Boer

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✉ skylab@questevents.com.au



Hux Russell

☎ 0431 487 720

✉ huxleyr@questevents.com.au



Position your organisation as an employer of choice by becoming a diversity partner!

This is your chance to position your organisation as a marquee destination for the talented professionals you need on your team by demonstrating your commitment to diversity, equity & inclusion. Simply register 8 or more delegates to attend and you'll also receive:

- Branding as an official Diversity Partner on the conference website, brochure, and select marketing material
- Brand recognition as a premier organisation and a destination employer of choice that supports diversity, equity & inclusion
- Acknowledgement and thanks at the event for your support

Contact **Skyla Boer** at skylab@questevents.com.au or **Hux Russell** at huxleyr@questevents.com.au to make your organisation stand out from the rest.



 **Incredibly inspiring and empowering.** 

Emelia D'Urso, APM, **Orion Group** (past attendee)