



## **SoCLA Conference 2019 – Call for Papers**

### ***“Doing It Overseas: the legal tips and tricks for taking Construction Smarts to foreign jurisdictions”***

**2-3 August 2019, The Westin, Perth**

The SoCLA Conference Subcommittee is calling for papers for its 2019 National Conference to be held at the Westin in Perth on 2-3 August 2019.

It's always fun to go away; even better to go overseas!

Forecasts for the global construction industry are uniform in one respect, we can expect growth and lots of it. Put shortly, more people will want more stuff built in more places.

The drivers for the demand are varied. In the developed world social and industrial infrastructure continues to be ungraded and extended. Not to mention the plethora of commercial, retail and residential building projects that spring from our cities like weeds in springtime. In the developing world, the continuing growth of the middle classes (for example in China and India) creates the need for new social infrastructure (power, water, sewerage, transport, health and education) and the opportunity for private sector investment in retail and commercial infrastructure.

In that context it is not difficult to understand why the construction clairvoyants are predicting (indeed, observing) talent shortages in the construction industry.

The response is straightforward enough in concept, take the smarts to the projects. It is easy enough to say, it is more difficult to do ...

That is the problem the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee hope to solve (or at least better articulate) at the 2019 conference. How to do it overseas, whether it is in relation to bringing specialist construction expertise to Australia or taking Australian construction smarts elsewhere. The legal challenges remain constant.

We hope to have an stimulating (and fun) discussion about all aspects of this tricky problem.

In that vein, the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee is calling for papers to be submitted for one of the following streams:

- **Friend or Foe?** This stream will focus on finding the work and setting up business in distant locations. What are the legal issues to be overcome? How has it been done well? How could it be improved?
- **Here and There.** Many jobs are resourced from both near and far. Papers in this stream will explore the pros and cons of this approach and the legal considerations that attach to the various models of project support. What role will technology play in driving efficiencies in this domain?
- **Getting there.** Moving humans, machines and materials around the globe is no

insignificant exercise. Papers in this stream will explore the legal tips and traps associated with the logistics exercise associated with international construction. How has it been done well? How could it be improved?

- **Breaking up.** Is International Arbitration the panacea to international construction disputes. How can international construction disputes be avoided / made more efficient. [Note places in this stream will be limited].

Of course the questions posed above are only a small sample of the myriad issues the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee hope to ask (and answer!). However, all abstract submittals should carefully consider and focus on the role the body of construction law will (or should) play as we seek answers to these questions.

While the preference is to have papers in the streams described above, the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee reserves the right to allow abstracts into the conference that are within the general scope of the conference even if they do not talk directly to one of the above streams.

### Timeline for Submission of Abstracts and Papers



Submissions must be made before 5pm WST on the due date.

Abstracts and/or papers received after the advertised closing date and time may not be accepted in the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee's absolute discretion.



## Rules for Abstracts and Papers

By submitting an abstract the submitted confirms his or her agreement to comply with these rules for Abstracts and Papers. A signed copy of this document should accompany any abstract. Failure to do so may result in your abstract not being considered for inclusion in the conference program.

- The abstract and the paper should be sent in native form (e.g. \*.doc, \*.docx).
  - The abstract must be between 500 and 750 words.
  - The paper must not exceed 5,500 words.

*The word limit relates only to the text of the abstract and **does not** include title, authors, institutions, footnotes or references.*

- All abstracts and papers must be submitted electronically to [socla\\_callforpapers@scl.org.au](mailto:socla_callforpapers@scl.org.au) and comply with the Australian Guide to Legal Citation: [https://law.unimelb.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/2877782/AGLC3.pdf](https://law.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2877782/AGLC3.pdf)
- **Submitters of abstracts must provide two copies of the abstract, one showing the author's details and one with any identification of the author removed. This is to allow a proper peer review process to take place efficiently.**
- The title must clearly characterise the issue to be presented.
- The paper should identify (and be relevant to) the theme of the conference and a stream of discussion identified above.
- The paper must be an original work, not having been published elsewhere. Although the conference committee reserves the right to accept previously published work where it is relevant and of exceptional quality.
- Where it is proposed to present the results of any empirical research the approach and the results must be clear from the paper. In any event the paper must draw a clear conclusion.
- The paper must contain sufficient information so that if published it will be a complete report independent of presentation.
- Papers containing brochures or advertising material will be rejected. Brand-names can be mentioned under the responsibility of the authors.
- Where the abstract is accepted:
  - The author (or at least one of them where there is more than one author) must register (and pay) to attend the conference within 14 days of receiving notice of acceptance of their abstract. Failure to register (and pay) to attend the conference may result in the acceptance being withdrawn.
  - The author(s) must submit a fully developed paper in accordance with these



rules and any accompanying presentation to the conference committee by the date set out above or such further date as may be agreed.

- The author(s) authorise the conference committee to publish the paper and any accompanying presentation (each in PDF format or such other form as may be agreed) to the conference attendees and on the [www.scl.org.au](http://www.scl.org.au) website.
- **[Please strike out the following clause if no permission is given]** The author(s) acknowledge that the conference committee may arrange for the presentation of the abstract to be recorded (video and audio). The author(s) give SoCLA permission to publish the recording on the [www.scl.org.au](http://www.scl.org.au) website or such other website as SoCLA decides in its absolute discretion.

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**Name**

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**Date**