

curriculum vitae

Russell Smith



Qualifications

Bachelor of Engineering
(Civil, Honours)
Municipal Engineers
Certificate

Country experience

Australia, New Zealand,
Philippines

Nationality

Australian

Contacts

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Career Highlights

Russell is a civil engineer with over 40 years experience covering auditing, planning, design, construction and operations of infrastructure assets as well as consulting to the utility sector on asset management issues. He has completed numerous auditing and asset management commissions focused on improving the management of infrastructure to ensure effective and efficient service delivery.

He is one of the authors of the International Infrastructure Management Manual and was a presenter for over 35 two-day asset management workshops on behalf of the National Asset Management Steering Group in New Zealand. These projects received a Silver Award of Merit on the 1998 Association of Consulting Engineers NZ Excellence Awards. He was also project manager and author for the production of an asset management manual for local government in Australia in 1994.

He has completed numerous asset management training workshops for the Institute of Public Works Engineering in Australia and the Association of Local Government Engineers in NZ covering the principles of Asset Management, development of Asset Management Plans, risk evaluation and levels of service development.

Russell was an engineer and manager at Melbourne Water (formerly the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works) for 20 years before leaving to undertake consulting work.

He has worked as a consultant for Gutteridge Haskins and Davey (GHD), Meritec Australia P/L and Maunsell Australia P/L.

As a consultant Russell has been responsible for provision of asset management consulting services to infrastructure owners and utilities including status assessments, business plan development, asset management plans, industry structure reviews, asset valuations, industry policy preparation and procedures manuals and asset management training.

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Experience Highlights

Selected projects by type include:

Audits and Advice

Asset Management Plan Improvement, Coliban Water, 2014

Adviser. Provided advice to Coliban Water in preparation of asset management plans for specific asset groups as part of general management improvement.

Asset Management Systems Advice, Port of Melbourne, 2010 and 2011

Adviser. Input to enhancement of asset management information system and support tools for Port of Melbourne. Best practice models defined and applied.

Capital Efficiency Reviews for Water Corporation of WA, 2005 and 2006

Project Manager. Prepared reports defining and measuring capital efficiency against the annual capital budget for internal reporting and advice to the State regulator.

Asset Management Effectiveness Review for Water Corporation of WA, 2002, 2005 and 2007

Project Manager. Reviewed and reported the effectiveness of asset management practices at Water Corporation of Western Australia for submission to the Economic Regulatory Authority.

Audit of Asset Management Practices for Essential Services Commission, 2005, 2006

Specialist Auditor. Provided asset management audits of several Victorian water businesses as part of ESC operational audits for regulatory compliance assessment in 2005.

Regulatory Audits of Water Businesses in Victoria for Essential Services Commission, 2005 and 2007

Specialist Auditor. Audited asset management practices of select water businesses as part of regulatory audits carried out every 2 years.

Drainage Audits for Victorian Auditor-General, 2005

Specialist Auditor. Responsible for audits of several councils and Melbourne Water to establish the effectiveness of asset management practices with respect to stormwater management.

Regulatory Reporter for Transend, The Tasmanian Energy Regulator, 2005

Project team member. Responsible for an asset management review at Transend as part of providing a regulatory compliance report to the Tasmanian Energy Regulator on Transends operating licence compliance.

Asset Management Benchmarking Programme, Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA), 2004

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Client Manager and Audit Team Leader: Responsible for undertaking audits of various water authorities participating in the programme, compiling benchmark results; identifying areas for potential improvements in Asset Management for each authority through production of a comprehensive audit report; and facilitating a best practice workshop to assist in sharing information on best practice identified throughout the project.

Capital Expenditure and Operating Expenditure Review, ActewAGL, 2003

Project Manager. A review of the processes and outcomes of the development of capital and recurrent expenditure projections for water and electricity businesses as part of the business's regulatory reset program.

Asset Base, Capital Expenditure and Operating Expenditure Reviews of ElectraNet SA, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, 2002

Project Manager. Review and report to ACCC on the suitability of the asset base, capital and operating expenditures submitted by ElectraNet SA for its regulatory price reset.

Infrastructure Valuations

Valuation of Shipping Channel, Port of Brisbane, 2011

DORC Valuation Adviser. Advised AECOM on the best way to provide a Depreciated Optimised Replacement Cost valuation of the shipping channel assets serving the port of Brisbane.

Development of Valuation Indices for Water Businesses, Vicwater, 2009

DORC valuation expert. Advised Vicwater, as agent for Victorian regional water businesses, of the suitability of cost indices for adjustment of DORC valuations.

DORC Valuation of Mt Isa to Townsville Line, Queensland Rail, 2009

DORC Valuation Specialist. Provided Expert advice on valuation of Rail network assets for Regulatory Pricing Review.

Review of Valuations of Bulk Sugar Terminals, National Australia Bank, 2007/2008

Valuation Expert. Advised NAB of the quality of the DORC valuations provided for lending arrangements as part of sale of bulk sugar terminals in Queensland.

Abbott Point Coal Terminal, Queensland, 2008

Valuation Expert. Advised Ports Corporation Queensland on the quality of DORC valuations provided by Connell Hatch for regulatory purposes.

Asset Revaluation for Financial Reporting, Actew Corporation, 2007

Project Manager. Revalued the water assets of Actew Corporation using deprival value principles to update the financial register.

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Asset Revaluation, North East Water, 2005

Project Manager. Russell managed the revaluation of the infrastructure assets of North East Water using DORC principles. He was assisted by DTZ who valued the property assets.

DBCT Valuations, Queensland Competition Authority, 2003 – 2005

DORC Valuation Specialist. Russell was appointed to provide valuation review and advice using DORC valuation principles to QCA for its regulatory pricing review of the Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal operated by Prime Infrastructure.

Asset Valuations, Gippsland Water, 2003-2004

Project Manager. Gippsland Water required valuation of its infrastructure assets as part of its preparation for a regulatory price review in 2004. The valuation approach adopted was the depreciated optimised replacement cost model.

Valuation of Electricity and Water Assets, ActewAGL, 2003

Project Manager. The preparation of asset valuations for the regulatory reset process for ActewAGL taking account of current valuation processes.

New Zealand Local Government, Preparation of Valuations for District Rolls, 2001

Project Team Member. Determined the values applicable to utility business assets as part of establishment of district valuation rolls for rating purposes.

National Asset Management Steering Group, NZ Infrastructure Valuation Guidelines, February 2000 – July 2001

Valuation Specialist. Preparation of national guidelines for the ODRC valuation of infrastructure assets in New Zealand

Asset Management Plans

Asset Management Plan Preparation, Port of Melbourne, 2010 and 2011

Project Manager. Prepared asset management plans for select asset groups managed by the Port of Melbourne to demonstrate effective and efficient long term management.

Asset Management Plan Preparation, SBS Corporation, NSW, 2009

Project Manager. Prepared an asset management plan for the building assets of SBS Corporation to improve the management of these critical assets in line with corporate objectives for reliable television and radio services.

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Asset Management Plan Preparation, Rural Councils, NSW, 2005-2006

Specialist Adviser. Assisting Parkes, Weedin, Lachlan, Forbes, Orange, Wellington, Blayney and Cabonne Councils to prepare asset management plans for selected asset groups and services.

Asset Management Plan Preparation, Westernport Water, Vic, 2005-2006

Project Manager. Assisting Westernport Water to prepare asset management plans.

Development of Asset Management Plans, Maroochy Shire Council, QLD, 2003

Project Manager. Responsible to improve the asset management plans (12) prepared by the council to input to the annual budgetary processes and advise council of the long term expenditure requirements of the assets.

Rail Access Corporation of NSW, Asset Management Plans Review, 2000

Project Manager. Reviewed content and quality of asset management plans including expenditure projections being prepared by the Rail Access Corporation to support planning and budgetary processes in the business.

Westar Gas Business, Victoria, Asset Management Plan and Asset Management Improvement Plan, 1998

Project Manager. As part of the preparation of Westar gas business for privatisation an asset management plan and an improvement strategy were produced. This documentation provided data for the sale process including life cycle cost projections.

Asset Management Improvement Strategies

Hobart Water, Levels of Service Definition, 2006

Team Member. Prepared levels of service statements for public and internal use as part of an asset management improvement program for the water business

Central Highlands Water, Victoria, Asset Management Improvement Strategy, 2002

Project Manager. Review of the current status of infrastructure management activities at Central Highlands Water and development of an improvement programme aimed at improving the sophistication of infrastructure management activities.

Christchurch City Council, New Zealand, Audit of Asset Management, 2000

Project Team Member. Reviewed the status of asset management for the Christchurch City Council as part of the development of improvement projects.

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Maynilad Water, Philippines, Preparation of Asset Management Improvement Plan and Asset Condition Report, 1999

Project Manager. Prepared an asset management improvement plan and a state of the assets report to assist the water business in Manila to satisfy regulatory requirements under its 15 year contract for management of water services in Manila.

Watercare Services Ltd NZ, Asset Management Status Review and Improvement Plan, Annually 1997 – 2006

Project Team Member. Review of Watercare's current asset management practices (business processes, information systems, asset data, commercial tactics and organisational structure) and development & implementation of an asset management improvement programme for water supply and wastewater business units. Audits were included in Annual Report for the business.

Other Projects

STEPS Program for Local Government, Victoria, 2002 to 2011

Consulting Team Member. Providing advice to councils in Victoria on asset management improvement as part of STEPS program run through Municipal Association of Victoria. Client councils include rural and metropolitan councils under a continuous improvement program. I have been on this team since its inception in 2002.

International Infrastructure Management Manual Preparation and Update, National Asset Management Steering Group, NZ, and Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia, 1998, 2002, 2005

Author. Preparation and updating of the International Infrastructure Management Manual to reflect current international best practice for the management of infrastructure assets and changes in legislation & accounting standards.

National Asset Management Steering Group NZ, Infrastructure Asset Management Training, 1996 to 2001

Specialist Trainer. Provision of two and three-day workshops on asset management concepts and techniques.