



## Services Summit 2009 Spending on Infrastructure Applauded

The Association of Consulting Engineers Australia (ACEA) has applauded the Rudd Government for its continued commitment to infrastructure development at the Australian Services Roundtable Summit held at Parliament House today.

Mr John Darmody, Managing Director for MWH, representing the ACEA at today's Summit said,

"Historically, many of our country's most important infrastructure advancements have been made on the back of, or in the wake of, turbulent times and often with a great deal of associated controversy. To ride out the current crisis, we must have a far-sighted outlook, and the courage to embark upon something significant. Otherwise, at the end of the recession we will have nothing to show for it."

The Summit, which was attended by service industry leaders and policy makers, provided an opportunity to explore the issues facing business. The ACEA has identified as a priority the need to assist in the delivery of the infrastructure projects identified in the Government's Nation Building and Jobs Plan.

"The consulting engineering industry stands ready to assist state and territory governments in achieving their deadlines for school upgrades and new facilities," says ACEA Chief Executive Megan Motto.

"The early engagement of industry about the timetable and methods of delivery for the roll-out of the projects will help to ensure their success. Where model designs are to be used, school principals will need engineering and project support to ensure that the best outcomes are achieved in the time allowed." Ms Motto says.

The speed in which these projects are delivered will also be assisted by developing standard contractual terms with industry.

"The ACEA seeks to engage with state and territory governments at the earliest opportunity to agree straight forward contractual arrangements introduced, so that time is not wasted in contractual negotiations."

The ACEA looks forward to constructive dialogue with the Federal, state and territory government over the coming weeks.

Ends

For more information please call Megan Motto on 02 99224711 or 0411 104 458.

### **ABOUT ACEA**

*The Association of Consulting Engineers Australia (ACEA) is an industry body representing the business interests of firms providing engineering, technology and management consultancy services. ACEA represents over 260 firms, from large multidisciplinary corporations to small niche practices, across a range of engineering fields with a total of some 45,000 employees.*

### **About MWH**

*MWH is a US-headquartered, private, employee-owned consulting engineering firm with around 7,000 people worldwide. MWH provides water, wastewater, energy, natural resource, program management, consulting and construction services to government and private sector clients across the globe. For more information, visit [www.mwhglobal.com](http://www.mwhglobal.com).*