

Finding, Creating and Educating the Next Generation of Surveyors

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SUMMARY

The shortage of surveyors is being felt across the world and it is time we as an industry come together to solve this problem. We can no longer leave it to the government, or education bodies - only the profession can create change within the profession.

Since 2012, the Association of Consulting Surveyors (ACS) in Australia has been carrying out research to prove statistically that there are not enough surveyors and geospatial professionals in our country to carry out the work that is required across the property, construction and mining sectors. The most recent report will be available for discussion at FIG Working Week revealing a significant shortage for the next 10 years and a workforce capability gap adding pressure to an already stretched profession. (See Abstract: Determining the Future Demand, Supply and Skills Gap for Surveying and Geospatial Professionals for Australia: 2022-2032)

ACS has come together across Australia to address the issue and has seen increase in the number of surveyors since 2012. This presentation will highlight how the profession has worked together nationally to address the skills shortage issues through:

1. Creation of a Taskforce that is taking surveying into schools, including surveying case studies for students to study throughout their high school years in mathematics and STEM subjects, with increased interest across Geography and History.
2. Creation of a "Surveyors Academy" to provide the technical training for those entering the workforce or wanting to "try surveying" before embarking in a 3-4 year degree. ACS has developed the content, the teachers and training that works within surveying firms, where students are trained "on-the-job" as well as receiving theoretical training through online teacher-led

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training

3. Creation of a "Business Academy" to provide the professional training required to lead a professional surveying practice. Surveyors learn surveying at College/University - they don't learn how to run the business. And yet, after graduating and achieving their license, there is an expectation they will now run the business, or lead a team or unit within a larger firm. But no-one has taught them the important people, finance, leadership, marketing, risk management and other skills required to run a successful surveying firm.

This presentation will highlight the success stories being achieved across Australia as together, the industry seeks to promote the value of surveying and show the general public, politicians and government and the next generation the important role of surveying.

It starts with us. The current generation of surveying and geospatial professionals. We must acknowledge the value we bring to the broader economy and work more closely together within our regions, our states, our country and our world to ensure that the surveying profession remains strong. Only we can tell the stories that will attract the next generation to our profession. Only we can showcase the value we add to the economy. Surveyors are the problem solvers of the world and now it's time we start solving our own problems - finding and creating the next generation of surveyors.

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