



Steel Stewardship Forum

Responsiblesteel

The Beginnings of the Steel Stewardship Forum

The Steel Stewardship Forum was initiated in Australia as a concept in June 2007 by:

- ❖ Mick Roche – The creator of the Green Lead program when he was at BHP Billiton's Cannington Mine. Mick was at this time manager of product stewardship across BHP Billiton, one of the worlds largest resource companies and has been involved in the development of stewardship programs for a number of commodities. Mick was intimately involved in the formation and implementation of the Responsible Jewellery program. He now runs his own consultancy company based in South Australia
- ❖ Joe Herbertson – Principal of Crucible Carbon, a sustainability consultancy company working with the Australian steel industry on life cycle performance.
- ❖ Phillip Toyne – Director of Ecofutures and secretariat of Green Lead, the global lead stewardship program involving the lead battery life cycle. Phillip was involved in advising the Australian Infrastructure Council on developing their Sustainability Action Plan.

Mick, Joe and Phillip together with Peter Glazebrook from Rio Tinto were the authors of the Australian Government handbook on stewardship ' Stewardship - Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry' published in 2006.

Mick and Peter were also involved in the APEC workshop on stewardship and life cycle partnerships held in conjunction with the APEC Ministers Responsible For Mining meeting (MRM3) held in February 2007.

The MRM3 Joint Ministerial Statement included:

Sustainable Development – Implementation

Recognising the importance of APEC producer and consumer economies taking responsibility over the life cycle of minerals resources utilisation, and the benefits of capacity building initiatives between APEC economies, we noted that:

- Life cycle partnerships involve participants working together to ensure that mining materials and products are produced consumed and disposed inn a responsible manner.*

Among the 10 Mining Policy Principles that APEC Ministers agreed were:

- Viii – In partnership with all life cycle participants, ensure that materials and products made from minerals and metals are produced, consumed, recycles or disposed of in a responsible manner.*
- Ix – Encourage all participants in the life cycle of a material or product to take direct responsibility for their area of action, and a shared concern over other stages of the life cycle.*

It was a belief that a steel stewardship program would make a positive contribution to implementing sustainable development to the steel life cycle, especially in the APEC economies.

At a workshop on Stewardship – Life Cycle partnerships held in Beijing in November 2007 it was agreed that Australia would develop a steel stewardship model that could be shared with other APEC economies.

A meeting of interested parties was held in Melbourne in March 2008 were it was decided to pursue the development of a more formal forum. The Steel Stewardship Forum was born.

The initial meeting was attended by:

BHP Billiton, BlueScope Steel, The Crucible, Ecofutures, GHD, The Green Building Council of Australia, OneSteel, Rio Tinto, WWF Australia, Federal Government (DRET), Eden Project (UK) and World Steel.

Ms Anthea Tinny, former Deputy Secretary, Department of Environment and Heritage chaired the forum.

Steel Stewardship Forum formation work took place between 2008 and 2010 consisting of:

- Finalisation of the Terms of Reference, Constitution and Rules.

- Developing full project briefs with preliminary costing, for the 3 prioritised projects
- Presenting, with the assistance of DRET, to the APEC Mining Ministers meeting in Japan the learning's so far in setting up a stewardship scheme such as this.
- Presentation to Federal Government departments, DRET, DEWHA, DIISR and AusIndustry, on the forum, key projects and funding needs.
- Moving the secretariat and general administration to be a part of the Australian Steel Institute. This gave us a strong link to Australia's peak steel representative body with the additional benefit of reducing our overhead and admin costs.

2010+

The Forum has identified two projects of fundamental importance to the stewardship of steel, 'Responsible Steel', and 'The Steel Chain Footprint. Development funding has been secured from the Federal, New South Wales and Victorian Governments and combined with project contributions from members will enable these projects to commence.

For the latest information go to the Steel Stewardship Forum website at

www.steelstewardship.com

Or contact:

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