



NEWSLETTER

July 2006

President's Message – Lee Johnson *MIFireE*

Welcome to the ARRO newsletter.

By now the final touches have been made to the preparation for Australasian Rescue Challenge (ARC) 2006 from 20 – 23 July in Adelaide. A fantastic response from rescuers will see 23 teams taking part in the rescue challenge.

Virtually every rescue agency in Australasia is represented and I look forward to a successful event and trust that all challenge participants enjoy the experience and take away from ARC 2006 good memories and new knowledge to share with their colleagues in rescue.

The committee has recently received the resignation from ARRO of long standing member and PR/Media coordinator Peter Cocks.

Peter has given outstanding service to ARRO with his knowledge of media and in particular his work in the area of sponsorship. Peter has decided to relinquish his role with ARRO as the result of taking up new employment with St John Ambulance Victoria. I am sure that ARRO members wish Peter all the best for the future.

The committee has decided at this time not to fill the casual vacancy left by Peter and we will consider the structure of the committee in more detail at the next general meeting.

ARRO will be sending four (4) delegates to the WRC in SA in October 2006 to ensure that we are well represented at the WRO Annual General Meeting. This will be an important meeting to determine the future of WRO. There have been many difficulties in engaging all countries on an equal footing, unfortunately not all rescue organisations are as well organised and financial as ARRO. I will keep you informed as to the outcomes.

In Australia, the Tasmanian Government has made a decision to transfer responsibility for road rescue from the Ambulance Service to the Fire Service, this has resulted in Ambulance officers being upset with and opposed to the decision. The Ambulance Service has provided rescue in Tasmania for many years, however, the majority of road rescue providers in all other states and territories are either Fire Service or SES units and some other specialist rescue squads.

ARRO welcomes all rescuers from whatever agency they come from and I trust that this issue will be resolved in the near future as we all have to work together on road for the benefit of those who are entrapped as a result of a road accident.

All the best, see you in Adelaide

Membership/Assessor Co-ordinator – Steve Rothwell

5 Step Process for Assessor Applicants

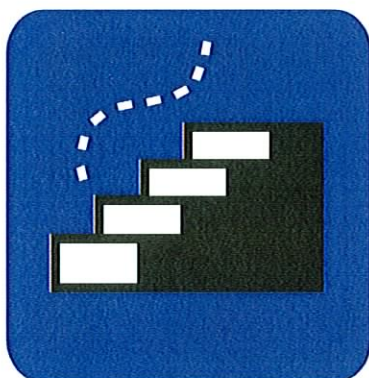
1. Financial Applicants upload Assessor History etc. to ARRO Website

2. Assessor Reports provided to the Assessor Co-Ordinator for tabling at the Technical Committee Meeting.

3. At the Technical Committee Meeting jobs are reviewed on the web-site – in conjunction with Assessor Reports and substantiate claims.

4. At the Technical Committee Meeting the website is updated accordingly with automatic emails sent to applicants.

5. Where appropriate, letters are sent to successful/unsuccessful applicants by Assessor Co-ordinator



ASSESSORS - FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION!!!

▪ **Re ARRO Assessor overalls.**

The ARRO Committee has decided to obtain a stock of ARRO Assessor overalls to meet the needs of new assessors that are approved by the Committee.

The style of overalls is similar to the tailored Cant Tear' Em, ambulance cut style without reflective tape. They will include your given and family name embroidered on, and 3 patches sewn on. You must provide me with your agency or organisation badge by mail.

The Committee has agreed to subsidise the purchase cost of all these overalls and a new pair will be available at \$100 !!! This is a considerable savings. If you are interested in obtaining a new pair and subject to size availability please contact David Coldbeck on 0438723556 or fax an order to 0355711270

✂ -----

Given Name: _____ Family Name _____
(Indicate in capitals how your name is to appear on the overalls.)

Overall Size. Eg 98 R 102 R 107 S (make sure this is correct as the overalls will not be exchanged)

Do you require a second/third pair @\$100 each? YES/ NO (Circle your answer) Amount.....

Payment details: chq/money order. _____ Complete the following credit card details:

Please charge my: MasterCard. Visa. (Circle type of card.)

Card Number _____ . Name on card

Expiry date:..... Amount \$ Signature

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN BY FAX/MAIL/EMAIL ASAP.

David Coldbeck

ARRO Treasurer

decold@ansoniac.com.au

Enlarged Technical Committee meeting:

Further to the update in the last newsletter, both the ARRO Technical and Executive Committees spent considerable time discussing this issue at their recent meetings in Adelaide. Given that most of the key people able to contribute to the discussions will be in Adelaide for ARC06 (the Australasian Challenge 2006), it was agreed the easiest logistically was to tie the meeting in with the challenge. To that end, ARRO President, Lee Johnson, will be writing to the CEO's of all agencies involved in road rescue in Australia and New Zealand, inviting them to send two representatives to the meeting, which will be held on the Monday immediately following the challenge (Monday 24th July) at the CFS Headquarters in Adelaide (walking distance from the main event hotel). Timing and the program are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. If you would like to attend as an agency representative, you need to contact your CEO's office.

New Assessors:

At the last ARRO Technical Committee, applications from ARRO members to be admitted to the various Assessor levels were considered. The Technical Committee is pleased to announce the following members have been admitted as Assessors:

Regional/Agency Level:

Don Mahoney (Medical) – St John Ambulance (NZ)

Penny Murray (Medical) – St John Ambulance (NZ)

Daryl Trim – NZFS

Royce Tatham – NZFS

David Stackhouse – NZFS

David Mitton – NZFS

Phillip Williams – NZFS

Dr Barry Gilbert (Medical) – VICSES

Priscilla Palich – VICSES

Tim Wiebusch – VICSES

Australasian Level (from ARC05, Hamilton, NZ):

Paul Octigan – VICSES

World Level (from WRC05, Hamilton, NZ):

Graeme Poulton – VICSES

Michael Jahnes – QFRS

Leo Cartwright (Medical) – RAV

Rick Kehoe (Medical) – RAV

Michael Vanderzalm – VICSES

Greg Stone – CFS

Congratulations to everyone!!

New Car Technology – Inflatable seat belts:

An article by Robert Wilson published on 19 April 2006 in The Australian detailed some new technology that will again challenge rescuers – inflatable seat belts. The article is re-printed in our newsletter and attached, apologies for the quality of the scanned copy – the article has been re-typed for your convenience, however the graphic is still poor. If you hear of any other advancements in technology, please send the information in to anyone on the ARRO committee.

World Rescue Challenge 2006:

WRC06 will be hosted by Rescue South Africa on 8 – 14 October this year in Cape Town, South Africa. The organisers have established a web site detailing the program of activities that will include a 'hi-angle' challenge as well. Details can be accessed via the WRO web site (www.wrescue.org) or via the links to WRO on the ARRO web site.

The organisers are keen to get an indication of any teams that plan on participating in WRC06. Other than the 2005 Australasian Champions, NSWFB Burwood, the ARRO Executive is not aware of any other teams planning on going. If you are, please drop a note to ARRO Secretary, Glen Maule and let us know.

Challenges – Daryl Rush

DES/QFRS State RAR Committee – use of ARRO Technical Bulletins

Story by Executive Committee Member Daryl Rush

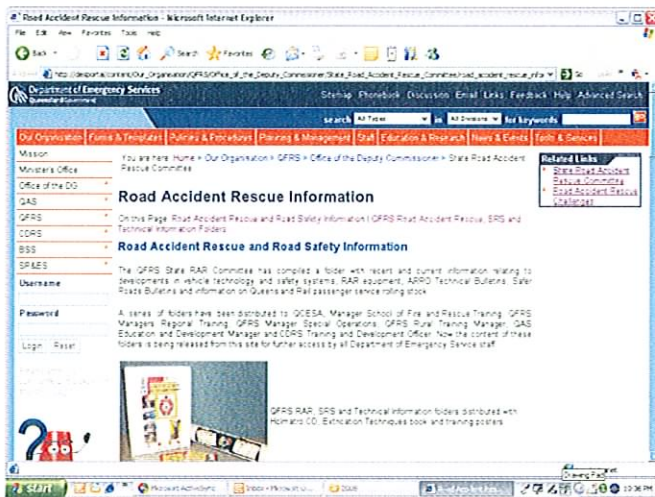
ARRO produces many Technical Bulletins (with input from members) for the use of members and member agencies that are technical in nature and are produced in an Adobe pdf format.

The Department of Emergency Services (DES) is a Queensland Government department and has within its structure the following agencies:

Minister's Office,
Office of the Director General,
Queensland Ambulance Service,
Queensland Fire and Rescue Service,

Emergency Management Queensland
Business Support Services, and
Strategic Policy and Executive Services.

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) State RAR Committee has utilised the services of the Department of Emergency Services (DES) Portal, to list specific details of the QFRS State RAR Committee role and functions.

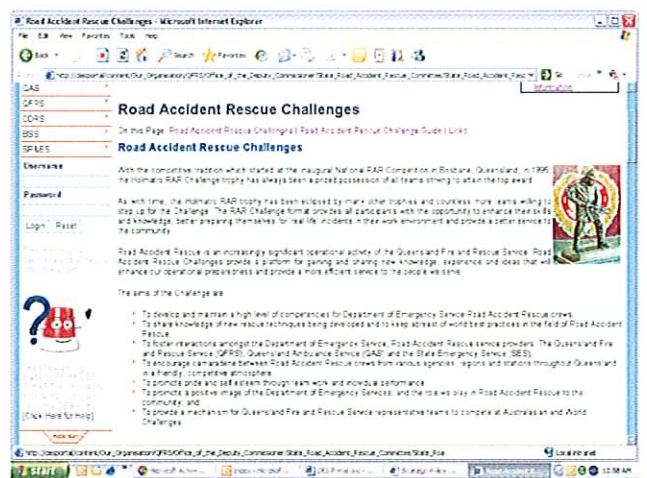
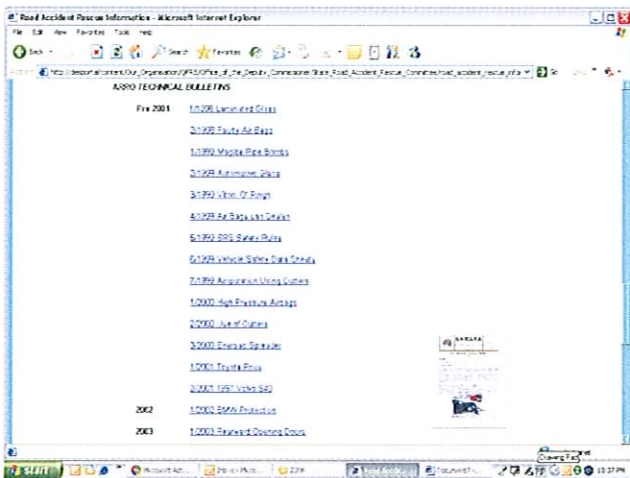


The Portal provides access for all DES staff to access information from either their workplace or home.

This resource is proving very valuable as many documents can be placed on the Portal and downloaded through 'external access'.

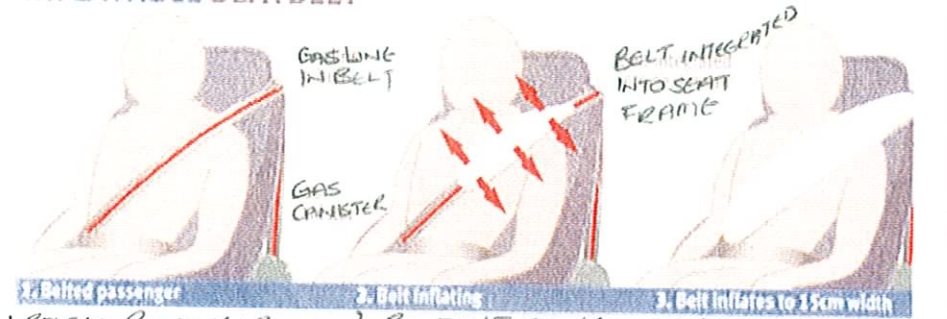
This ensures all DES staff can access the documents and view the issues identified, thereby enhancing their awareness of the current issues, regardless of which agency represent.

The QFRS State RAR Committee has specifically included on the Portal, a section that gives users access to the full compliment of ARRO Technical Bulletins as they are released. Other pages also include details and information that relate to the Regional and State RAR Challenges that the QFRS host.



With the continued evolution of Information Technology, ARRO, in partnership with agencies like the DES/QFRS, is playing a major role in ensuring that rescuers have a broad range of information through the Technical Bulletins, and that they are in a user friendly format when ever required.

INFLATABLE SEATBELT



1. BELTED PASSENGER 2. BELT INFLATING 3. BELT INFLATES TO 15CM WIDTH

SINCE their introduction in the 1959 Volvo P120, lap-sash seatbelts have been about 5cm wide. It's less than the ideal width for protecting bodies in a crash but is a compromise with convenience. Racing cars use wider belts in their harness systems but don't face the same issues of durability and ease of use.

Ford demonstrated an inflatable seatbelt at the 2001 Detroit motor show and showed it again at Detroit this year on its Reflex concept. The system comprises a seatbelt containing an airbag that inflates when a car is involved in a crash. The airbag increases the belt's surface area, spreading the crash impact across the wearer's chest

and reducing the chance of injury.

Ford says the system is of most benefit to rear passengers, because it is easier to fit and more effective than a rear seat frontal airbag. The belt inflates with compressed air rather than the chemical gas generators of normal airbags.

Inflatable seatbelts are already in widespread use on aircraft, ranging from Cessna light planes to Airbuses. They are found on pilots' seats and some business class cabins where widely spaced seats mean passengers cannot be cushioned in a crash by the padded pack of the seat in front.

Robert Wilson

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