The Geosynthetics Interest Group (ABN 27 845 329 614), trading/known as

Australasian Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society (ACIGS)

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 12th November 2026
4:00pm AEST time
at Greentec / Sigma office in Brisbane & via Zoom

acigs.org

The Home of Geosynthetics

Opening

Administration

> We thank Greentec / Sigma for the physical location

> Attendees are asked to hold questions for a brief Q&A at the end of each agenda item

> Zoom access is via meeting format, please raise any questions in the Q&A section



Opening



Agenda

- President’s report
- Treasurer’s report
- Taskforce reports
  - Events Taskforce report - Ryan
  - Communication Taskforce report - Alicja
  - Membership Taskforce report - Graham
  - Technical Taskforce report - Jonathan
- Voting topics
- Any other business
- Conclusion

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President's Report

Graham Fairhead



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President's Report

Society Objectives

- IGS is a learned society dedicated to the scientific and engineering development of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies.
- A global community of >45 chapters, >4,000 members, including corporate, individual and student members, with a shared passion for what geosynthetics can achieve.
- We provide greater understanding of geosynthetic technology and promote its appropriate use throughout the world. Geosynthetics can make a fundamental contribution to meeting societal challenges through sustainable technological and engineering solutions.
- Acigs deliver these objectives through
  - Conferences
  - Webinars
  - Educational Initiatives
  - Encouraging membership and participation
  - Journals

President's Report

The ACigs society is mature and effectively managed

- Energetic and collaborative executive committee team completing year two of the two-year elected term
- High technical standards, review processes lead by Jonathan
- Responsible financial management, including a financial audit
- Appropriate insurances
- Have the capability to deliver major events



Graham Fairhead
President



Ryan Hackney
Vice President



Liza Du Preez
Treasurer



Alicja Borysewicz -Slabik
Secretary



Siamak Paulson
Past President

President's Report

Elected Officers

- Two-year term
- Formal nomination and member vote procedure
- New positions for the 2027 – 2028 term
- Experienced and committed officer group
- Encourage all members to join comittees



Liza Du Preez
President



Jonathan Shamrock
Vice President



Brendan Swift
Treasurer



Alicja Borysewicz -Slabik
Secretary



Graham Fairhead
Past President

President's Report

Taskforces – Established Protocol

> Bylaws allow for taskforces to support the Executive Committee

> An Executive Committee member will lead each taskforce

> ACigs members are invited to participate in the taskforces

> Delegates from the taskforce may be invited to Executive Committee meetings

> The scope, activities & targets for each taskforce can be established

> Roger Britto has been elected by member ballot as Young Member Chair replacing Catherine Haynes

Young Members	Events	Membership	Technical	Communications
Action Young Member items Communicate & energise Increase student members	In-person events Seminars, EtE, workshops etc across NZ, Australia, PNG & Pacific Webinars Forums	Individual, Student, Company, Honorary NZ, Australia, PNG & Pacific	Review technical content for independence, accuracy & relevancy for webinars, events, case studies etc Review Young Member projects	Coordinate communications with members, IGS & others

President's Report

Secretariat

> Responsible for specific administration tasks

> Rhiannon Lisle

Communications

Monday Bulletin - Weekly email
Company case studies
Event registration & CPD
GNA interaction
Young Member communications
Annual photo competition

Digital

Website
LinkedIn

Membership

New membership packs
Company case studies
Maintain membership database

President's Report

Strategic Focus

- Increased focus on young member engagement
- Develop EtE #3 using new guidelines to sent an IGS benchmark (Nov 2026)
- GeoANZ 2027 – maintaining the high standard (July 2027)
- Maintain/grow Company member base and provide a valued service
- Maintain a high technical standard in all activities
- Engage with other societies
  - IAGI
  - QTG
  - FGI
- Leverage IGS initiatives, e.g. IGS Handbook
- Maintain & grow international experts' network

ACIGS Company Members 2026

Platinum Company Members

COLETANCHE by AXTER

Cooley Group

FABTECH A TASMEA COMPANY

GEOFABRICS Sustainable solutions

GEOQ

terra firma laboratories

MACCAFERRI

Gold Company Members

ATARFIL Geomembranes

ELIS TECH AUSTRALIA GEOMEMBRANE LEAK DETECTION

ExcelPlas MATERIALS TESTING

Global Synthetics LEADERS IN GEOSYNTHETICS

GPIL GEOSYNTHETIC PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL Global Partners Value Engineering Local Solutions

GREENTEC CONSULTING SIGMA Geo Environment

hazellbros

HUESKER Ideas. Engineers. Innovations.

HUITEX

MERIT LINING SYSTEMS PTY LTD

Naue

Polyfabrics A Tapex Group Company

SOLMAX

STRATA

Tonkin+Taylor

TRI AUSTRALASIA

Treasurer's Report



Liza du Preez

ACigs Financial Report

1st November 2025 to 31 Ocotober 2026

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Treasurer's Report

Income and Expenditure Summary 2026

- GeoAsia8
  - Total Payment $ 44,469.78 (USD 25,000)
- GEOANZ 2027
  - $20,000 Seed Fund
- Financial Audit
- Entertainment cost for 2025 AGM dinner
- IT includes Zoom, MS Teams, email/web domain annual costs
- Website ongoing maintenance costs
- At 31st October 2026, ACIGS had $41,856.05 in bank (from $75,509.85 at 1st November 2024)
- Without GeoAsia8 we would have a profit of $10,805.98

	1 Nov 2025 to 31 Oct 2026
Membership	$46,918.42
Webinar Sponsorshop	$7,470.00
Event/ Activity Income	$18,534.55
Total Income	**$72,922.97**

Bank fees	$137.54
IGS Fees	$3,589.92
Consumer Affairs	$47.70
Email communications	$5,384.37
Event/ Activity expenses	$77,102.55
Insurance	$1,916.72
Audit	$5,028.05
Job Shadowing	$0.00
Photo competition	$0.00
Secretariat	$4,170.75
Student project	$0.00
Travel & entertainment	$1,924.00
Website	$5,781.13
IT	$1,504.04
Fraud	$0.00
Total Expenses	**$106,586.77**
Profit/Loss	**-$33,663.80**

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Treasurer's Report

Income and Expenditure Summary YOY

	1 Nov 2022 to 31 Oct 2023	1 Nov 2023 to 31 Oct 2024	1 Nov 2024 to 31 Oct 2025	1 Nov 2025 to 31 Oct 2026
Membership	$21,368.85	$42,915.28	$39,793.60	$46,918.42
Webinar Sponsorshop	$500.00	$0.00	$3,500.00	$7,470.00
Event/ Activity Income	$63,524.03	$46,505.28	$7,184.00	$18,534.55
Total Income	**$85,392.88**	**$89,420.56**	**$50,477.60**	**$72,922.97**
Bank fees	$158.87	$130.00	$130.00	$137.54
IGS Fees		$8,356.63	$12,598.16	$3,589.92
Consumer Affairs	$61.20	$47.70	$47.70	$47.70
Email communications	$1,884.84	$1,895.84	$1,909.27	$5,384.37
Event/ Activity expenses	$70,742.33	$57,155.57	$15,628.47	$77,102.55
Insurance	$0.00	$1,675.79	$1,847.15	$1,916.72
Audit	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,028.05
Job Shadowing	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Photo competition	$1,210.02	$0.00	$1,742.57	$0.00
Secretariat	$4,022.34	$2,244.00	$1,980.00	$4,170.75
Student project	$6,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Travel & entertainment	$1,707.06	$1,215.52	$2,253.76	$1,924.00
Website	$0.00	$6,160.00	$5,706.66	$5,781.13
IT	$10,324.00	$1,952.01	$1,549.78	$1,504.04
Fraud	$152.25	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Expenses	**$96,262.91**	**$80,833.06**	**$45,393.52**	**$106,586.77**
Profit/Loss	**-$10,870.03**	**$8,587.50**	**$5,084.08**	**-$33,663.80**

Treasurer's Report

Auditor’s Report

> Australian Independent Audit Services

> In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 31 October 2025 and of its performance for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards as described in Note 1 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic).

  > Improving the membership system reporting to clearly isolate revenue attributable to each financial year.

  > Implementing periodic reconciliations between the membership database and bank receipts, including review of duplicate records.

  > Maintaining a standardised year-end checklist for calculating unearned membership revenue to ensure consistent application going forward.

  > Resultant change in membership period to run from 1 Nov to 31 Oct.

Events Taskforce

Ryan Hackney



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Events and Activities

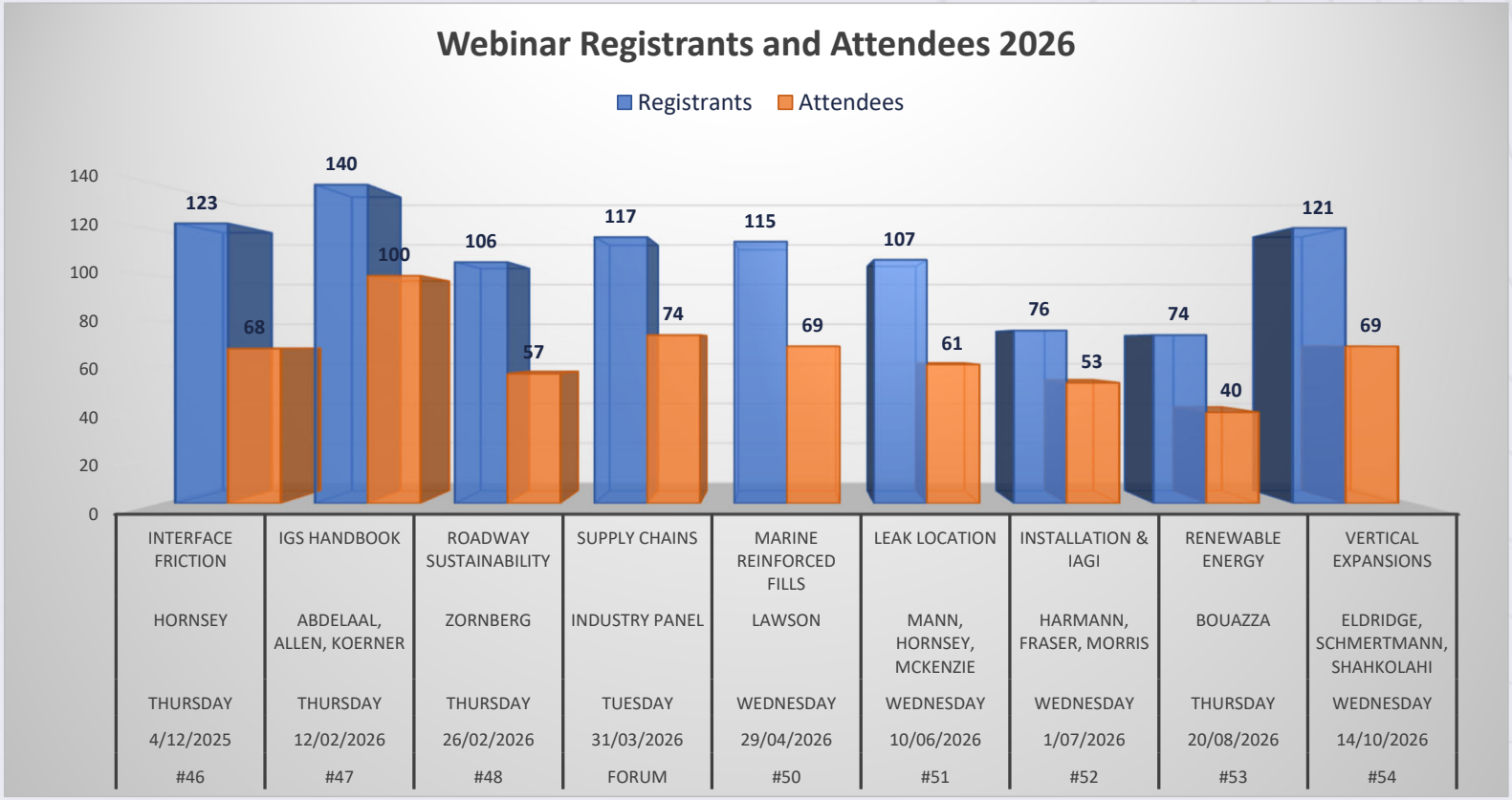
- The following 2026 events were undertaken –
  - 8 webinars (#46 – #48, #50 – #54) – 979 registrations, 591 attendees
  - ACigs Forum: Geosynthetic Supply Chains – Understanding the Challenges, March
  - Launch of the Innovative Applications of Geosynthetics webinar series
  - Educate the Educators organised – Gold Coast, 24 – 26 November
  - Won both ICG13 silent auction lots – 6 hours of sessions with Prof. Kerry Rowe
- Webinar sponsorship introduced for company members –
  - Solmax, Fabtech, Merit Lining Systems, Global Synthetics, Tonkin & Taylor
- Upcoming Events

Webinars Summary 2026

- Webinar #46 Geosynthetic interface friction – avoiding failures (Warren Hornsey), December 2025
- Webinar #47 IGS Geosynthetics Handbook overview (Fady Abdelaal, Sam Allen, George Koerner)
- Webinar #48 Sustainability benefits of adopting geosynthetics in roadway design (Prof. Jorge Zornberg)
- ACigs Forum: Geosynthetic supply chains – understanding the challenges (panel discussion, 31 March)
- Webinar #50 Geosynthetic reinforced fills used in marine engineering applications (Chris Lawson) – sponsor Solmax
- Webinar #51 The benefits and potential pitfalls of leak location technology (James McKenzie, Warren Hornsey, Simon Mann) – sponsor Fabtech
- Webinar #52 Geosynthetics installation best practice and IAGI's role (Todd Harmann, Nick Morris, Brian Fraser) – sponsor Merit
- Webinar #53 Innovative Applications: Geosynthetics in renewable energy (Prof. Malek Bouazza)
- Webinar #54 Innovative Applications: Vertical expansions (Simonne Eldridge, Garry Schmertmann, Amir Shahkolahi) – sponsor Global Synthetics

All Webinars available here > https://www.acigs.org/resources/webinar-library

Webinars Summary 2026



979
registrations

591
attendees

60%
attendance rate (2025: 52%)

+83%
attendees vs 2025

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Educate the Educators 2026 – Gold Coast

- 24 – 26 November 2026, hosted at TRI Australasia and Geofabrics
  - Lecturers: Prof. Tim Stark and Prof. Malek Bouazza
  - 18 academics confirmed from Australia, NZ, PNG and Malaysia
  - Sponsor industry sessions: testing, BGMs, drains, CQA, ELL
  - US$5,000 IGS Foundation travel grant for 5 attendees
  - Tim Stark lecture – joint QTG + ACIGS event, Brisbane
- Chair: Roger Britto / Technical: Jonathan Shamrock / Treasurer: Liza du Preez / Committee: Graham Fairhead, Brendan Swifte
- Thank you to our sponsors –
  - **Platinum:** Axter
  - **Gold:** Greentec, Geofabrics, Cirtex
  - **Silver:** NAUE, GeoQ, Fabtech, TRI Australasia





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New for 2026 – 27

- Innovative Applications of Geosynthetics – webinar series
  - Launched 2026: renewable energy (#53) and vertical expansions (#54)
- Prof. Kerry Rowe sessions – won at the ICG13 silent auction
  - Scheduling and sponsorship in progress;
- Sponsored webinar model
  - Company members sponsor webinars and present case studies – adds member value and offsets costs
  - 5 sponsors in 2026

Upcoming Events…..

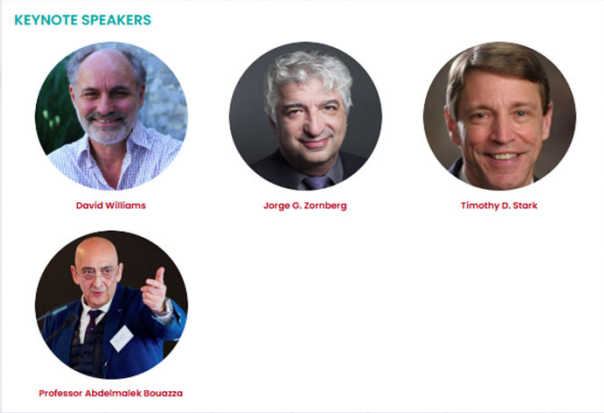
- ACIGS is planning –
  - Webinar #55: Load-bearing bridge abutments – case studies and design guidance, 18 November 2026
    - Jan Kupec & Aidan Thorp; sponsor Tonkin & Taylor
  - Educate the Educators – 24 – 26 November 2026, Gold Coast + Tim Stark lecture with QTG
  - Webinars 2027:
    - Prof. Kerry Rowe series
  - GeoANZ – Perth, 6 – 8 July 2027 (Pan Pacific), mining focus
    - Chair: Liza du Preez / Co-Chair: Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik

GEOANZ 2027



- **When:** 6 – 8 July 2027
- **Where:** Pan Pacific Perth
- **Theme:** Advances in Geosynthetics – Safer, Greener and Smarter with Geosynthetics: Future Ready Mining
  - Focus: mining, environmental containment, coastal protection, infrastructure reinforcement and stabilisation
- **Who:** Hosted by ACIGS; organised by Leishman Associates
  - Conference Chair: Liza du Preez / Co-Chair: Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik
- **Program at a glance:**
  - Tue 6 July – masterclasses, exhibition bump-in, welcome reception
  - Wed 7 July – plenary and breakout sessions, exhibition, conference dinner
  - Thu 8 July – plenary and breakout sessions, exhibition, closing ceremony
- geoanzconference.com.au

GEOANZ 2027 – Keynotes and Masterclasses



- Keynote speakers –
  - **Emeritus Prof. David Williams**
  - **Prof. Jorge G. Zornberg**
  - **Prof. Timothy D. Stark**
  - **Prof. Abdelmalek Bouazza**

- The Malek Bouazza Lecture – nominations closed 6 November 2026; lecturer to be announced
- Masterclasses, Tuesday 6 July – 4 x half-day concurrent sessions in the morning and afternoon, mining focus:
  - Tim Stark + Malek Bouazza: Fundamentals of Geosynthetics
  - Daniele Cazzuffi + Eric Blond: Geosynthetics Barriers for Mine Water Management
  - Amir Shahkolahi + Jorge Zornberg: Geosynthetics Reinforcement for Mining Infrastructure
  - Kerry Rowe + Fady Abdelaal: Geosynthetics Barriers for Tailings Facilities

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GEOANZ 2027 – Registration and Key Dates

Registration	Member	Non-member	Student
Full – Early Bird	$850	$1,000	$550
Full – Standard	$950	$1,100	$650
Day – Early Bird	$550	$625	$400
Day – Standard	$600	$675	$400
Masterclasses (3 half-day)	$275	$375	$150
Welcome Reception	$125	$145	–
Conference Dinner	$200	$210	$100

Fees as published at geoanzconference.com.au (AUD); welcome reception and dinner are add-ons

- Early Bird registration now open – closes 22 March 2027
  - Member rates apply to 2027 ACIGS members – join or renew
- Key dates –
  - Call for abstracts closes: 11 December 2026
  - Program available: 8 March 2027
  - Early Bird closes: 22 March 2027
  - Conference: 6 – 8 July 2027
- Register: geoanzconference.com.au/registration

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GEOANZ 2027 – Get Involved

- Submit an abstract – closes 11:59pm AEDT, 11 December 2026
  - Max 500 words via the online portal; oral (14 min) or poster (A0 portrait)
  - Presenting authors must register (minimum day registration)
  - Themes include tailings and mine waste, barrier systems, durability and long-term performance, coastal and river protection, reinforced soil, road and rail stabilisation, sustainability
- Sponsor or exhibit – enquiries to Kim Murray, Leishman Associates (kim@laevents.com.au)
  - Thank you to sponsors and exhibitors to date: Geoquest, Geofabrics, Global Synthetics, Kenviro, Layfield, Merit Lining Systems, Maccaferri, Fabtech, Megaplast, NAUE, Plastral, Shenlianbasou, Solmax
- Join the mailing list and share your attendance – geoanzconference.com.au

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Communications Taskforce

Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik



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Communications

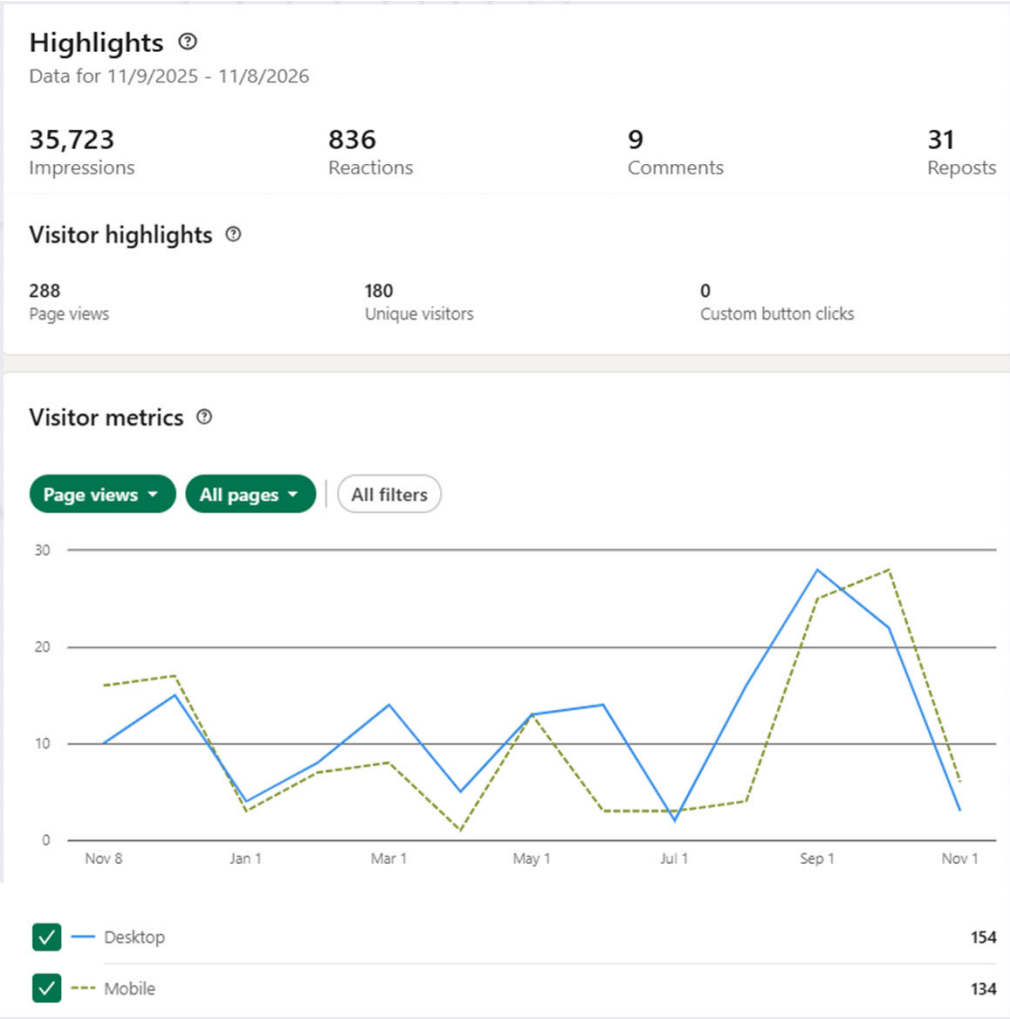
Key Achievements

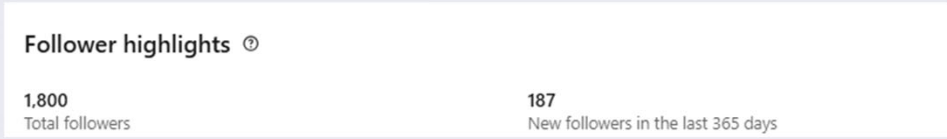
- Delivered regular member updates through newsletters and email campaigns.
- Promoted ACIGS technical events, webinars, and networking activities.
- Maintained and grew ACIGS social media presence, particularly on LinkedIn.
- Supported communications for Young Members initiatives and industry engagement.
- Increased visibility of ACIGS activities, members, and geosynthetics projects.
- Developed promotional materials for events, sponsorships, and key announcements.
- Website updates

Communications

LinkedIn:

- **40 posts:**
  - Average Impressions: 880 per post (2132 max)
  - Average likes: 22 per post (67 max)
- **187 new followers gained - Total followers 1,800**
  - Third in the number of followers among the IGS chapters (after Brazil and North America)



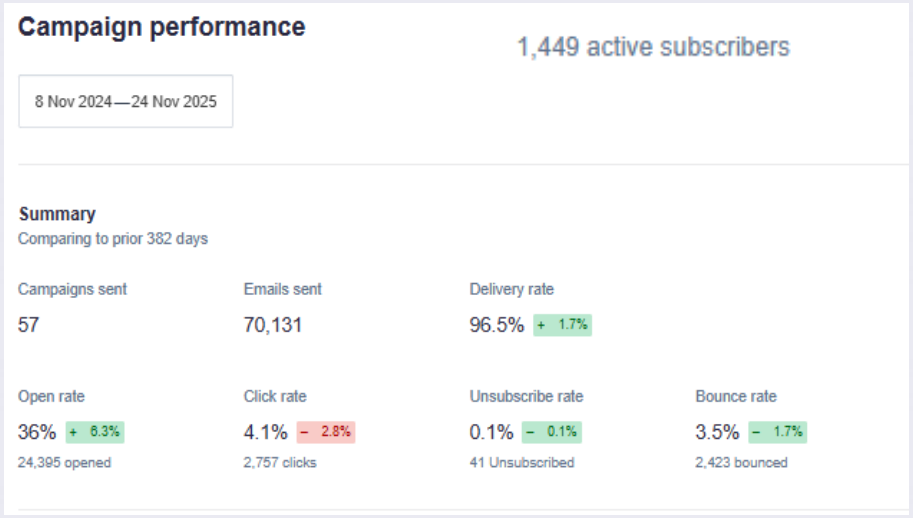


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Communications

> **Weekly Bulletin**
>> **145 more subscribers than last year**

2025

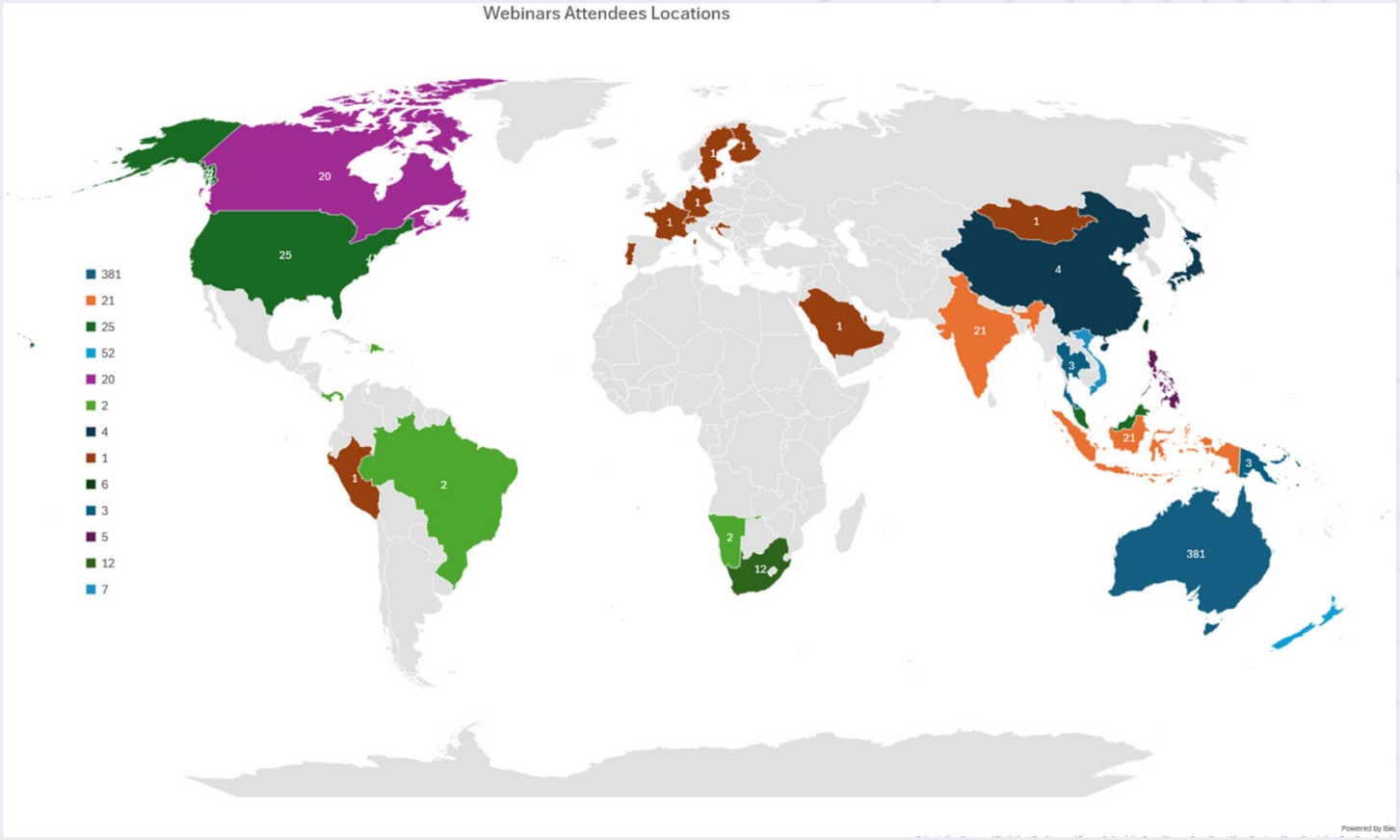


2026



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Communications



Last year's numbers:



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Membership Taskforce

Graham Fairhead



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Membership

- Administrative issues failed to issue or capture membership renewal notices, being corrected
- A healthy 23 Company members
- Young Member Registration
  - Students are free
  - Please include 1 young member in the registration
- Conference discounts is providing a membership uplift
- Membership fees for 2026 to increase by 5%:
  - Individual to AU$185
  - Company Gold = AUD $1,850 and Platinum = AUD $2,900

Member Category	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Student	7	7	22	36	16	29	18
Individual	109 (9+42+54)	9	106	175	126	84	112
Honorary	3	3	3	3	3	3	-
Total	**119**	**19 (239)**	**131**	**214**	**145**	**116**	**131**

ACIGS Company Members 2026

Platinum Company Members

COLETANCHE by AXTER

Cooley Group

FABTECH A TASMEA COMPANY

GEOFABRICS Sustainable solutions

GEOQ

terra firma laboratories

MACCAFERRI

Gold Company Members

ATARFIL Geomembranes

ELIS TECH AUSTRALIA GEOMEMBRANE LEAK DETECTION

ExcelPlas MATERIALS TESTING

Global Synthetics LEADERS IN GEOSYNTHETICS

GPIL GEOSYNTHETIC PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL Global Partners Value Engineering Local Solutions

GREENTEC CONSULTING SIGMA Geo Environment

hazellbros

HUESKER Ideas. Engineers. Innovations.

HUITEX

MERIT LINING SYSTEMS PTY LTD

Naue

Polyfabrics A Tapex Group Company

SOLMAX

STRATA

Tonkin+Taylor

TRI AUSTRALASIA

Technical Taskforce

Jonathan Shamrock



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Technical Taskforce

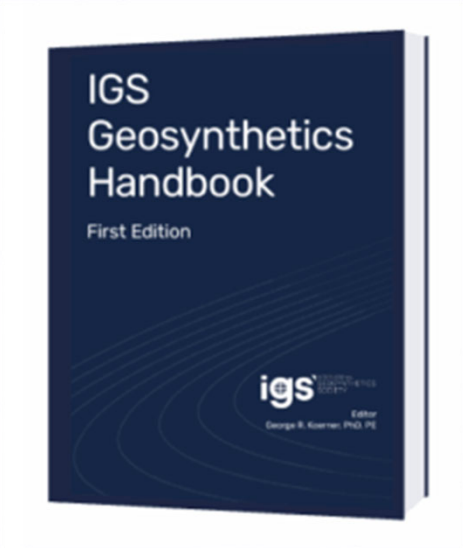
> Technical Taskforce was responsible for reviewing content for independence, accuracy and relevance presented in **webinars, technical forums, weekly bulletins, case studies and at the upcoming EtE.**

> Thanks to those that have assisted with this process.

> We are always looking for volunteers, so please get in touch if you are keen to help, specifically as we are starting the planning for GeoANZ2027 and would like to spread the review load.

IGS Handbook

The *IGS Geosynthetics Handbook*, *First Edition* was provided to our members at a subsidised cost, and all the books we ordered were sold. Planning for Second Edition is under way.



The handbook provides a comprehensive overview of geosynthetic materials, their applications, design considerations, and installation practices across infrastructure works. Developed by the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) with contributions from global experts, this peer-reviewed handbook is a practical reference for civil engineering professionals of all experience levels, educators, and students.

- Chapter 1: Introduction to Geosynthetics
- Chapter 2: Geosynthetics in Roads and Pavements
- Chapter 3: Geosynthetics in Subsurface Drainage
- Chapter 4: Geosynthetics in Erosion and Sediment Control
- Chapter 5: Geosynthetics in Reinforced Soil Systems
- Chapter 6: Geosynthetic Barriers in Seepage Control Systems
- Chapter 7: Geosynthetics in Environmental Protection (waste containment)
- Chapter 8: Geosynthetic Support Systems

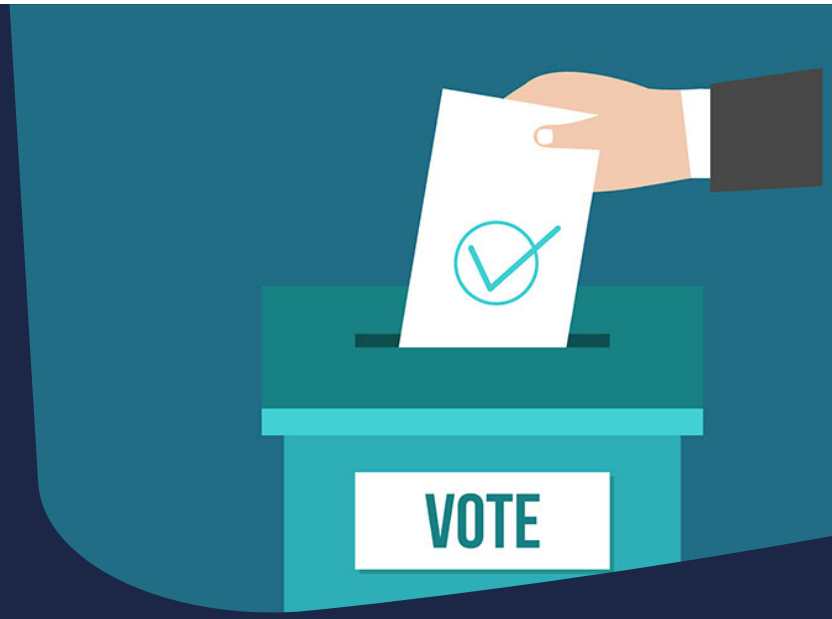
Questions

Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik



Voting Topics

Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik



Voting

Motion 1

- The accounts are to be approved:
  - Votes in favour: 15
  - Against:
  - Ab: 3

Motion 2

- The reports from the office bearers are to be approved:
  - Votes in favour: 17
  - Against: 0
  - Ab: 0

Motion 3

- Change of Financial Year, Membership renewals and Committee tenure to the period 1st of November to 31st of October:
  - Votes:17
  - Ag:0
  - Ab:0

Motion 4

- Individual membership fee for 2027 to increase to AU$185:
  - Votes:17
  - Ag:0
  - Ab:0

Motion 5

- Company membership fee for 2027 to increase Gold = AUD $1,850 and Platinum = AUD $2,900
  - Votes: 17
  - Ag:0
  - Ab:0

Any other business



Alicja Borysewicz-Slabik

Chris Lawson: Change of annual payment: what will change? Do we pay an additional month?

- Nothing will change from the financial perspective; the financial reports are run from Nov to Oct regardless.
- Payment will stretch by a couple of months to catch with the new payment period

Thank you for attending

Australasian Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society

Annual General Meeting 2026

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