

Introducing

Benjamin Joseph Curran

Position

Director, Newcastle
Senior Structural/Civil Engineer

Professional Qualifications

B.E. (Hons) University of Newcastle
1999 (Civil Engineering)

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Institution of Engineers, Australia (MIEAust)
- Chartered Practising Engineer (CPEng)
- National Professional Engineers Register (NPER)



Summary of Experience

Benjamin Curran has approximately 11 years of experience in investigation, reporting and design of civil and structural engineering projects.

Whilst working on a variety of major projects, Benjamin has gained extensive experience in the areas of reinforced concrete, steel, masonry and timber design of defence, institutional, commercial, industrial, residential, civil and marine structures.

Benjamin has also gained extensive experience in the field of investigations and engineering reporting into causes of, and recommendations for the repair of, building damage to residential, commercial and industrial structures, particularly since the Newcastle flood of June 2007.

Benjamin has experience in providing structural engineering expert witness services for legal matters, in particular matters involving defects to residential structures.

Professional Experience

2003 to present

Senior Structural Engineer / Director
MPC Consulting Engineers

Senior structural design engineer involved with investigation, reporting and design of civil and structural engineering projects. Benjamin became a director of MPC in January 2006. In addition to engineering investigation and design, Benjamin has taken a leading role in the development and implementation of the MPC internal Quality Assurance and OH&S systems, and is currently MPC's Personnel, OH&S, and Quality Manager.

1999 – 2003

Structural Design Engineer
Gutteridge, Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd (GHD)

Structural design engineer involved with investigation and design of civil and structural engineering projects, including project management and structural design for numerous Defence projects.

Examples of projects for which Benjamin Curran has provided design and expertise include:

Commercial and Residential

1. Coal Services Developments

Structural and Civil engineering design of four building upgrades in Singleton, Argenton and Lithgow for Coal Services Pty Ltd. Upgrades include new multi-storey buildings for virtual reality mines rescue training simulations, as well as office building extensions and refurbishments.

2. Hunter Water Corporation (HWC) Building, Newcastle NSW

Detailed design of structural elements, including earthquake analysis, for the proposed new HWC building located off Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle.

3. Lee Wharf Development, Newcastle NSW

Detailed design of structural elements, including earthquake analysis of buildings up to nine storeys in height, for the initial five buildings of the Lee Wharf Development, Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle.

4. Pine Tree Lane Car Park, Terrigal NSW

Detailed design of structural engineering elements, including earthquake analysis, of a proposed five-storey car park on the central coast of NSW.

5. Tuncurry Substation, Tuncurry NSW

Detailed Structural design of a substation control building and associated infrastructure for Country Energy.

6. Inspection and Reporting on Damage to Residential and Commercial Structures

Scores of inspections and reporting on existing residential and commercial buildings with structural damage from fire, flood, storm, soil movement and the like.

Local Government Projects (Newcastle City Council)

1. Newcastle Ocean Baths Pavilion Structure Upgrade

Investigations, reporting, structural design, and ongoing site monitoring of structural refurbishments to the Heritage listed pavilion structure.

2. Civic Theatre Roof Walkway Modifications

Structural design of new access walkway platforms and stairs integrated into the existing roof space above the theatre, as well as new flooring for the fly gallery.

3. Civic Theatre Stage Floor Upgrade

Structural design of a new stage floor for the Civic Theatre.

4. Bolton Street Car Park Façade Inspection and Report

Detailed structural inspection of a seven-storey Heritage listed masonry façade in Bolton Street, Newcastle. The engineering report presented all damages as well as methods for structural strengthening and refurbishment.

Defence Projects

- 1. 2-Squadron HQ Building, RAAF Base, Williamtown NSW**
Detailed design of structural elements of the new 2 Squadron headquarters building, including site phase services.
- 2. NINOX Training Facility, RAAF Base, Williamtown NSW**
Detailed design of structural elements of the new NINOX training facility, including site phase services, located within the RAAF Base, Williamtown.
- 3. Building 85 Upgrade, RAAF Base, Williamtown NSW**
Superintendent's representative for the upgrade of the Base central communications building.
- 4. Frequency Converter Upgrade, RAAF Base, Williamtown NSW**
Structural inspection of the existing Lead-In-Fighter Frequency Converter Units, and structural design of a new plant room for the relocated units.
- 5. Temporary TFSP0 Facility, RAAF Base, Williamtown NSW**
Superintendent's representative (project management assistance) for the construction of a temporary TFSP0 facility, and structural design of an awning structure attached to the facility.
- 6. SMA "Hut Hill" Repeater Tower, Singleton Military Area NSW**
Structural inspection, analysis and report on an existing steel lattice-framed communications tower, in accordance with AS 3995-1994, located within the training range of the Singleton Military Area.

Institutional Projects

- 1. HAPS Pathology Building, John Hunter Hospital, New Lambton NSW**
Detail structural design of a new four storey pathology building constructed adjacent to the existing hospital, as well as construction phase inspections and RFI responses.

Industrial Projects

- 1. Dyke Point Redevelopment, Carrington NSW**
Concept and subsequent detailed design of structural upgrades to an existing industrial workshop proposed to be fitted-out for construction of super yachts.
- 2. An Tai Bao Coal Train Loader, China**
Detailed structural design of a major upgrade to a steel framed bulk solids hopper support structure for Schenck Australia Pty Ltd.
- 3. Smoke Extraction Shed, Whyte Island, QLD**
Detailed structural design of a steel portal frame shed to be used for fire and rescue training by Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority.