

# REDUCING COST BY COLLABORATION AT PROJECT INTERFACES

Three projects with 3 Principal Contractors working collaboratively to deliver a collective Safety Culture program, realises reduced costs and a collaborative team environment.

The Barwon Heads Road Upgrade Project – Stage 1 is delivered in 3 sections, with a different Principal Contractor (PC) for each section. Each PC implements the same contract specification requirements for safety.

The PCs collaborated with MPRV to improve safety outcomes and cost benefits by delivering safety culture contract specifications together as a 'team'.



Our construction partners working together to align on Safety Culture for the Barwon Heads Road Upgrade Project – Stage 1.

## The situation

The 3 projects were delivered simultaneously, each requiring the development and delivery of a 'Safety Culture' program for the project works.

It was realised early that the PCs would utilise the same sub-contractors and suppliers during the works. Each of the PCs working on the project were required to develop and deliver a Safety Culture program. This would require workers to repeat time spent on 3 projects completing different programs, resulting in time lost and confusion on expectations and standards.

The Leadership Teams of the PC's and MRPV collaborated to develop a single Safety Culture program for the Barwon Heads Road Upgrade Project – Stage 1, saving the project tens of thousands of dollars and thousands of hours lost.

## The solution

The Leadership Teams of each of the PC's and MRPV collaborated on a strategy to develop a single Safety Culture program. This would enable implementation of corporate expectations and requirements under the contract specifications.

Development of the combined program involved:

- Discussion of PC's nominated Safety Culture programs, organisational needs and common factors
- A gap analysis of organisational and contract requirements
- Identification of similar culture programs suggested by 2 PCs
- A Senior Leader 2-day Safety Culture session to align common safety goals, expectations, and behaviours
- Delivery of the Program to supervisors and middle management across all 3 projects with participation of MRPV
- Incorporation of the Program requirements within the site safety management system for ongoing workforce consultation.

## Benefits and learnings

- Created a pathway to project interface conversation and collaboration.
- Senior project participants empowered a united approach across each of the projects.
- PCs able to further develop their corporate Safety Culture, improving outcomes on future projects.
- Financial spend reduced, equating to overall savings:
  - Safety Culture consultant costs \$121,000
  - Accommodation resources \$9,500.
- Time saved for attendance to the Safety Culture program:
  - Supervisory and Site Workers 480 hours
  - MRPV Project Leadership Team 80 hours.
- Single point of contact reduced time spent by PCs procuring and briefing consultants.
- Shared Safety Culture evident across the 3 projects including safety behavioural and leadership expectations.
- Knowledge and expectations of workers consistent on each project.

**Program Office:** MRPV

**Work Package:** Program E – Barwon Heads Road Upgrade - Stage 1

**Solution vendor:** GYST Consulting Pty Ltd

**Principal Contractor:** BHRUP WP1 – Decmil Southern Pty Ltd  
BHRUP WP2 – BMD Constructions Pty Ltd  
BHRUP WP3 – Bild Group Pty Ltd

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