



Our industry is doing it tough. Companies are downsizing and moving our colleagues elsewhere. Our Group hasn't been spared from the turmoil. We saw a big fall in the number of attendees at our last workshop. Since then we've lost some valuable committee members. But for nearly 15 years we've weathered the ups and down of the industry. And this time is no different. We won't let the latest hiccup stop us. Not only will we keep on bringing you the very best workshops and industry news but we'll aim to become even more valuable to our industry. So what's been happening in your Group?

Committee

For the past 3 years Anthony de Veth has been the Chair of the committee. He's quietly kept the Group strong, organised and grounded. He has now moved on to an exciting new challenge. His contributions will be very much missed by all.

Robin Teet was the bundle of energy who has worked tirelessly to help bring the Group into the digital era; sorting out the nightmares associated with establishing on-line payments and bookings for workshops and our LinkedIn presence. She too has now moved on.

The committee is now Tony Meyers (Chair), Jacqui Purcell (Secretary), Des Vlietstra (Treasurer), Alex Campbell, Jeremy Doolan, Morteza Ghamgosar, Peter Hills and Ben Jones.

Last Workshop – When the Unexpected Happens.

The halls of Old Parliament House in Canberra echoed with 18 riveting presentations. We had keynotes by Jim Galvin, Alan Guest, Martyn Robotham and Tim Sullivan. Thankyou to all who presented and contributed to making it such a great workshop. Most of the presentations we wouldn't have got to hear elsewhere. Nor would we have got the insiders tour of Parliament House or had dinner in its dining room. You can see a review of the meeting on the Past Meetings page of our website <http://eagcg.org/meetings/>.

Next meeting

Due to the downturn in the industry we'll have only one meeting this year. It will be in mid-October so as not to clash with other "rock" events early in the year. Many of you have told us that you prefer capital cities and, as its Brisbane's turn, that's where it will be. The topic will likely be "New Technologies in Ground Control" with a focus on "getting smarter with our data" in these challenging times. Workshops on this topic have always been popular and we'll work at making this one even better.

Think about what you've been doing at your site or what your company has been doing and start planning your presentation. We'd all be keen to hear about it. If you've heard someone is doing something exciting in the area of Ground Control, let us know, we'll follow it up and try to get someone to talk about it.

Web Site

Our web site www.eagcg.org is well read (apparently particularly so in Russia and North Korea). Take a look if you haven't checked it out for some time. The most popular Rock Events page keeps you up to date with what's happening in ground control around the world. The Reports page contains reports from enquiries, best practice notes and so-on-and-so-forth. We'll be working hard to make the site even more useful for you. It's there for all of us to use so, if you have any information you'd like posted, send it through to us.

Sponsors

Our industry Sponsors are a fundamental component to our survival. Without them we could not continue to bring you workshops at readily affordable prices and our longevity would be questionable. We are so appreciative of their loyalty and dedication to the Group. You can click to the sites of the sponsors who supported out last meeting at <http://eagcg.org/category/sponsor/>.

The Future

Our Group is independent from any other professional organisation. It exists solely to be a focal point and networking opportunity for ground control practitioners. It's therefore your group. We can keep it growing only while you and our sponsors continue to support it. The future is looking positive so keep involved, come along to the next meeting and we'll continue to grow.