



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

AALS Web Site

www.aals.asn.au

Limited
ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

AUSTRALIAN LIVE STEAMERS SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chairman: Warwick Allison: 68 Marshall Rd Mt Riverview NSW 2774 Tel: (02) 4739 5921 wallison@pnc.com.au
Secretary: Alf Grigg: 168 Wharparilla Drive Echuca Vic 3564 Tel: (03) 5480 1955 aagricon@bigpond.com

19th April, 2013

Hon Secretary
Club as addressed

Re: Consultation Process on The Development of a Strategic Business Plan for the Association

This letter constitutes the commencement of a consultation process with all AALS member clubs on a proposal to develop and implement a strategic business plan for the Association.

We propose to evaluate the concept, purpose, content and implications of developing and implementing an Association strategic business plan through the consultation process, then resubmit to the Directors for consideration at the 2014 convention.

As in Safety Committee consultation processes, this consultation process is intended to provide a forum for detailed evaluation and discussion of issues associated with the purpose and benefits of developing and implementing an Association strategic business plan.

The consultation process will promote and encourage societies and members of societies to contribute to what Association members believe the Association should be actively doing.

We have offered to undertake the consultation process as there are no current safety issues currently before the Safety Committee, and we are the proponents of developing and implementing an Association strategic business plan.

The Strategic Business Plan Proposal

Strategic business planning is fundamental to the success of most organisations, both private and not-for-profit. The Association is no different.

We have a constitution and rules but no specific plan as to what we specifically want to achieve in the forward years, or a description of how we operate financially or in marketing our Association to the greater public, regulators, and the greater World model engineering hobby.

A strategic business plan can be the primary tool to address these objectives.

The aims of the Association are in Section 3 of the Constitution and can be summarised:

- Promote science, knowledge, construction etc of engineering miniatures;
- Promote experimentation & development of miniatures;
- Encourage lectures, discussions, exhibitions, trials, competitions, visits to places of interest;
- Encourage education and the younger generation;
- Foster national standards for construction and interchange between members and other organisations with similar interests;
- Formulate safe working codes;
- Assist in discussions with Governments;
- Review & recommend levels of insurance cover.

(The full aims are available in the Constitution which is available online in the 'Resources' section of the AALS website.)

Possible Initiatives of Strategic Business Plan

Awards: Raise the profile of excellence in construction of miniatures.

Interchange with Similar Organisations: Establish a dialogue with the Southern and Northern Federations (UK) to exchange ideas and promote a commonality of thought that will assist in standards being consistent/acceptable in all groups.

Development of Codes and Guidelines: Broaden the codes and produce guidelines for boilers and operations in areas that will assist model engineers.

Skill up Members: Produce training material to skill up members within the Societies with greater competence and thus encourage people to take on various roles such as Competent person, Boiler inspector, Director positions, and perhaps understanding of the various Government and Council requirements societies (or Directors) need to be aware of.

Displays: Organise / co-ordinate model engineering displays at various to promote model engineering.

Talks: Coordinate talks on subjects of interest to Societies on a regular basis using guest speakers in each capital city and at conventions.

Interaction: Promote input from societies for ideas and assistance to arrange whatever initiatives are determined.

Other Aims: Promote a positive image of the AALS. Be more useful to members at a grass roots level in order to foster increased interaction and co-operation. Enable model engineers to be more active in the administration and leadership of the hobby.

Our plan is to develop the concept and structure of the proposed plan in 2013 in accordance with the feedback received from member clubs. The plan would be considered at the 2014 meeting of Directors.

The Consultation Sequence and Timetable

Member clubs and individual club members are invited to promptly submit comments and issues that they believe are relevant to the Association strategic business plan that they believe require addressing. We would prefer if input was received up to the 31st October, 2013, however will accept input after that date.

We will then report the submissions received to the Association Board to establish what appears to be the most appropriate direction to progress the proposal, and distribute the finalised strategic business plan proposal to all member clubs in 2014.

Submissions on the strategic business plan proposal are encouraged either by e-mail or by post. Formal posted documents will be scanned for prompt posting on the AALS website under the heading "Association Strategic Business Plan Consultation Process" on the "News" page for the information of all members of member clubs.

The process ensures effective consultation and due diligence. The consultation process is not open-ended, and will ensure that issues and contributions are fully addressed, all submissions considered, and the strategic business plan proposal ultimately determined represents the needs of the Association members.

As with Safety Committee consultation processes, those who wish to be advised by email of updates to the website can forward Alf Grigg <aagricon@bigpond.com> their email address, and the club they represent, and an email will be sent to advise of significant updates to the website. This service is also open to individuals.

Feel free to contact us any reasonable time to discuss the strategic business plan proposal.

Regards

Warwick Allison
Chairman

Alf Grigg
Secretary