



Citywide's diversity matched by Sustainable Solutions

CITYWIDE Service Solutions Pty Ltd (Citywide) was established in 1995 and provides the full range of civil infrastructure, open space and environmental services to a diverse range of local government and commercial clients in Australia.

With its head office based in Melbourne, the company's operational reach extends across three states and all its operational activities are based on strict OH&S work practices with a strong underlying emphasis on providing its customers with environmentally sustainable solutions in the delivery of its services.

Citywide's extensive client base is impressive and includes numerous tier one contractors, councils and state government entities such as Victorian Road Authority – VicRoads.

Citywide delivers a range of diverse projects and in recent times has successfully completed a major road initiative for Alpine Shire Council.

The Alpine Shire is a large regional municipality located in the upper north east corner of Victoria approximately 70 kilometres south of Albury/Wodonga. It incorporates three major townships, Mount Beauty, Bright and Myrtleford and while the local economy was built on agriculture, timber and forestry industries, the Shire's main source of income is derived predominately from tourism. This is highlighted by the spectacular regional scenery which includes the renowned Alpine National Park.

The Alpine Shire's road network is subject to the extremes of a cold winter climate, which can deliver heavy falls of snow and ice. This makes road maintenance a major Council priority. The Alpine Shire Council adopts a proactive approach to ensure that ratepayers and tourists are presented with the optimal road conditions across the length and breadth of the municipality and Citywide's stabilisation team has been hard at work maintaining the Shire roads to ensure that they are safe and accessible.

Citywide's skilled and experienced regional infrastructure maintenance crews undertake insitu stabilisation to restore the road pavement. The technology adopted throughout these road works is typical of the company's environmental position it applies to all projects. The extent of patching required on the Shire roads varied from 30 to 700 square metres and the stabilisation team used PolyCom Stabilising Aid which, along with insitu stabilisation, has numerous environmental advantages.

Insitu stabilisation, a form of recycling, makes use of existing onsite materials with a PolyCom additive which strengthens and improves the resilience of the restored pavement. This method dramatically increases the life expectancy of the road's surface, and more importantly, it means that aggregate material does not have to be transported to the site. This reduces vehicle emissions associated with the works and minimises traffic disruption during road repairs. Insitu stabilisation represents a major benefit for road users, tourists and the environment.

The use of PolyCom has additional benefits in that it allows the road to be used almost immediately following treatment and is ideally suited to the region. Its application is suitable for a variety of road surfaces including rural tracks, access roads and standard road pavements. It also provides increased water resistance and additional strength which is obviously important with the extreme climatic conditions in the area.

The Alpine Shire Council was one of the first Councils to conduct road sealing trials using PolyCom. Prior to this project and according to the then Engineering and Assets Manager, Andrew Taylor, the trials were extremely successful. *"PolyCom allows the road surface to compact very well resulting in less cracks and breaks. This results in the road requiring less maintenance and the Council saves money."*

Mr Taylor also stated that the new process meant that more unsealed roads were now being treated, resulting in improved quality of Alpine Shire roads.

This particular Alpine project was a 'win-win' situation according to Rob Thompson, Citywide's Contract Manager. *"We had a very cooperative and collaborative working relationship with the Alpine Shire Council. In an area where roads need to be constantly maintained, PolyCom's flexible properties made the job a lot easier and there's no doubt that insitu stabilisation delivered significant cost benefits for Council and ratepayers."*

This is an ideal solution that provided tangible environmental and financial benefits. Once the road is repaired using this method, the length of road service interval is greatly increased reducing the ongoing need for repeated maintenance."

A Citywide Social Conscience

Citywide adopts a holistic approach in the delivery of essential services to its clients and the communities in which it operates. It has an organisational philosophy and an operational strategy that ensures consistency in the efficient and effective delivery of a broad range of essential integrated services. This is based upon a genuine commitment to both its employees and the broader community.

The company actively supports various community programmes and charities which it has consistently done for a number of years. These include Uniting Care Connections, a community welfare agency which supports children, young people, and families in need. Under this programme, Citywide supported the development of a special Community Veggie Patch Project designed to turn a neglected garden in the Melbourne suburb of Croydon into a productive vegetable garden.

For the last 4 – 8 years Citywide has been an active supporter of the Family Life Open Garden day event. It's an annual event where members of the Citywide Open Space team provide information sessions for Bayside locals on native plants and how to care for their garden in various climatic conditions. Money raised goes to Family Life, a not-for-profit community group supporting Bayside families at risk.

There are a number of other social commitments Citywide supports on an annual basis and many involve employees of the company who volunteer to provide specialist horticultural training for schools and social groups. Any profit generated from these activities is donated to those in the Victorian community who are less well off.

Citywide Divisions focus on Diversity

To facilitate greater focus and target appropriate expertise to all its areas of operation, Citywide's delivery arm has three main divisions. These are Infrastructure,

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Above: After Polycom application, patch is levelled and rolled.