



**Australian Flexible Pavement Association media release**

## AfPA and UTS Collaborate for Australia's Infrastructure Future

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has entered a partnership with the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) to bring the flexible pavement industry into the future and inspire the next generation of skilled recruits.

The two parties have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The organisations will work collaboratively to help generate awareness, participation, and support for a more diverse and inclusive workforce across the critical, multi-billion-dollar flexible pavement industry.

The collaboration will also see both organisations focus on creating education and knowledge sharing opportunities for students that will drive continuous innovation and improvement throughout the industry.

It is hoped that the collaboration and combined resources will lead to a richer, more diverse workforce, capable of fulfilling Australia's burgeoning need for quality roads and highly skilled personnel.

Carlos Rial, CEO of AfPA, said:

"Innovation and education are core values for AfPA and its members. For this reason, collaborating with one of the most innovative and highly acclaimed educational institutions in the country is very exciting.

"Australia needs roads. Just as importantly, it needs skilled, talented workers who are ready and able to deliver the critical infrastructure and maintenance projects that will lead Australia into the future.

"We are delighted to work together under this memorandum with UTS, ensuring both of our resources directly support young people to expand their horizons, learn new skills and contribute to an exciting, vital industry."

Anne Gardner, Associate Dean Teaching & Learning, Faculty of Engineering and IT, The University of Technology Sydney, said:

"We'll build upon our excellence in learning and teaching, research with impact and close links to industry, ensuring that we do more than simply prepare people to successfully enter the workforce. The partnership between UTS and AfPA will contribute to the ongoing improvement in the quality of our infrastructure and help reduce maintenance costs."

"This partnership will enhance the capabilities of our graduates to be lifelong learners and present innovative and emerging technologies in various major projects for better-connected communities in Australia".



### **About AfPA**

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) is the peak body for the multi-billion-dollar flexible pavement industry in Australia. For over 50 years, AfPA has represented the flexible pavement industry to lead safety, sustainability, innovation, knowledge, and collaboration outcomes unified voice on the advancement of flexible pavement technology for the benefit of all road users.