

# Dr Maxwell Lay

Dr Maxwell Lay, a Melbournian, is an international authority on roads. **Formally:** Dr M. G. Lay, AM, FTSE, PhD, DEng, MEngSci, BCE, HonFIEAust, FTSE, LifeMASCE, MCI Arb (ret'd), *Professional Engineer PE0005188*

- ◆ In June 2005 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, for service to engineering, particularly through leadership in the delivery of quality road infrastructure and the development of new contract management processes, and as an educator and historian.
- ◆ On 12 April 2000, the Australian Road Research Board named its library the “M. G. Lay Library” to honour “his passion for the dissemination of high-quality professional information.”
- ◆ was a consultant to the successful ConnectEast team (Macquarie & Thiess) bidding to build the Mitcham – Frankston toll road (2003 – 2004),
- ◆ was a Director of ConnectEast, the company responsible for building and operating the Mitcham - Frankston “EastLink” toll road from its founding in 2004 until 2010.
- ◆ was Independent Reviewer for the Melbourne City Link Project from 1996 to 2003 (a joint appointment by the Government and the Concession holder, Transurban). This task included approving the toll system.
- ◆ was a Principal of SKM consulting engineers from 1996 to 2002
- ◆ was Director of Major Projects with VicRoads from 1993 to 1996, Director of Quality and Technical Resources from 1988 to 1993, (responsible for all road design and construction in the State of Victoria),
- ◆ was Executive Director of the Australian Road Research Board from 1975 to 1988,
- ◆ was a director of the RACV in Victoria from 1985 to 2008, Deputy Chairman from 1997 to 1999, and President from 1999 to 2002.
- ◆ was President of the Australian Automobile Association from 2000 to 2002.
- ◆ In the 1990s was one of the founders of ITS-Australia and an initial vice-President
- ◆ was a founder of Intelematics Australia, and was a Chairman and then a Director until 2008.
- ◆ Although formally retired, he has acted recently as a consultant to Roads Australia, ConnectEast, the United Nations (UNCTAD), and the Linking Melbourne Authority and acted as an expert witness.

## Dr Lay has been awarded

- ◆ the Moisseif Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers,
- ◆ the Warren Medal of the IEAust,
- ◆ the Transport Medal of the IEAust, and
- ◆ the Gold Medal of Roads Australia (Roads Australia is the national peak body for the road industry in Australia),
- ◆ the first ITSA “Individual Excellence Award” for “Eminent Service to the Australian ITS Industry”. The President also announced that future Individual Excellence Awards would be called the “Dr Max Lay Award”.
- ◆ 2014. Awarded the Peter Nicol Russel Medal of Engineers Australia in November “The PNR is the most prestigious award made by the Institution. ... The recipient represents the technical, professional and community service standards of engineering to the profession and the community.”.
- ◆ On 16/11/2010 the RACV announced at its annual meeting that it would place his name in its Golden Book – the first such entry since 2004. The Golden Book began in 1932 and is "dedicated to those individuals who have rendered distinguished services in the interests of motoring".

## Dr Lay has authored over 750 publications including:

- History of Australian Roads, 1984
- Ways of the World (a history of the World’s roads and the vehicles that used them), Rutgers University, (3 printings, plus a German edition). 1992+
- Melbourne Miles. A history of metropolitan Melbourne’s streets and roads, 2003
- The history of transportation planning. in Handbook of transport strategy, policy and institutions, Elsevier, 2005
- An historical view of the assessment and management of congestion. Road & Trsp Res, 21(2):32-45, June 2012
- Public infrastructure: an historical perspective. Road & Trsp Res 22(2), June 2013, pp 62-8
- The harnessing of power. Cambridge Scholarly Publishing, Newcastle, England. 2018
- Paving our ways (with JB Metcalf and KG Sharp). CRC Press (Taylor and Francis), Abingdon, England. 2021