



–MEDIA RELEASE – for immediate release –  
05 October 2016

**Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACCA)  
New location & New resources for the architectural profession**



In August 2016, the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACCA) moved its head office from Canberra to Sydney. The move is part of a renewal process that started in 2014 with the appointment of Kate Doyle as CEO. Prior to her appointment, Doyle was Registrar (from 2004-2014) of the NSW Architects Registration Board.

AACA is a key accreditation body for architects practicing in Australia. Its relocation to Sydney makes the AACCA more accessible to a wider community of collaborators and clients - architects, heads of school, overseas applicants and the public.

Its new streamlined Castlereagh Street offices designed by HASSELL (under principal, Philip Harper) include a mix of private work areas and open spaces, reflecting both current workplace design trends and the AACCA's more inclusive approach.

Retiring AACCA President Richard Thorp has championed the organisation's change and relocation. "Acting on advice that Sydney was the right place to be based, our design brief for the new premises was that they provide not only well designed office spaces, but also a space suitable for hosting seminars and events for the profession," said Thorp.

The office is a platform for the expanded role of the AACCA, whose core business is to develop, maintain and promote the National Standard of Competency for Architects, and competency-based assessment programs to determine eligibility for registration as an architect in Australia. In addition, AACCA is building strategic resources related to the profession of architecture in Australia and relevant overseas jurisdictions.



### **Two new online tools**

In 2015, AACCA commissioned the first comprehensive profile of the architecture profession in Australia, benchmarking it within Australia's \$100 billion built environment sector. The *Industry Profile: the profession of architecture in Australia* report brings together data and findings from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, IBISWorld Industry Research, independent local researchers and peak bodies, as well as the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

The report looks at architectural education for architects, the number of graduates of architecture Australia produces and what it is that architects do. It also looks at the size and importance of the sector - how many architects are registered in each Australian state and territory and the gender and age make up - markers that are useful in both the education and practice arenas. The Industry Profile Report is available online at the streamlined AACCA website.

*"It's the first time a complete profile of the profession has been compiled from independent data," says CEO Kate Doyle. "This profiling of the profession has also been critical to our current international conversations about mutual recognition agreements."*

Also available online at the AACCA website is a new interactive version of the National Standard of Competency for Architects - the threshold standard of what is expected of a practising architect in Australia.

*"We've developed the National Standard of Competency into an editable online tool that makes it clear to see how relevant aspects of the Standard relate to all the assessment processes on the pathway to registration as an architect in Australia," says Doyle.*

*"Typically users of this new functionality will be educators, curriculum designers, assessors and applicants for our assessment processes. Having a nationally accepted Standard has allowed us, in collaboration with the Architects Registration Boards around Australia, to streamline and develop new pathways to registration."*

*AACCA is the national voice for the Architects Registration Boards of Australia. It works closely with heads of schools of architecture, government and professional industry bodies to develop and administer programs of accreditation and assessment of qualifications to practice architecture in Australia. AACCA is a not-for-profit company, owned collectively by the Architects Registration Boards.*

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### **MEDIA INQUIRIES & IMAGES**

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### **LINKS**

[Industry Profile: the profession of architecture in Australia](#)

[National Standard of Competency for Architects](#)

[Architects Accreditation Council of Australia \(AACCA\)](#)