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IPWEA applauds the introduction of a new practice field for Asset Management Engineering by the Registration Authority at Engineering New Zealand.

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) proudly celebrates the introduction of a new practice field for Asset Management Engineering released by the Registration Authority at Engineering New Zealand.

We also acknowledge the invitation from Engineering New Zealand to provide input into their consultation process with an aim to support the broader professional ecosystem in advancing asset management professionalism in New Zealand.

"Recognising Asset Management Engineering as a distinct practice field within the CPEng framework marks a significant milestone for the profession. It acknowledges the specialist expertise required to optimise the performance and resilience of New Zealand's infrastructure, while providing engineers with a clear pathway for professional recognition. We're proud to support this step forward and the contribution it will make to the safety, sustainability, and future of our built environment", said Engineering New Zealand CEO, Richard Templer.

"New Zealand's infrastructure challenges—including climate resilience, ageing assets, and funding constraints—demand a sophisticated approach to asset stewardship. Recognising Asset Management Engineering as a distinct CPEng field validates the essential role that engineers play beyond asset creation, extending to optimisation, renewal planning, and performance assurance across infrastructure lifecycles", said IPWEA New Zealand Branch President, Erin Moogan.

IPWEA also notes the growing number of professionals in the asset management space—many of whom hold engineering qualifications but lack a defined professional identity. This change would formalise their contribution and attract new talent to the field.

IPWEA agrees that the growing need for Asset Management practitioners in New Zealand (2000+) underscores the importance of developing clear pathways for professional accreditation. Importantly, these pathways need to support professionals migrating into New Zealand, and those New Zealand professionals seeking global recognition. In this regard, it is critical that multiple development pathways are now recognised in the CPEng process.

Asset Management Engineering embodies all aspects of professional engineering: technical depth, ethical responsibility, risk assessment, complex problem-solving, and systemic thinking. It is inherently technical, underpinned by robust engineering methodologies, data analysis, and lifecycle modelling. The field's focus on optimised decision-making, sustainability, and performance outcomes also directly aligns with the CPEng competency standards.

Additionally, we are pleased that the Practice Field includes reference to internationally recognised standards (ISO55000 suite), the International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM), the International Infrastructure Financial Management Manual (IIFMM) which are accessed globally as the recognised practice manual for Asset Management.

"This new practice field acknowledges the continued critical importance of asset management in delivering sustainable infrastructure and services to communities across Australia, New Zealand, and beyond", said Steve Mooney, Country Head IPWEA Aotearoa | New Zealand.

For additional information about IPWEA, please get in touch with Steve Mooney, Country Head IPWEA Aotearoa | New Zealand, at steve.mooney@ipwea.org You can follow IPWEA and subscribe to the Intouch newsletter at www.ipwea.org/intouch.

About IPWEA

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) is the Peak association for public works professionals across Australia and New Zealand. IPWEA provides internationally recognised educational programs in infrastructure asset management, tools, publications, and resources that link directly to global best practices