

Celebrating NAIDOC Week in the RTA Library

Road safety is an important issue for everyone, but research shows that a disproportionate number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are injured or killed every year on our roads. The NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) is committed to building relationships with Aboriginal communities to raise the profile and acceptance of road and bridge projects, heritage issues, licensing programs and road safety initiatives, as well as improving Aboriginal employment opportunities within the Authority.

NAIDOC Week is a central focus of these activities. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week is an annual celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage and takes place during the first week of July. The theme this year was 'Our future begins in solidarity'. In keeping with this theme, and for the second year running, the RTA Library hosted the launch of NAIDOC Week to celebrate the work the Authority

has done to improve road safety outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Library staff worked with the RTA Aboriginal Program Unit to organise the launch. It included an acknowledgement of the Daruk, the traditional owners of the land, a welcome to country, an Aboriginal performance and the presentation of awards for the RTA Indigenous Employee of the Year and the Reconciliation Award for a non-Aboriginal staff member who has demonstrated support for the RTA's *Aboriginal Action Plan*.

The RTA Library used the occasion to present its bibliography, in the Hot Topics series, *The impact of the built environment on indigenous cultural heritage*. The bibliography lists resources covering archaeology, landscape, Aboriginal relationship with the land, and the impact of infrastructure development on Aboriginal communities. A previous bibliography, *Transport issues for indigenous people*, covered road



An Aboriginal performer from Thullii Dreaming at the launch of NAIDOC Week at the Roads and Traffic Authority Library

trauma research, driver training and mobility for Aboriginal people.

The RTA Library is proud to contribute to road safety strategies that address local road safety issues in a culturally effective way, and to developing awareness of Aboriginal cultural heritage matters.

Teresa Savage, manager, Roads and Traffic Authority Library

New 13-digit ISBN

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has published a new edition of its heavily utilised ISBN standard, providing the international book identification system with increased capacity for the future.

The fourth edition of ISO 2108, *Information and documentation – International Standard Book Number (ISBN)*, introduces the first major change in decades to the global ISBN system, moving from a 10-digit to a 13-digit number, with an implementation date of 1 January 2007. The date reflects the need for advance preparation by the publishing industry and its outlets in order to accommodate the change.

Since 1970, the ISBN has been an essential feature of the global book trade, fundamental to ordering systems and facilitating rights management and the monitoring of sales data, as well as being a key component in library catalogue records. The global success of the ISBN system is the envy of other industries. But its very success is causing it to run out of capacity. The explosive growth of electronic publishing has added to the pressure on supply of ISBNs.

A new version of the original ISO standard on the ISBN guarantees future ISBN capacity through a 13-digit system fully compatible with the original one. A principal benefit, reflected in the new ISO 2108, is consistency with plans

elsewhere to standardise trading systems around 13-digit barcodes as of 2005. Aligning the ISBN with other product numbering systems should make trade with non-book retailers more efficient.

Under the new ISO 2108, it will not be necessary to assign new ISBNs to products that have already been published with a 10-digit ISBN, but conversions from the 10-digit to 13-digit ISBN format will be required for existing products by 1 January 2007. Commercial systems will not support the 10-digit ISBN after that date.

Everyone who records, stores or exchanges ISBN data in an automated system will have to ensure that those systems can accommodate the 13-digit ISBN format by 1 January 2007. Although the change primarily affects systems, it will also have an impact on editorial processes, sales and marketing, warehouse management, production, accounting and cataloguing functions. Therefore publishers, distributors, retailers, libraries and automated system suppliers are advised to obtain the new ISO 2108.

Implementation guidelines for the 13-digit ISBN are available from the ISBN International Agency at <http://www.isbn-international.org/revision.html>.

Copies of ISO 2108:2005 are available for purchase from Standards Australia, ph 02 8206 6000; <http://www.standards.org.au>. ■