

Dr Baher Zaghlool appointed VBA Principal Structural Engineer

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) has appointed experienced engineer Dr Baher Zaghlool to the position of Principal Structural Engineer.

As Principal Structural Engineer, Dr Zaghlool will work closely with the Office of the State Building Surveyor to expand and enhance its structural engineering expertise, assist with responding to industry needs and help shape and implement future industry reforms.

Dr Zaghlool will also advise the VBA on best practice in managing risk and provide a holistic technical approach to regulation that will improve outcomes across the building industry.

Victoria's State Building Surveyor Andrew Cialini said the appointment will enhance the profile of structural engineering amongst the state's builders, building surveyors and other practitioners.

"Structural engineers play a crucial role in the design, construction and maintenance of buildings and as building technologies and practices continue to evolve, their expertise is highly sought after and valued."

"Their work requires a detailed and intricate knowledge of how structures are built, information which the entire construction industry relies on when building safely," Mr Cialini said.

"Dr Zaghlool's knowledge and experience as a structural engineer will enhance the work the VBA does in ensuring building compliance in Victoria."

Dr Zaghlool joins the VBA with a wealth of experience in directing and strategically planning major multidisciplinary building and civil works projects, including multi-billion-dollar transport, health and water projects.

A Fellow of the Institute of Engineers Australia (FIEAust) and Chartered Engineering Executive of Engineers Australia (EngExec), Dr Zaghlool's recent work includes roles as Meinhardt Group's State Structural Discipline leader in NSW as a director of the large national and international engineering company.

Dr Zaghlool completed his PhD in structures and earthquake engineering at the University of Canterbury in 2007, researching the topic, "Behaviour of three-dimensional concrete structures under concurrent orthogonal seismic excitations."