

<http://www.PodCE.com.au>

## PodCE

# Pod Casting offers a Cost Effective, Time Effective means of delivering high quality Continuing Education to your Computer, Ipod, or MP3 player 24 x 7

### Q1: What is a PodCast?

Basically, a PodCast is a sound file you can download from the internet.

If you have speakers on your computer you simply click on the PodCast URL in the same way as you would access any other webpage and the PodCast will start playing, exactly the same as if you had turned on your radio. (If this doesn't work, ask someone, like a ten year old kid, how to do it).

You can also download the entire file and transfer it to an Ipod or other MP3 player and listen to it through earphones while you go to work, go for your morning walk, or whatever.

I have downloaded PodCasts onto my mobile phone and have listened to them as I walk around Rozelle, to and from coffee.

### Q2: What is PodCE?

If you are a registered architect in NSW you have to do CE to maintain your registration. No ifs, butts or maybes, you have to do it.

As a CE service provider, we looked at ways of delivering CE and have decided that PodCasting is an extremely suitable medium for delivering cost and time effective, high quality CE.

### Q3: How do you guarantee quality?

We can't. All we can do is do our best and hope that you will find it interesting and useful.

If you don't like our PodCasts you won't listen to them and we will have to lift our game. If you do like our PodCasts you will listen to them, and we will still try to lift our game.

We are only just starting this service and hopefully we will get better and better at it over time.

### Q4: How does it save me time?

This is a no brainer.

Obviously it takes less time to listen to a PodCast on your computer or Ipod than to get into your car and drive somewhere, to attend a talk, workshop, seminar or conference.

On the other hand a PodCast can no more replace the experience of attending a live event than listening to music on the radio or on a CD can replace going to a concert.

### Q5: How does it save me money?

The biggest cost by far for CE is not what you pay to do a course, a conference or an on-line tutorial, but the cost of your own time.

The cost of your time will usually far outweigh the cost of the CE, so the real issue is not really what it costs, but is the CE event you are undertaking interesting and useful.

### Q6: How does your PodCE service work?

We have set up a web site, <http://www.PodCE.com.au> and we are listing our PodCasts on this site.

Our plan is to add new PodCasts every week, but don't keep us to it.

All you will have to do is go to our site, buy a single PodCast or take a subscription and start listening.

### Q7: Subscribe? Do you want me to pay for this?

Actually, yes.

When you start designing buildings for your clients for free, then we will think about providing our PodCasts for free.

Basically we are going to treat the PodCE service as if it is a magazine.

If you walk into a newsagent and see a magazine you want, you will buy it and if it is really interesting and useful, you will consider subscribing to it.

Our model will be very similar.

If you go to our web site and look at the PodCasts on offer and think one of them is interesting and useful, then you will probably buy it.

If you want to listen to our new PodCasts as they are published and have unlimited access to our entire collection, then you can take a yearly subscription.

The cost for a yearly subscription will be \$165.00 including gst (\$3.18/week).

#### **Q8: Will the PodCasts qualify for formal CE points?**

As I understand it, to qualify for formal CPE, there has to be 'significant interaction' or a 'test'. You can visit the NSW Architects Registration Board's site ([architects.nsw.gov.au](http://architects.nsw.gov.au)) to read the fine print.

Our PodCasts will be developed to provide informal CE, and where appropriate, we will also be providing a multiple choice test (for a fee) which will enable you to convert your informal CE to formal CE.

We will be charging a fee to cover the costs associated with setting and assessing the tests, and the administration costs required to issue certificates, record the results, and so on.

We will also aim to provide material in each of the four CPE competency areas (design, documentation, project management and practice management).

#### **Q9: Will the I be able to satisfy my entire CPE obligations through PodCE?**

We are going to do everything we can to make it possible for you to get all of your formal and informal CE through PodCE.

However, we doubt very much if many people will do this. We see PodCE as a complement to other forms of CE, not a replacement.

Hopefully though, it will be very useful for people who have difficulty getting to live events, who are stretched for time and for people who simply want to listen to our PodCasts because they find them interesting.

#### **Q10: What PodCasts are available right now?**

We have recorded a number of case studies which are basically talks with the people involved.

These include:

##### **David Blackwell**

David is a sole practitioner working from his home in Rozelle and mainly doing residential and small commercial projects.

The first of two talks is about how he manages his practice, chooses clients and the business side of the practice.

The second talk is about his use of ArchiCAD as a 3D CAD modeling tool and how this impacts on every aspect of his practice from sketch design through to documentation.

##### **Petra Kleegraefe**

Petra is a lighting consultant and this talk is the first in a series of "Working with your Consultant" PodCasts.

This talk covers the how she works with architects, the benefits that flow from using a lighting consultant, her approach to large and small projects and pet hates and misconceptions in lighting design.

##### **Bob Bow**

Bob has a practice of around nine people, all of whom are on contract, in Summer Hill.

The first of his talks covers how his practice started, staffing, fee structures and his approach to the business side of running a practice.

The second talk discusses in detail how the practice designs, documents and administers the construction of school buildings.

##### **John Hamilton Doyle**

John spent a nine years in Italy working for Alvar Aalto and when he returned to Australia found that it was difficult to get work so he became a builder.

He talks about how he operates as an architect and a builder, building his own and other architects projects, and how he feels this helps him provide a high quality of service to his clients.

Happy listening,

##### **Frank Lowe**

CE CO-ORDINATOR