



utility arborist association

UAAA
australia

STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2012



Arboriculture **Australia**



Table of Contents

Utility Arborist Association of Australia	3
Background of UAAA	3
UAAA Aims	4
UAAA Goals & Objectives	5
Organisational Structure of UAAA	7



Utility Arborist Association of Australia

The Utility Arborist Association of Australia (UAAA) has structured itself to become the peak national body for Australia's Utility Arborists and Vegetation Managers to provide assistance and expertise for all pertinent issues relating to Utility Arboriculture.

Whilst initially focussing on Utilities within the Electricity Distribution & Transmission industry, the UAAA aims to build its capability to encompass all Utilities involved with vegetation management across Australia.

It is estimated that the Electricity Industry Utilities across Australia invests in the vicinity of \$600M per annum managing vegetation around powerlines and employs approximately 2,500 employees and contractors.

Background of UAAA

In October 2006 the International Society of Arboriculture – Australian Chapter (ISAAC) held a meeting in Geelong (VIC) to discuss the possibility/viability of establishing an industry body in Australia that would enable Utilities and Contractors to develop an avenue for industry forums and shared expertise on a range of issues facing the industry such as education, safety, management methodologies, innovation, regulatory input and communication.

It was agreed at this meeting that such an industry body would be supported by and become a division of ISAAC (Arboriculture Australia), which already has established links with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and the Utility Arborist Association (UAA [USA/Canada]).

Following successful Arboriculture Australia (AA) annual national conferences from 2007 to 2011, growing interest and Utility support for establishing an industry body led to the

formal establishment of the UAAA Standing Committee as a subset of Arboriculture Australia in 2011.

The Standing Committee of the UAAA is structured to include a cross section of Utilities and Contractors from across Australia and aims to have representation from all Australian States & Territories.



UAAA Aims

The UAAA aims to:

- Influence and promote safe, efficient and effective vegetation management programs for Utilities throughout Australia by providing professional representation and advocacy on behalf of its members.
- Promote collaboration throughout Utilities within Australia to ensure best practices, continuous improvement and national consistency delivers sustainability to industry and the environment.
- Be recognised as the peak body for Utility forums and expert advice on matters relating to safety, policy, regulation and innovation.

UAAA Goals & Objectives

The UAAA goals & objectives are to:

1. Enhance safety within Utility vegetation management activities.

UAAA will:

- Engage with State & National bodies in developing policy, guide lines and best management practices
- Work with our members to address concerns and issues relating to specific safety issues
- Provide expertise and representation where requested to all associated stakeholders



UAAA Goals & Objectives (continued)

2. Proactively communicate with members to ensure dissemination of knowledge and provide opportunities for networking among members.

UAAA will:

- Provide members with regular updates and education on relevant matters occurring nationally and internationally through print and electronic media
- Organise conferences, workshops and agendas to enable face-to-face discussion
- Pursue further development of relationships with other organisations and continually build UAAA's capability & growth

3. Ensure training requirements are appropriately targeted and adequately address industry requirements.

UAAA will:

- Evaluate training environment to look for improvements including 'portability' and effectiveness
- Provide advice on practical approaches for industry relevance and career development
- Assist in the alignment of training into national competencies



UAAA Goals & Objectives (continued)

4. Actively drive efficiency and innovation to ensure sustainability for industry and the environment through a collaborative approach with members.

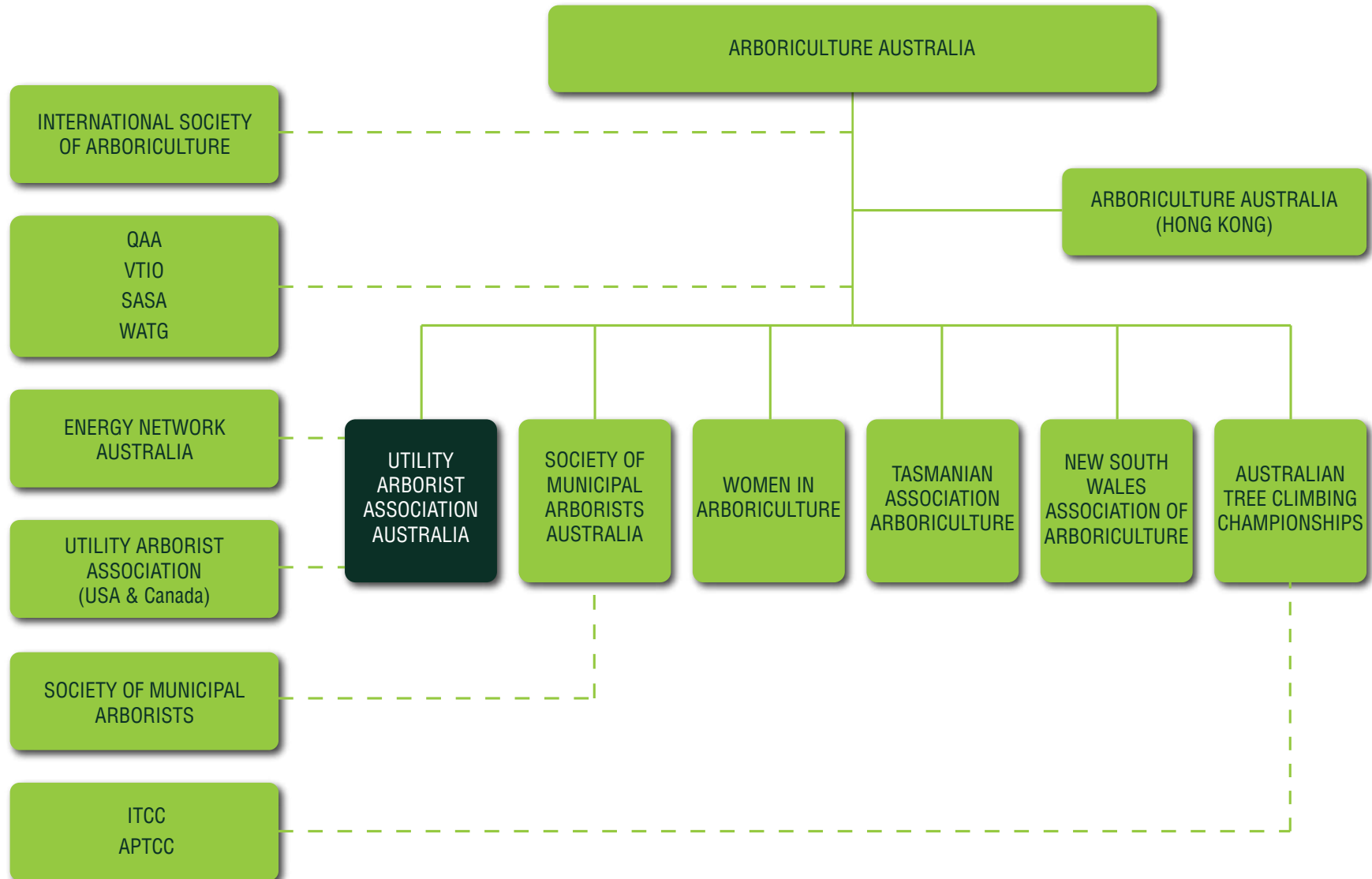
UAAA will:

- Identify opportunities for research and development through national & international affiliations and contacts
- Assist in development of business cases for specific topics
- Develop a process for determining appropriateness of projects to be considered
- Seek and manage funding for selected research and development projects
- Provide peer review of research and discussion papers
- Assist Utilities with knowledge and tools currently being utilised and/or developed nationally & internationally, such as:
 - Tree growth regulators
 - Data management
 - Tools & equipment
 - Normalised Difference Vegetation Index (NDIV)
 - Light Detection And Ranging (LiDAR)
- Assist Utilities with provision of knowledge and updates on policy and planning issues experienced nationally & internationally, such as:
 - Various clearance/code requirements
 - Various maintenance cycles
 - Carbon issues
 - Contract forms & Commercial Agreements
 - Risk Management
 - Benchmarking
 - Building relationships with Local Government
 - Arboricultural practices



Organisational Structure of UAAA

The UAAA is a subset of Arboriculture Australia and is controlled by a Standing Committee comprised of a Chairman, Secretary and members from utilities, contractors and relevant industry sectors.





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Utility Arborist Association Australia Administration Office
PO Box 76, Edwardstown SA 5039
Phone 1300 664 374 or +61 8 8340 4911
Facsimile +61 8 8340 4909
enquiries@arboriculture.org.au

www.arboriculture.org.au