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COMPANY PROFILE

EQUAL ACCESS PTY LTD *DISABILITY ACCESS CONSULTANTS*

COMPANY PROFILE

Background Experience

Equal Access Pty Ltd is one of Australia's leading Accredited Disability Access Consultancies. We are registered with the Association of Consultants in Access Australia Inc and provide a specialist consulting service throughout Australia to enhance the built environment and to provide "Equal Access" for members of the community with a disability.

Equal Access was born from our passion for creating an environment that is accessible to all.

We specialise in providing practical, sensible advice on disability access issues to a variety of organisations in both the public and private sectors.

Equal Access Pty Ltd can assist in all areas of Disability Access Consulting and would welcome the opportunity to work with you.

Key Services

- *Review of new and refurbishment building plans and surrounding environs for compliance with disability access regulations*
- *Carry out building access audits of existing properties to identify potential barriers to access for people with disabilities*
- *Provide practical, sensible advice on disability access issues*
- *Design, Documentation & Permit consultation*
- *Design and prepare Mobility Maps*
- *Preparation of Disability Action Plans (DAP's)*
- *Due Diligence Reports and Property Condition Assessments*
- *Assist organisations with the preparation of Accessibility Policy and Guidelines*
- *Comprehensive online resource of products to improve access to the built environment*

Legislation

The various legislative documents that relate to disability access are highly complex and subject to constant change. This includes the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), the Building Code of Australia (BCA) & the suite of AS1428 Australian Standards.

The Objectives of the DDA is to make it unlawful to discriminate against persons with a disability in connection with employment, the provision of goods, facilities and services or the management of premises. The legal requirements of the Act affect the majority of existing commercial and public building occupiers. Discrimination occurs if, because of a person's disability, the person is, or is proposed to be treated less favourably than a person without the disability.

Litigation over property access and compliance is increasing at an astounding rate. Property and business owners are subject to substantial and often unexpected liability.

Why Use Equal Access?

- *We consult Nationally*
- *Accredited by the Association of Consultants in Access Australia Inc.*
- *High level of experience working within Project Teams.*
- *Registered Building Practitioners*
- *Have a Quality Management System*
- *Have “National Police Certificate”.*
- *Have “Working with Children Certificate”*
- *We use a full range of scientific testing equipment.*
- *Specialists in Egress and Evacuation by people with a disability.*
- *Insurance Cover - Professional Indemnity \$5M and Public Liability \$10M*

ACCESS STANDARDS

Our consultations are based upon the following (but not limited to) current accessibility standards and other relevant publications:

- *The current Building Code of Australia (BCA);*
- *The Federal Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Amended);*
- *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006;*
- *The Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010;*
- *AS 1428.1 (2009) - Design for access and mobility - General requirements for access - New building work*
- *AS/NZS 1428.4.1 (2009) - Design for access and mobility - Part 4.1: Means to assist the orientation of people with vision impairment Tactile ground surface indicators*
- *AS 1428.5 (2010) - Design for access and mobility - Communication for people who are deaf or hearing impaired*
- *AS/NZS 2890.6 (2009) - Parking facilities, Part 6: Off-street parking for people with disabilities*
- *Australian Standard AS1735.12 (1999) - Lifts, escalators and moving walks: Facilities for persons with disabilities;*
- *Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Advisory Notes;*

QUALITY POLICY

Equal Access Pty Ltd (incorporating Evacuation Chairs Australia) is passionate about delivering an accessible environment to people with disability. Equal Access Pty Ltd specialises in providing practical advice on disability access issues, as well as selling evacuation chairs to a variety of organisations in the private and public sectors.

Equal Access Pty Ltd is committed to understanding, meeting and exceeding customer and client requirements through continually improving its processes. We are determined to assist clients in delivering a fully accessible “built environment”.

Equal Access Pty Ltd will achieve this by ensuring that our Quality Management System complies with ISO 9001:2008 and that its effectiveness is continually reviewed. The quality policy aims to:

- Work economically with all our clients and customers.
- Work with all our clients and customers in an ethical and legal manner with written contract agreements.
- Deliver our projects to clients and customers on time and on budget with the intention of satisfying their expectations.
- Maintain a level of customer focus with the public that the clients and authorities would be expected to provide themselves.
- Provide evidence when requested, that all works have been constructed in accordance with the contract specified requirements and our Quality Management System requirements.
- Employ the processes of continuous improvement and management review to add value to our work and ensure ongoing improvement of our business.
- Use toolbox meetings with employees and the client with the aim of working safely and without damage to the environment on all projects.
- Use professional advice where necessary to ensure that our company satisfies the legal requirements of the Health and Safety Acts and any other legislation or legal requirements covering the projects we work on.

Equal Access Pty Ltd has established, implemented and maintained quality objectives by:

- Meeting client and customer-specified contractual requirements.
- Achieving a “right first time” outcome in all cases.
- Practising “think green” activities within the office environment to reduce personal impact upon the natural environment.
- Identifying potential health and safety risks on-site.
- Ensuring consistency in the delivery of all business functions.
- Providing quality verification for all services.

Equal Access Pty Ltd will achieve the above objectives by having suitably trained, competent and committed employees who understand the company objectives and operations of our

Quality Management System. We investigate and recommend business improvements. We use a prepared management review agenda to set targets and review our objectives at regular intervals determined by the Director.

KEY PERSONNEL

Bruce Bromley

Accredited Disability Access Consultant

Association of Consultants in Access Australia, Inc.

Registration No MN187 Assessment, Auditing & Design

Building Practitioner Registration No DP-AD 27678

Bruce is one of Australia's leading Accredited Disability Access Consultants. He has over 24 years experience in Architectural Design, Documentation & Project Management on a range of projects including Educational, Commercial, Retail and Industrial for both the Public and Private sectors.

Bruce has extensive experience in disability access & functionality. His experience has been gained initially whilst designing a large number of Specialist Schools throughout Victoria in addition to consulting on accessibility for many Local/State Government projects and a varying range of commercial projects.

Affiliations

- *Member - Australian Institute of Building Surveyors. Membership #4225*
- *Member, Centre for Accessible Environments UK. Membership #2600*
- *Member – Fire Protection Association Australia. Membership #17022*
- *Sitting member – FPA Technical & Advisory Committee TAC17 Emergency Planning*
- *Registered Building Practitioner. DP-AD 27678*
- *Completed Vic Roads DDA design workshop for Road & Public Transport design.*

Con Livanos

Accredited Disability Access Consultant

Association of Consultants in Access Australia, Inc.

Registration No MN298 Assessment & Auditing

Building Practitioner Registration No BSU-1313

Con has over 20 years experience in the building industry in both the Private Sector and Local Government. This experience spans over a diverse range of fields - 14 years as a building surveyor, 3 years managing the planning department at the City of Melbourne and 4 years as a structural designer.

Con's experience in building surveying, which includes access advice, is extensive with the ability to assess a range of large and complex projects – residential, commercial, public and industrial. He has worked for some of Victoria's largest consultancy companies and has consulted on many projects. Con also has formal qualifications to assess fire engineered performance based solutions.

Affiliations/Qualifications

- *Member - Australian Institute of Building Surveyors*
- *Registered Building Practitioner. BSU-1313*
- *Bachelor of Technology – Building Surveying*
- *Graduate Certificate in Performance Based Building and Fire Codes*
- *Diploma of Building Surveying*
- *Advance Diploma – Civil Engineering*

Consulting

Access Consultants form a critical part of a projects team ensuring no member of the community is unable to use the facilities either for safety reasons, independence, hearing and communication and most importantly enabling them to maintain their dignity.

The following outline areas, which will be assessed during our typical consultation.

- *External Environments and Approach - this may include access from site boundary, vehicle setting down, parking facilities, pedestrian routes, public spaces and pathways. Features are likely to include wayfinding, surfaces, ramps, steps, handrails, external lifts, lighting, general safety.*
- *Wayfinding - signage, pathways, tactile ground surface indicators, tactile/audio maps*
- *Doors - vision panels/glazing manifestation, entrance matting, lobby sizes, entry control/security systems, automatic/manual operating systems, safety controls, thresholds, clear widths, closer strengths and door furniture*
- *Horizontal Circulation - corridor widths, circulation areas, obstructions, clearance widths, TGSI's and hazards*
- *Vertical Circulation - platform lifts, stairlifts, passenger lifts, control locations, stairs, step nosing's, ramps, handrail profiles and pitch heights*
- *Facilities - reception desks, information, communications, seating, refreshment and vending areas, sports and leisure facilities, classrooms, interactive displays, showcases*
- *Sanitary Facilities - accessible and general WC's, sizes, location, fittings, dispensers, doors, alerting systems, shower rooms and wash facilities*

- *Means of Escape - refuge spaces, accessible escape routes, evacuation arrangements, alarm call points, visual, acoustic and tactile alerting systems*
- *Lighting - glare control, switch positions and assistive aids*
- *Acoustics - general quality, echo, assistive equipment*
- *Finishes - walls, ceilings, decor, light reflectance, contrast, absorbency, floor finishes, slip resistance, visual/tactile properties*
- *Fixtures - display of notices, clarity and simplicity of information to meet the widest possible range of diverse user needs, collections and exhibits*
- *Information/communication - telephones, videophones, inductive couplers, textphones, sound enhancement systems, induction loops, infrared, radio, TV/video, PA systems*

Legislation

We are driven by the desire to deliver a high quality consultancy service to the professionals that will shape this environment.

We specialise in providing practical, sensible advice on disability access issues, including the Disability Discrimination Act, Building Code of Australia and Suite of Australian Standards, to a variety of organisations in both the public and private sectors.

The Objectives of the DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) is to make it unlawful to discriminate against persons with a disability in connection with employment, the provision of goods, facilities and services or the management of premises. The legal requirements of the Act affect the majority of existing commercial and public building occupiers.

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