

**Question on Notice
No. 800
Asked on 24 May 2007**

MS NOLAN asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology
(MR SCHWARTEN)-

QUESTION:

Will he provide advice on the latest tool being used to manage asbestos in public buildings?

ANSWER:

A new web-based Asbestos Register, BEMIR (Built Environment Materials Information Register), has recently been developed by the Department of Public Works to further improve the management of asbestos in public buildings.

BEMIR is a user-friendly system that has been designed to support compliance with the Queensland Government's Asbestos Management and Control Policy for Government Buildings which was approved in July 2006.

The new electronic system is being rolled out to departments between May and August 2007.

BEMIR is an innovative system that can be accessed at any place at any time and will streamline the process of managing asbestos at individual facilities such as schools.

Trials of the system were undertaken within selected schools, health facilities and government office buildings over a three month period late last year, to test the system and check for improvements.

The advantages of the system are that asbestos records can be updated quickly and conveniently, and it allows departments to have immediate online access to those records and reporting in the event of an asbestos-related incident. Ultimately, BEMIR will provide facility managers with a comprehensive picture of asbestos in government buildings, literally through the click of a button.