



WELCOME

Welcome to the Winter edition of XLERPLATE® *Steel In Touch*.

In this issue we bring you the latest news on developments in the industry, XLERPLATE® steel product updates, and announce some of our monthly prize winners in the 'Backing the Aussie Spirit' campaign.

We also introduce you to the advantages of using our online business portal, Bluescopesteelconnect.com™ which provides instant access to 12 months' data history, allowing you to cost-effectively and efficiently transact

with BlueScope Steel 24 hours a day, seven days a week. See page 2 for details.

We include a 'Tech Talk' section addressing technical queries relating to XLERPLATE® steel.

As always, we welcome your feedback and on behalf of the BlueScope XLERPLATE® steel team, thank you for your continued support. Happy reading!

Ted Lojszczyk
State Sales Manager – SA & NT

ADELAIDE WEATHER RADAR A WINNER

An advanced weather radar tower made from XLERPLATE® steel has won the Judge's Special Award at South Australia's Australian Steel Institute (ASI) steel industry awards.

The S1 Doppler radar tower, now operational at Buckland Park on Adelaide's northern outskirts, was fabricated by Keppel Prince Engineering from 62 tonnes of XLERPLATE® steel.

GHD Pty Ltd consulting engineers, who won the ASI award, chose Keppel Prince Engineering to fabricate the Bureau of Meteorology's radar support tower in January 2005.

It is the first of six new technologically advanced radar systems to be installed around the country as part of the Federal Government's five-year, \$62.2 million commitment to replace older, less powerful radar systems throughout Australia.

"The tower is around twice the size of the radar tower at Mount Gambier," Keppel Prince Engineering's Estimating Manager Brian Messenger said. "It stands more than 20 metres high, 3.8 metres in diameter and 7.2 metres in diameter at the widest point of the conical section at the top."

The tower supports a radar dish protected by a 13-metre diameter golf-ball-like fibreglass structure called a radome.



The award-winning radar tower at Buckland Park.

The structure, which includes a door frame, miscellaneous cleats, spiral stair supports, base rings and stiffener rings, is made from Grade 250 XLERPLATE® steel in 12mm, 16mm and 20mm thicknesses.

"Handling of the larger section of the cone was challenging because it was wide and weighed about 18 tonnes," Mr Messenger said. "The timeframe was also tight so we had to work shifts for most of the project's duration to ensure it was completed on time."

Keppel Prince Engineering, which had 20 employees working on the tower during its busiest phase, delivered it to site in three parts – the main body, large cone section and small cone section.

The S1 Doppler radar tower provides the Bureau of Meteorology with improved data on rain and severe weather conditions.

It is the first radar tower fabricated by Keppel Prince Engineering, which has a reputation for fabricating wind towers.

The Victorian-based company is now fabricating 53 wind towers for the \$400 million Lake Bonney Stage II wind farm project near Millicent.



XLERPLATE® AUSSIE SPIRIT WINNERS

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BACKING THE AUSSIE SPIRIT WINNERS

Entries have closed for the XLERPLATE® steel "Backing The Aussie Spirit" Campaign.

The final monthly prize and grand prize draws – three overseas trips to an international sporting event, valued at \$15,000 each – were drawn in the first week of June.

We'll show you some of the winners in the next edition of XLERPLATE® *Steel In Touch*, along with some overall campaign results.

Some of our monthly prize winners include:

- Australian Made winner – Nick Woodward – JFK Engineering, WA
- Speed of Delivery winner – Peter Higgins – W. E. Smith, New South Wales
- Diversity winner – Tom Mikac – Surdex, Victoria



Nick Woodward



Peter Higgins



Tom Mikac



Anglo Coal Australia's dragline will be similar to this.

BUCYRUS AUSTRALIA'S WORLD-FIRST DRAGLINE

Bucyrus Australia has won a 23-month contract to supply a 5,600 tonne electric walking dragline to Anglo Coal Australia.

The Bucyrus 8750AC is the first fully AC (alternating current) conventional drive dragline built by the company.

"Latest technology is critical for a machine that has a working life in excess of 30 years," Bucyrus Australia Sales and Marketing Manager Larry Slattery said. "We won the contract because the AC drive system in the Bucyrus 8750AC will make the dragline more productive, less expensive to operate, and quieter and easier to maintain."

Bucyrus International and its partner Siemens Energy and Automation pioneered AC drive systems almost 30 years ago. The AC drive system has become the preferred technology for heavy equipment in surface mining.

The Bucyrus 8750AC has been commissioned for Anglo Coal Australia's Lake Lindsay Project in Central Queensland near Middlemount, and is expected to be operational in August 2008.

The dragline's bucket will have the capacity to remove 168 tonnes of overburden from the mine. Its combined drive systems for the hoist, drag, swing and walking motions will

have more than 37,500 applied horsepower.

Work started on the walking dragline in September 2006. The design, fabrication and construction processes are being carried out simultaneously because of the machine's size.

The project is expected to require about 3,500 tonnes of XLERPLATE® steel, supplied by distributor OneSteel.

"The project's scale and deadlines mean we rely on our close working relationships with BlueScope Steel and OneSteel to ensure XLERPLATE® steel can be delivered to multiple fabricators at specific times," Manager of Special Projects Geoff Hoffman said. "The surface finish and material properties of XLERPLATE® steel are always of a consistently high quality, and we can rely on their flexibility of supply, which is critical for structural steel work, mechanical components and replacement parts.

"The quality of BlueScope Steel products is second to none – the manufacturing processes always meet our specific test requirements."

There are more than 70 Bucyrus draglines operating in Australia, with Bucyrus Australia designing and manufacturing the second largest dragline in the world – the 6,745-tonne Bucyrus 8750 dragline – for Ensham Resources last year.

BLUESCOPESTEELCONNECT.COM™ BENEFITS BUSINESS

XLERPLATE® steel customers can experience easier, faster and more cost-efficient transactions by using BlueScope Steel's online business portal, bluescopesteelconnect.com™.

The service is online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Customers can place orders, view outstanding order details, order status and despatch details, as well as view invoices, adjustments and statements.

The portal also allows XLERPLATE® steel customers

to obtain 12 month data history records, helping to identify order pattern trends and analysis.

"Bluescopesteelconnect.com™ can reduce customers' procurement-to-pay process from hours to minutes," BlueScope Steel Electronic Trading Manager – Marketing Tony Hart said.

XLERPLATE® steel despatch details can be instantly accessed, allowing customers to search for up to 12 months of despatch advice history. This provides customers with the ability to

instantly reconcile invoice-to-receivables and identify inconsistencies.

Test certificates can be viewed, reducing customer filing, storage and retrieval costs. More than 15 years of test certificate history is also available.

Membership is open to all BlueScope Steel customers by simply going to www.bluescopesteelconnect.com, completing the registration form, and having it signed by their BlueScope Steel Account Manager.

TECH TALK - XLERPLATE® STEEL EDGE CONDITION

When ordering pattern plate it is very important to be aware there are two types of edge condition, trimmed and untrimmed.

Trimmed edge is produced by shearing or gas cutting the 'as rolled' longitudinal edges from the plate. Untrimmed edge (also referred to as 'Mill edge') retains the 'as rolled' longitudinal edge.

It is recommended that untrimmed edges should not be used directly in any fabrication. Untrimmed plate should be re-squared prior to use, and it is recommended that equal trim be taken from each edge.

If you would like further information, please contact our XLERPLATE® Customer Service group or your BlueScope Steel sales office.



EXAMPLE:

Untrimmed plate should be re-squared prior to use, and it is recommended that equal trim be taken from each edge.

FABRICATOR'S CORNER

The tanks are welded at SLE's Pinelands workshop in Darwin.



PROCESS TANKS FOR NT MINING PROJECT

Darwin-based fabricator Specialised Labour and Engineering (SLE) is finalising fabrication work on 29 process tanks for a new Northern Territory mine.

SLE began fabricating the tanks in December 2006 for Compass Resources NL base metal exploration at Batchelor, about 100km south of Darwin.

"We're fabricating the mixing tanks in three sizes – 3.5 tonnes, 4.4 tonnes and 16 tonnes," Managing Director Jav Jovanovich said. "There are 16 large tanks measuring 7.1 metres in diameter and 7.8 metres high, which will be used as acid leach tanks, and resin in pulp tanks.

"The smaller tanks, measuring 3.7 metres in diameter and 3.1 metres high, and 2.8 metres in diameter and 3m high, will be used for iron precipitation and nickel cobalt precipitation."

SLE ordered 300 tonnes of Grade 250 XLERPLATE® steel for the project through distributor OneSteel Metaland.

"We're using XLERPLATE® steel in eight millimetre thicknesses for the tank bases, and six millimetre thicknesses for the walls," Mr Jovanovich said.

"XLERPLATE® steel is a reliable product with consistent roll-forming quality."

The company has delivered the smaller tanks to Batchelor, and is now finalising work on the large tanks, which will be delivered in two pieces (top and bottom halves) before being assembled on-site.

SLE also contracted Darwin fabricator EC&E to help with fabrication, allowing the company to meet the tight deadline.

All tanks have been designed to meet American



Petroleum Institute (API) Standard 650 for above-ground storage tanks.

SLE, established in 1987, employs about 30 people at its 1500-square-metre Pinelands workshop.

"We're very well set up to carry out medium-to-heavy fabrication work, and also have the largest capacity machine shop in Darwin," Mr Jovanovich said. "Our machinery includes horizontal borers, lathes, and six overhead cranes with a total lifting capacity of 47 tonnes."

SLE regularly carries out work for the marine, defence, oil and gas, mining, and construction industries. Clients include Alcan G3, Darwin Port Corporation, Thiess, Woodside and Origin Energy.

"We're also currently working on the Darwin LNG project for Bechtel Australia, undertaking design changes and minor modifications to the recently commissioned LNG plant," Mr Jovanovich said.

SLE also operates a team of boilermakers, and fitters and turners who conduct on-site maintenance work at mines.

The XLERPLATE® Team

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IN THE HOT SEAT TONY HART

(who features in page 2 story, Bluescopesteelconnect.com™
Benefits Business)

Name: Tony Hart**Job title:** Electronic Trading Manager – Marketing**Number of years with BlueScope Steel:**

37 (pew that's a long time)

Number of years in the steel industry: 37**Description of current role:** To develop e-solutions for all facets of customer transactions**What I like most about my job:** The constant development and change of technologies and how BlueScope Steel can best apply it**Time spent on the phone each day:**

Probably 1-2 hours

Emails received on average per day: Oh the bane of my life – anywhere between 30 and 60**Man / woman I most admire:** All of my past colleagues who have made their retirement successful**Craziest thing I've ever done:** Too embarrassed to repeat!**Earliest childhood memory:** Trying to ride paddy calves belonging to the local farmer**What kick-starts my day:** The damn alarm clock**Best invention of the last century:**

The internet

All-time favourite song: Bat Out of Hell by Meatloaf**Worst television program:** Big Brother**Hardest habit to break:** Wanting to spend more time with my horses**Favourite food:** Can't beat a good, thick rib-eye steak**Best car on the road/favourite car of all time:** Favourite car of all time was my HR Holden Panel Van – had a blast with that vehicle**My pet hate:** Tail-gaters when driving**I spend most weekends...** Riding horses, catching up with family and friends, and mowing lawns**If I had \$1m to blow it would be on...** A nice rural property**If I could have one person over for dinner, it would be...** That's a tough one because there are so many interesting people in the world – Bill Clinton would be one of them**Favourite holiday destination ever:** Toss up between the Greek and Cook Islands

ANYTHING BUT STEEL

A snapshot of some of the world's more exotic foods shows that Australians who've eaten witchety grubs look tame.

Breakfast in Hungary could consist of pig's blood with scrambled eggs, especially at the start of the pig season when killing the first pig is considered a feat!

In Spain, squid sandwiches are typical lunchtime fare, with the squid fried and served between two slices of fresh bread.

Typical Mexican snacks might include tacos sesos, made from cows' brains, while in Ecuador you could be served cuy – a guinea pig-like creature often spit-roasted.

Asian fare includes smoked bats, said to look like skeletal brown mice and taste like beef jerky



(Indonesia), tarantulas (Cambodia), scorpions (Vietnam) and seahorses (China).

Meanwhile, in the US, some restaurants serve corn smut, a purple-coloured fungus that grows on corn. Its 'velvety body' is said to be a great soup flavouring.

NEW PRODUCT INFO BOOK

XLERPLATE® steel customers will receive a new product information book soon.

The book will contain important product, grade and technical information, including how to reference and use data sheets, test certificates and size schedule information.

While a size schedule will not be included in the book, the current version will be available to download from www.xlerplate.com.au.

The new book will detail safety requirements for those working with XLERPLATE® steel, and will also contain an overview of BlueScope Steel and general Plate Mill and Hot Strip Mill information.

