

Showcasing the successes, innovation and developments in the  
**Fencing - Gate - Wire Industries**

# THE LINK



## LIBERTY STEEL'S RECENT MILESTONES

Read about recent developments at Liberty Steel, including exciting plans to export 100,000 tonnes of steel slab to Wales to meet UK and EU steel demand. [Page 5](#)



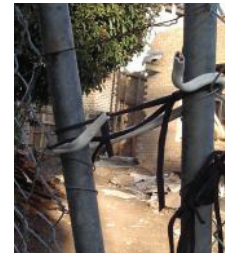
## SECURITY FENCING LICENSING

Individuals / companies who sell / or install security fences in NSW may require a license. Read to see if your company has obligations under these regulations. [Page 7](#)



## GROWING RISK TO THE PUBLIC FROM SHODDY INSTALLATION

Raises the question of who is verifying temporary fencing has been installed to manufacturer's instructions and does not pose a risk to public safety. [Page 10](#)



## PRODUCT RECALL

SafeTech issues a product recall associated with its swimming pool latches after identifying a potential intermittent fault with the striker component of their key lockable pool gate latches. [Page 4](#)



## MELBOURNE CONFERENCE

On Tuesday morning 18<sup>th</sup> September as part of the AWIA Melbourne conference a plant tour has been arranged at Bosch Australia Manufacturing Solutions. Following the afternoon conference session at the Park Hyatt members are invited to join us for dinner at the MCG.  
Contact Richard Newbigin for more information 1300 942 500 [Page 3](#)

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## VICTORIAN REPORT

The Temporary fencing working group has met in Victoria on a number of occasions in recent months in relation to the proposed revision of the Temporary Fencing Standard. As a consequence of these meetings many suggestions and amendments have been forwarded to the CE008 Standards Technical committee for its consideration.

Standards Australia has tasked the CE008 Committee, a body of industry stakeholders, with the responsibility of drafting the actual new standard.

The working group, which is made up of Temporary fencing industry members has worked diligently over the last 24 months presenting drafting suggestions which are in the best interest of the Temporary fencing industry and hopefully which will lift installation standards where they are required.

Local members of the working group include David Williams (TTFS), Bruce Fouracre (1300Temp Fence), Andrew Lee (Victorian Temporary Fencing) and Rod Wilkie (Melbourne Testing Services).



## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN REPORT

Director/Secretary, Richard Newbigin, spent three days at the end of May visiting Perth members and potential members before heading off to Europe. He had a busy program with 8 meetings over two days and travelling from East Rockingham in the south to Neerabup and Bullsbrook in the north.

One Perth member was busy commissioning two Wafios DF5 chain mesh machines purchased through a deal initiated by the Association from a Queensland fencing company. Any members in the market to buy or sell machines should consider speaking to Richard Newbigin or Brian Mullarvey for assistance.

Market conditions still remain fairly tight in the West, and some of our fencing members are using this downturn to expand their operations to the east coast.



## QUEENSLAND REPORT

AFIA secretary Brian Mullarvey visited Brisbane in June and met with fencing members and other industry stakeholders. Discussions took place with a number of sliding gate makers and automation specialists regarding the compilation of the proposed Australian Code of Practice for sliding metal gates.

Unfortunately the project has been stalled over the past few months due to the additional workload associated with finalizing the Association's input into the revised Australian Standard AS4687 for Temporary Fencing and Hoardings. However it is hoped that we will be able to circulate more information on the Code of Practice over the coming months.



## NEW ZEALAND REPORT

New Zealanders, in general, have always been known for their ability to problem solve and improvise on the run. In part this trait has no doubt come as a result of their relative isolation, and lack of ready access to materials and spare parts.

Where is this trait connected to the wire industry? Well, because in New Zealand, this trait is known as 'Number 8 wire' mentality from a time when 8 gauge fencing wire was the 'go to' product for mending most things that were broken. This 'fix it on the run' approach, while admirable, has meant that NZ inventions borne of necessity have not always been well commercialised, in spite of the fact that they may have been innovative.

Let us know who you think has been NZ's best known innovator.



## Wall thickness is equally as important

When ordering pipe for heavy duty chain-link security fencing projects where compliance to the Australian standard is a requirement, not only should the diameter of the pipe comply with the standard, the wall thickness of the various diameters is equally as important.

More information on chain-link fabric fencing can be found in AS1725.1 - 2010

Copies of standard can be obtained from SAI Global Limited: **Phone: 13 12 42**

**Email: [sales@saiglobal.com.au](mailto:sales@saiglobal.com.au)**

## NOTE FROM PRESIDENT

So it's August and the City to Surf has been run and won, that means summer is on the way and so is the conference.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the AGM and Bosch factory tour on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September in Melbourne. We have already had a huge response so book in as we can only take 30 on the tour. The AGM and dinner to follow is always fun so don't miss out.



We have a number of new members in the last few months and I welcome you to our association and encourage you to get involved and meet your fellow members.

Coming along and meeting other interested wire and fence industry people is the best way to make the most of your AWIA membership. I can personally attest to this as I moved to NSW in 2009 not knowing a soul in the wire industry outside of Victoria, and now through the association, I have friends all over Australia, many of whom are suppliers, allies, customers and conspirators. These are people who know the industry and will share their vast knowledge with me, people who will help and always listen when needed.

The AWIA has been a great source of knowledge and friendship over these years and I strongly encourage our newest members to get involved.

I really hope that summer takes a fair bit longer to arrive, especially for those members living in rural areas and I'll see you in September.

Sincerely

*Charles Johnstone*

## MELBOURNE CONFERENCE 18 September 2018

As an introduction to Industry 4.0, and how it might impact on member manufacturing facilities in the future, a plant tour of the Bosch Australia Manufacturing Solutions Facility has been organised during the morning of our Melbourne Conference on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

After the tour, delegates will head back to the Park Hyatt for lunch, followed by our AGM, and a couple of guest speakers.

Dinner will follow at the MCG overlooking the arena and right in the middle of the AFL Finals series.

It's a great time to visit Melbourne, so please come along and use this opportunity to network with your fellow members.



## NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members:



South Fence Machinery situated in Christchurch, New Zealand, is a world leader in fence manufacturing technology, exporting its fence manufacturing machinery globally.

The Company offers a complete suite of fence machines – Fixed Knot, Hinge Joint and Stiff Stay. Mesh size and fence height can be adjusted to fully meet the end user's needs, and machine sales are made all over the world, but predominately in Australia and New Zealand.

Contact: +64 3 349 5492



## BLUEDOG FENCES AUSTRALIA

Bluedog Fences has been manufacturing powder coated tubular steel fencing at its Tamworth Factory for over 20 years. As well as servicing the Tamworth, North West and New England areas, over time the business has now expanded to supplying and installing tubular fencing for security, school and sporting projects nationally.

The company has its own powder coating facility and coupled with its reputation for quality, Bluedog Fences has been able to secure contracts from local councils and education institutions all over Australia for its Secura Top® range of fencing.

[www.bluedogfences.com.au](http://www.bluedogfences.com.au)

Contact: 1800 887 887

## New Premises Fencing and Gate



The Fencing & Gate Centre has moved. Though still in Underwood Brisbane, the distribution and production centre is now located in Parramatta Road, Underwood.

As well as stocking a full range of their own manufactured "OssyBound" Chain mesh, the new centre has the capability to manufacture a range of custom made domestic and commercial fencing and gates.

According to local Manager Simon, they have a dynamic team who will go the extra mile to provide you with the best product and services they have to offer.

Phone: (07) 3290 0121

Web:

[www.fencingandgate.com.au](http://www.fencingandgate.com.au)







## REPORT FROM AWIA DIRECTOR

This issue is our 42<sup>nd</sup> newsletter and the format continues to develop. The name has been changed from The Wire Link to The Link, (hopefully some of you will have noticed), and the size of the publication has grown from 8 pages to 16. Its circulation continues to expand as we reach out to an increasingly greater number of external parties.

The change in name is to emphasise an important function of the newsletter which is to give members an avenue to interact with each other and to showcase new products, procedures or services. If you have something you'd like to say, (it may be as simple as a change of address), send us some brief details, and we will take care of the rest.

It probably would not surprise any of you to know that volatility in Australian manufacturing is the highest amongst developed economies. What may surprise is that our volatility sits at 20% while the USA and Germany have rates of 10% and 8% respectively, and highlights the importance of building resilience in our businesses. AMGC's report 'Building Resilience in Australian Manufacturing' is a good starting point, [https://www.amgc.org.au/Attachment?Action=Download&Attachment\\_id=60](https://www.amgc.org.au/Attachment?Action=Download&Attachment_id=60).

If you were born between 1946 and 1964, you're considered to be a baby boomer, and it is estimated that 50% of Australian SME's will come up for sale over the next 10 years as the baby boomer generation seeks retirement. It usually takes an average of three years to sell an SME, so there may be opportunities aplenty coming up for those in acquisition mode

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# HOARDINGS



## ENGINEERED HOARDING SYSTEMS

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## PRODUCT RECALL - NOTICE



SafeTech Hardware Australia Pty Ltd has identified a potential intermittent fault with the striker component of their key lockable pool gate latches. The gate latch is still pool compliant provided the key lock mechanism is disabled to prevent the potential intermittent fault.

This recall only concerns the striker component of the

- SafeTech Top Pull Pool Gate Latch (Key Lockable)
- SafeTech TriLatch (Key Lockable)

The issue raised was with the striker component within the latch, not the latch itself.

### What are the defects?

The products do not comply with Australian Standard AS1926.1 2012 Safety Barriers for Swimming Pools section 2.4.2.1 (b). If the gate is open, turning the key in the striker component of the gate latch may cause the gate to remain locked in the open position.

### What are the hazards?

If the gate latch remains locked in the open position, it will not prevent unsupervised access to the pool area, posing a potential drowning risk.

### What should consumers do?

Consumers should immediately disable the key lock mechanism by removing the key from the striker or filling the key hole with a waterproof adhesive.

Consumers should register their details by phoning 1300 034 096 or visiting [www.safetechhardware.com.au](http://www.safetechhardware.com.au). Consumers will be offered either a keyless striker or a replacement lockable striker for the latch.

An estimated 80,700 pool fence latches sold from Bunnings Warehouse stores across Australia have been recalled, following an investigation that found they do not comply with the Australian safety standard.

The recalled product – manufactured by SafeTech Hardware and on the market for more than four years, can be configured to stop gates from latching, doing little to prevent unsupervised children from wandering close to a pool.

### The recalled latches are:

- SafeTech Top Pull Pool Gate Latch (Key Lockable)
- G8Safe Top Pull Pool Gate Latch (Key Lockable)
- SafeTech TriLatch (Key Lockable)
- G8Safe TriLatch (Key Lockable)

These products are also available for purchase as part of the following kits:

- SafeTech Trade Packs (Key Lockable)
- G8Safe Megapack (Key Lockable)

## Liberty Steel's Recent Milestones

Following its acquisition of OneSteel in 2017, GFG Alliance has commenced rebranding these operations under its global Liberty brand, which will see all sites physically rebranded by mid-2019. In addition to rebranding, GFG has continued its expansion in Australia with investments in sustainable energy and mining under its SIMEC brand.



In December 2017, GFG Alliance's SIMEC Zen Energy won the contract to supply all of the South Australian government's energy requirements. In May, it signed a landmark agreement to dramatically reduce energy costs to industry in Australia with leading French energy business NEOEN, which will provide renewable energy for the Liberty Steel Laverton manufacturing facility.

May also saw the first 24,000-tonne shipment of steel slab from Liberty Primary Steel's Whyalla Steelworks to Liberty Steel in Newport, Wales UK. This was the first in what is set to be a series of shipments; the steel slab will enable the Liberty Steel Newport mill to begin ramping up production of hot-rolled coil.

**Photo:** Liberty Primary Steel's Whyalla transport Manager Noel Goldsworthy centre making a presentation to Newport Director of Rolled Products and the captain and crew of the MV Western Miami commemorating the first shipment of slab to the Welsh plant



Liberty Primary Steel's Whyalla Steelworks will supply Liberty Steel Newport with around 100,000 tonnes of slab in this first year, allowing the mill to boost its output of coil by about a third to meet growing UK and EU demand for steel. Liberty Primary Steel's Whyalla Steelworks Chief Operating Officer, Theuns Victor, said the shipment was an exciting step as the plant worked towards increasing production to 1.2 million tonnes per annum and beyond.

Also in 2018, GFG Alliance acquired NSW's Tahmoor coking coal mine, securing and de-risking the supply of coking coal to Liberty Primary Steel's Whyalla Steelworks. GFG also made several significant global acquisitions, including Europe's largest aluminium smelter located in Dunkerque, a large multi-site automotive manufacturing operation in India, and France's largest automotive rim manufacturer.

Liberty is Australia's sole manufacturer of steel long products including wire for applications from construction to manufacturing and agriculture, with manufacturing sites in Victoria and New South Wales. In 2018 Liberty embarked on a transformation and investment program to equip it to more effectively meet the needs of its customers and expand production to position it to take advantage of the upturn in steel demand.



## Designing Club Tennis Court Fencing For Longer Service Life

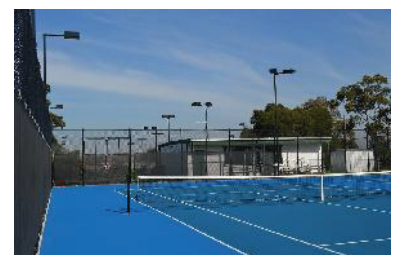
Mick Hassett, Senior Project Manager, 2MH Consulting shares some of his more recent experience in assisting clubs and councils on their design and installation of sporting fencing.

According to Mick they are now designing many strengthened fences using their pool of structural engineers. It's their belief clients are best served to be encouraged to spend a little extra on the engineers' structurally designed strengthened fencing as part of the initial build, as many clubs and organisations do wish to fit wind break material and/or signage onto the fencing at some stage.

He says they encourage this to occur on all fencing, "because the very nature of volunteer clubs and committees is that no one is going to remember in 10 years' time if the fencing was designed to support attachments or not, or if only some of the lengths of fencing can/will support such attachments adequately. In 10 years' time the current club committee members have moved on, there is no readily accessible documentation available (and no committee member knows that they need to check anyway) so wind break screening is fitted at a later date to a standard fence and we are back to seeing the fencing folding over."

**Mick also emphasized that Geotechnical investigations are "a must."**

**Photo :** Airport West Tennis Club design inclusive of strengthened fencing. All fence posts were DN80 (88.9 OD) in footings 350mm diameter x 900mm deep at 2.0m maximum spacing. Spacing and post diameters on other fencing projects have varied depending on different engineers designs.





### How to protect your email inbox from snoopers

An email inbox is a vault of secrets. In recent years, millions of users have been giving out the combination.

An investigation by the Wall Street Journal found that hundreds of software developers had obtained access to the contents of inboxes using tools provided by Google and other major email services.

In some cases, data miners use free apps to hook users into giving this access without clearly stating what information they collect, according to current and former employees of these companies.

Protecting email from prying eyes is generally not hard – even if it is a new concept to many users, who have long operated under the assumption their email is private.

Privacy experts say the best way to prevent developers from prying into your email is simply not to use any of the apps that ask for this permission. If that isn't an option users should do some research about what data these companies are collecting and how they plan to use it.

The email apps provide services such as productivity tools, shopping discount finders and travel itinerary planners, but they at times do so in exchange for data such as which products a user has purchased or what types of commercial emails they are likely to open.

Email could pose even more security risks than social networking profiles because they may contain banking details, health records and login credentials for dozens of accounts all tied to one person.

Google, owned by Alphabet, lets users review all of the information about what apps have access to their account, including Gmail and other services. On the company's "my account" page users can see which apps have permission to "read write, delete and manage" their email and a click of the button to remove access to any of those apps.

Douglas MacMillan, Australian 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### TRIP BARS Reducing Risk of Tripping

Innovative temporary fencing hire companies continually look for means to reduce the risk of injury to the public and onsite workers associated with the installation of temporary fencing systems.

Potential risk of tripping over anchor blocks in confined pedestrian walkways is a perennial issue.

Anchor blocks have traditionally been designed to be laid at right angles to the fence line to enhance stability which results in part of the block protruding outside the fence line.

To reduce this risk in high pedestrian traffic areas some installers have affixed horizontal bars to their panels.

**Advanced Temporary Fencing** has developed an innovative solution to this problem.

Clamps attach tubular bars directly over protruding anchor blocks thereby minimizing the risk of tripping.



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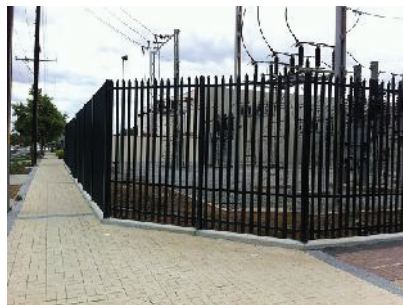


## SECURITY FENCING LICENSING

Representatives from the Security Licensing & Enforcement Directorate (SLED) addressed members at the May 2018 conference in Sydney regarding the requirement to hold particular licences to sell and install security fencing in NSW. This requirement came as a complete surprise to many of the members attending the presentation as they were unaware of the existence of such licensing. It appears that some commercial and industrial chain-link fencing, if deemed as security fencing, is covered by this legislation and companies will need to apply for the relevant licences to be able to sell and install this type of fencing.

Whilst not surprising, certain types of high security fencing such as anti-climb panels topped with razor ribbon and palisade fencing would be categorised as security fencing, it surprised many of those attending the presentation that there will now be a requirement to hold the relevant licences to advertise and install perimeter chain-link barb perimeter security fencing.

We appreciate that SLED has provided a brief overview of the NSW licensing requirements for this newsletter. It is proposed to circulate a more comprehensive document on this issue in the future.



### YOU MAY NEED A LICENSE

The Security Licensing & Enforcement Directorate (SLED) of the NSW Police Force is responsible for administering the *Security Industry Act 1997* ("the Act") and associated regulations. In NSW, there are security licensing requirements related to the sale and installation of security equipment, including security fences.

A security fence is any fence or barrier that is designed or adapted to provide or enhance the security or the protection of property. Not all fences are considered to be security fences. For example, a residential fence that simply serves to delineate property boundaries, provide privacy and/or keep children, pets or livestock contained, would not be considered a security fence. SLED takes into account a range of factors in determining whether a product is a security fence, including :

- **Height:** of a height that would discourage a person from climbing over
- **Material:** generally strong and durable material, often designed to prevent cutting or climbing
- **Construction:** specialised fixings and/or strengthening features such as welding
- **Fence toppings:** such as fence spikes, razor wire, electrified fencing
- **Purpose:** for example, a strong high fence surrounding a tennis court is likely to be considered for sporting, rather than security, purposes
- **Marketing:** if a fence or barrier is advertised as offering security or protection, regardless of its specifications, it will be treated as security equipment for the purposes of the Act.

Individuals who sell and/or install security fences in NSW require a Class 2 security licence. The risks associated with the sale and installation of security equipment arise mainly from people potentially gaining access via these activities to information about their customer's assets and vulnerabilities. Accordingly, the requirements for Class 2 licences are probity, rather than skills, based.

Businesses, including self-employed individuals, who sell and/or install security fences require a Master licence. Some businesses, such as wholesalers and approved classes of retail outlets, are exempt from licensing requirements.

More information can be obtained on the [SLED website](#).

**IMPORTANT TO REGISTER  
YOUR INTEREST**



The importance of industry members having an input into the standards and regulations which impact on their industry cannot be underestimated.

Last year the AWIA on behalf of the industry submitted a proposal to Standards Australia for the development of an Australian standard to cover **High Security Anti-Intruder Fences in Welded Mesh and Open Steel Panels.**

Earlier this year Standards Australia notified us approval had been given for this project to proceed.

Standards have informed us work has commenced on constituting the committee which will be responsible for preparing the draft standard.

John Morris, Business Development Manager at Protective Fencing who submitted the proposal on behalf of the Association, would be interested in hearing from major high security fencing stakeholders whose products and services are likely to be covered by this new standard.

As with the writing or updating of other Australian Fencing standards an AWIA fencing industry working group will be formed to provide input and information to the Standards Committee formatting the standard.

This is a new standard and it is imperative that those who will be affected have the opportunity to have a voice in the preparation of the standard that will possibly regulate and specify the use of their products and services.

John can be contacted [jmorris9949@gmail.com](mailto:jmorris9949@gmail.com)



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[www.libertyonesteel.com](http://www.libertyonesteel.com)



**DUSSELDORF**

More than 71,500 trade visitors from 135 countries visited Dusseldorf in April for the wire2018 trade show.

It was very pleasing to know that a number of our member companies sent delegates to the show, and the response they returned with was encouraging for participation at the next show in 2020.

It is important to organize group visits to these shows well in advance, so please let Richard Newbigin know if you have plans to head to Dusseldorf in two years' time. Not only is it essential for keeping up with technology developments, it also represents a fantastic opportunity to find new suppliers, and to get updates from speakers on many wire related topics. Let's see if we can get a record number of AWIA attendees next time around.



**NEW STAFF MEMBER**

Recently Vater Hardware announced the appointment of Jevon Nicol as their new internal sales officer at their Perth Branch.

It's refreshing to see young people showing confidence that by entering our industry they can build a worthwhile career. No doubt with training, they will be the strength of the industry tomorrow.

Jevon had researched Vater Hardware prior to applying for the position and was confident that by joining Vater Hardware, a market leader in the sliding door and fence fitting industry, there was a possibility of building a career in sales and becoming an account manager.

Jevon sees his strengths as being able to talk and deal with people from all walks of life.

We wish Jevon all the best in his career move.





## SOLAR POWERED AUTOMATED GATES

Since bygone days when landlords employed the services of a watchman to monitor entry to their premises and open the gates when required, site security has come a long way.

With the advent of modern technology the watchman has been replaced and this task can now be done just as easily on a mobile phone app.

In 2016, ATF Services manager, Mark Redding, along with the assistance of his manufacturing and engineering partners, designed and constructed their first Solar powered automatic sliding gate. This first proto type was installed on a Lend Lease site that same year.

Mark says he saw an opportunity for the temporary installation of this type of sliding gate on Construction, Civil Infrastructure and event sites whenever there were power restrictions and there was a need to control access.

The gate system is powered by their V4000 surveillance camera units which form part of the unit. A backup battery system ensures the gates are operational for night time usage or during periods of inclement weather.

The gate system can either be controlled with a remote-control unit or via a customized ATF Vision App. The ATF Vision App provides live footage from each camera on the gate and allows their customers to log into the App and view in real time as well as activate the gate to open from anywhere in the world.

It takes just 90 minutes to install a set of 6.0 metre double gates and only 60 minutes to install a 4.5 metre single leaf gate.



**Photos:**  
ATF Services installing 6 metre double solar powdered gate on worksite at Eagle Farm Gateway upgrade storage facility in Brisbane.



There are currently 30 ATF Vision gate systems in operation across Australia and New Zealand. According to Mark the system is still being improved. Vehicle plate recognition is currently under trial and expected to be offered as an option in the coming months.

For more information on this gate system contact [mark.redding@atfservices.com.au](mailto:mark.redding@atfservices.com.au) or on (07) 3426 0800



### Do I need to pay my employees when there is an emergency at work?

For many businesses, accidents and events such as these seem unimaginable. But have you considered how you would manage such a situation if it happened at your workplace? Do you know what you would do if your employees were involved in an accident similar to what was experienced today?

#### Pay during emergency events

If your employees, like many employees today, were unable to attend work due to matters outside of your control (i.e. emergency services prevented you from opening the workplace, or there had been a natural disaster) do you know if you have to pay your employees?

In situations similar to that outlined above, employers can send employees home, or advise employees that there is no need for them to attend work. This is known as a stand down. A stand down can only happen however if the reasons for the stand down were outside the employer's control. Additionally, employees are not entitled to be paid for a stand down.

#### Work, Health and Safety

From a Work Health and Safety perspective, have you considered/explained to your employees an appropriate evacuation plan? Do you have an adequate risk management system in order to ensure the health and safety of your workers? Organisations have a positive obligation under the respective WHS legislation to ensure both the physical and mental health of their workers.

In order to avoid liability in the event of a workplace accident or incident, you must be able to demonstrate that you had taken all reasonable steps to ensure a safe work environment. This includes undertaking a process of risk management whereby workplace hazards are identified, as well as complying with all applicable WHS legislation and any specific regulations regarding safe work practices in your industry.

For more information regarding this topic contact FCB Group on 02 9922 5188  
E [mnr@fcgroup.com.au](mailto:mnr@fcgroup.com.au) W [www.fcgroup.com.au](http://www.fcgroup.com.au)

## GROWING PUBLIC INJURY RISK FROM SHODDY INSTALLATION



As local councils amend their by-laws making the requirement of installing temporary fencing mandatory on residential building sites, it is evident some builders have acquired their own panels to install temporary fencing along the fronts of their construction sites.

Instead of outsourcing the supply and installation of the temporary fencing, they have in some cases cobbled together a mish mash of mesh panels and anchor blocks to restrict entry to their sites.

In some cases this has not resulted in a stable and robust structure. Examples, whilst not wide spread, have seen panels being tied together with electrical cable instead of the use of clamps, gate openings and end panels not braced and oversized recess holes in anchor blocks not being compatible with panel frames.

Unfortunately, in this age of self-regulation, councils and regulators do not inspect these shoddy structures unless there is a reported incident and someone is injured.

The Australian Standard covering Temporary Fencing and Hoardings is currently being re-written and will be released for public comment in the next few months. In the scope for the new standard, Standards Australia has approved for more details regarding the requirements of bracing and fencing stability to be included. It is hoped to be able to bring more details of these requirements to members' notice in the January newsletter.

With regards to improving the installation standards of some of the shoddy builders we will continue to alert councils and regulators of the risks of injury to the public associated with allowing sub-standard installation to take place.

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## Wind Impact on Temporary Hoardings and Temporary Fencing on Slopes

As a body of air moves across the landscape, the lower layers of air are greatly affected by the topography over which it passes. As wind passes over a hill or escarpment, the air speeds up in the lower layers as it is forced up against the air above it. Slopes between 1:20 and 1:10 (3-6 degrees) affect the wind speed by +10% in the top third of an escarpment.

For slopes reaching 1:3, the wind speed in the top third can increase by up to 45% and in the middle third (and over the peak) by up to 20%.

Care should be taken, and additional bracing installed, when temporary fences or temporary hoardings are in the zone of increased wind speed, which extends for a distance of four times the hill height past the peak. Contact your local professional for specific advice on your next hillside installation.

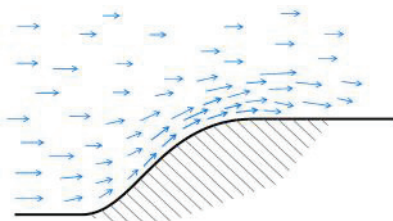


Figure 1: Wind speed increases as it passes over an escarpment

**Stefan Tschirren**  
Principal Structural Engineer  
BEng MIEAust  
CPEng NER RPEQ

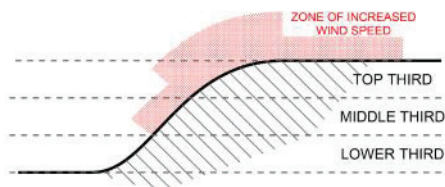


Figure 2: Zone of increased wind speed



## CHINA REPORT



Hebei Province is the biggest steel output contributor in China and produced 130 million tonnes of crude steel in the seven months of 2018, this accounted for 44% of China's total crude output.

In July it was reported Hebei provincial government air pollution administration implemented a number of orders for air pollution controls with the aim of trying to remove its cities from the list of the country's worst polluters. Tangshan and Baoding city are among China's top most polluted cities.

The orders were in response to Beijing's winter production restrictions where steel mills were ordered to cut output by as much as 50 % from mid-November to mid-March as part of the country's effort to combat air pollution.

Ever since the provisional government announced it would exempt steel mills that had achieved ultra-low emission standards from the cuts, an increasing number of mills have endeavoured to upgrade their environmental facilities to achieve the standards as soon as possible.

In August the Tangshan city government exempted five local mills from the cut backs as their sintering plants had already met the ultra-low emission standards.

The restrictions on production have to be viewed in conjunction with the plan to remove excess capacity, removing 30 million m t/year of steelmaking capacity in 2018. However this will still take China to its 150 million target three years ahead of schedule.



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**SAFETY ALERT AUTOMATED GATES (Abbreviated Notice)**



This safety alert highlights serious health and safety risks posed by automated gates. It applies to gates not fitted with safety devices to guard against injury as the gate opens and closes, and follows a serious incident in NZ when a child was injured.

The alert details the context in which the child was injured and then made the following recommendations.

The following recommendations apply to businesses: *which install, design, import, commission etc automated gates; which control grounds on which the gates sit (such as business owners, schools, councils).*

WorkSafe New Zealand recommends they consider installing the following safety features in automated gates currently without safety devices to ensure safety while opening. At time of writing, the combined cost for the features listed was approximately NZ \$2,150.00 (excl GST): *signage warning people to keep clear of gates when they are activated ; buzzer / beeper / flashing beacon devices to warn of impending gate movement; pressure sensor for gate's leading edge; motor/ gearbox torque-limiting to limit the moving gate's force plus momentary automatic reversal mechanism to release entrapped objects; an accessible clearly labelled emergency stop button; programmed with momentary reverse; accessible clearly labelled emergency gate release.*



Whether all or some of these recommendations are reasonably practicable will depend on the style and operation of each individual automated gate. Businesses will need to undertake a risk assessment to decide which can reasonably be installed.

The full safety alert including what and how it happened, as well as what can be learned from the incident can be found by Googling [worksafe.govt.nz](http://worksafe.govt.nz), then clicking, Health safety at Work Act, then search for Safety alert Automated gates.

**SiteTech Solutions Looking to be the 'Greenest' and Most 'Sustainable' Hire Company Possible**



SiteTech Solutions are well known in Victoria as an innovative and reliable temporary fence hire company and they're now enhancing their reputation for innovation with the introduction of "Flexitech crossovers".

The directors of SiteTech witnessed how timber crossovers were prone to water ingress, especially in the wet winter months. As a result the crossovers tended to break and come apart easily, especially when subjected to traffic from heavy machinery.

The hardwood timber absorbs water and hence this approach is also wasteful environmentally (using quality timber, knowing that it has a limited shelf life). They are designed for 'Asset Protection' to protect the concrete but can end up becoming a trip hazard if not looked after by the trades and their machinery.

They decided there had to be a better solution.

Working closely with "Integrated Recycling" they developed a new sustainable crossover material manufactured from a patented recycled plastic mix (100% sourced from Australian plastic waste). The boards are manufactured 300mm x 2.7M wide (to fit a standard driveway) and are usually installed in units around 3.0 metres in length, but this is flexible and ultimately is up to the customer specific requirement.

According to SiteTech's current data and market testing the expected service life for the product suggests 10+ years. According to Director Piers Fitzgerald, "to date we have not had one Flexitech crossover returned which was not able to be returned back into the market place. This is a significantly improved outcome than with the timber crossovers"

SiteTech is the exclusive agent for the Flexitech crossovers and sales and hiring enquiries on this product should be directed to [piers@sitetechsolutions.com.au](mailto:piers@sitetechsolutions.com.au)





### Kingfield Galvanizing Makes the 2018 AFR Most Innovative Companies List

Kingfield Galvanizing has been honored as being recognized as one of Australia and New Zealand's 2018 most innovative Companies. The prestigious annual award published by the Australian Financial Review was based on a rigorous assessment process managed by a leading innovation consultancy. Kingfield Galvanizing ranked 70<sup>th</sup> from a list of 1000 nominated organizations across Australia and New Zealand.

Kingfield were recognized for their plant innovation as the first Hot Dip Galvanizing plant in Australia to integrate plant automation and sustainability. They made the list thanks to exceptional innovation practices. These include a fully enclosed pre-treatment, drying and hot dip galvanizing facility that prevents emissions from entering the atmosphere; recycling and reusing waste from the galvanizing process; reclaiming heat and reducing energy consumption per tonne of steel galvanized.

They are excited about the future of sustainable construction and infrastructure development in Australia and their CEO, Steve Laussen captures it best:

*"It took great courage for our major shareholders and Board of Directors to invest in the future and embrace world's best practice in automation and hot dip galvanizing. It then required an innovative outlook from all our staff to embrace the changes being made and deliver the intended outcomes. This accolade recognizes both the courage and the innovation, but also inspires a sustained approach to continuous improvement"*

More information visit [www.kingfield.com.au](http://www.kingfield.com.au)



**Photo:** CEO Steve Laussen (left) & Chair Steve Lelli (right) receiving their AFR award.

### DISRUPTION IN CHAIN WIRE MANUFACTURING



Bergandi machinery announced the release of new chain wire manufacturing machinery. The two new machinery designs promise to disrupt traditional methods of chain wire manufacturing.



The new machines, designated A6 and L7, simplify the traditional manufacturing process making it easier to attract and train machine operators, increase the productivity of skilled machine operators, while improving output per machine hour.

Studies reveal the actual time the weaving blade is active, increases up to 40% compared to older technology machines.

The machine features an integrated frame combining the weaving and take up processes. The single frame construction tightens the weaving-to-rollup process reducing slack in the wire and resultant mis-weaves, more chain-wire will be on the ground with less operator effort.

The selvage operation is pneumatically driven. The number of parts goes from 81 to 20, an indication of reduced complexity, making it easier to changeover from one selvage to another and one fence height to another.

For more information about these innovative machines  
**Contact Greg Jendreas, [greg@bergandi.com](mailto:greg@bergandi.com);  
+1 951-361-8030 [www.bergandi.com](http://www.bergandi.com)**

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### TB-60 – Electric Pipe and Tube Bender

The TB-60 is an accurate and powerful electric bending machine able to bend both large diameter thin as well as medium walled pipes and tubes with optimum and constant bending radii.



This compact and versatile pipe bender incorporates a digital control key pad to accurately bend pipe and tube with a constant radius without deformation. The unit is capable of storing 50 programs with 9 bends per program.

The TB-60 is Taiwan made and is constructed with a cast iron body and powdered by a 1.1kW 240V motor. The bender is fitted with an electric brake and automatic return to stop. It requires no special wiring and can be plugged into 240v/10amp outlet.

Affordably priced, this unit could improve productivity in any operation requiring the cranking of posts or gate frames. More information [Steve Calderone 03 9212 4422](mailto:Steve Calderone 03 9212 4422) or [www.machineryhouse.com.au](http://www.machineryhouse.com.au)

### Qantas Aquire Program



If you quote the **AWIA ABN (95 602 035 937)** when you make any Qantas bookings (flights, cars or hotels) you will also be earning points for the **AWIA. These points can then be used for travel approved by National Committee.**

Points earned through this program do not affect your own accumulation of frequent flyer points, they are completely additional. Thanks for your assistance.

### IST SPRING INSTITUTE UK

Director / Secretary, Richard Newbigin, made use of an ancestral visit to the north of England to catch up with Chris Hopkins, the commercial manager of the Institute of Spring Technology (IST) in Sheffield. Chris took over from Adrian May early in 2017 and is driving the organisation to be more member focussed.

The IST has more than 200 members worldwide but only one in Australia, and discussions centred around how our two groups might be able to work with each other more closely in the future. Ideas that were canvassed were inclusion of technical articles from IST in AWIA's "The Link" newsletter, joint development of online training programs for Australian and New Zealand springmakers and having the AWIA become an agent for the IST to reduce the cost of IST software programs to AWIA members.

One of the significant benefits offered by the IST is its testing facility, and Richard was given a cooks tour of the testing machinery IST has at its disposal. Much of the machinery has been developed by the Institute itself. In addition to repetition testing, the IST offers both fatigue and load testing.

Although it is unlikely that the AWIA could offer such a complete service to its spring members, there is perhaps an opportunity to offer some specific testing capabilities here, and members who see local testing as a potential benefit should contact Richard Newbigin to discuss their requirements.



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**MACHINERY REPORT**

**WAFIOS exhibited a new, large-scale, high-end spring coiling machine: the FUL 166 at Wire2018 in Dusseldorf which can process wires of up to 16 mm and provides a stable, easy-to-service mechanical system coupled with state-of-the-art control technology.**

Pneumatic components have been used for wire feed roller control because they require significantly less maintenance. As a result, the cutting and coiling unit has also been designed without the use of hydraulics.

Keeping the (dis)assembly work to a minimum is a design principle that runs through the entire machine. The slip control, for example, only needs to be moved out of the work area rather than being dismantled. The basic idea is clear: minimize changeover time to maximize machine availability.

The machines also meet high standards when it comes to quality control. This task is entrusted to the WAFIOS Vision System (WVS). The springs produced are measured in terms of length and diameter using a camera and backlight during production operation and the process is regulated. Sorting of springs is also controlled.

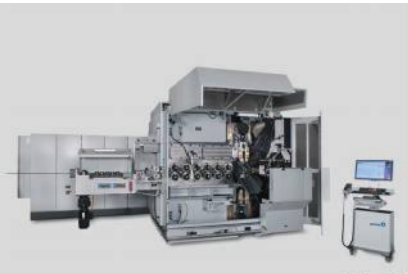
Further control-related highlights are provided by the iQ functions, which are available as options. These allow productivity and performance to be further optimized, and two of these control functions are detailed below.

**iQcockpit:**

The machine can be monitored using a mobile device irrespective of location. This ensures constant access to the production data.

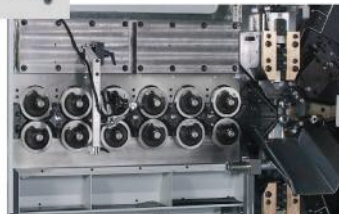
**iQcontrol:**

Monitors the spring length using a dual camera system – even during the production process so deviations in length are immediately communicated to the control system and corrected. Variation in length is reduced so that no springs with incorrect length are passed as acceptable parts.



**Photo left** is the WAFIOS FUL 166 spring coiling machine for wire diameters 6.1 to 16mm.

**Photo right** is FUL 166 first spring coiling machine from WAFIOS with six pairs of feed rollers



For further information contact  
**Bliss & Reels (Tel: +613 9850 6666)**



**Use of “Oil Free” Synthetic Polymer Lubricants in Metal Forming**



High Performance Polymer, non-oil lubricants lead to a lean and green value stream. These high-performance metal forming films are environmentally sound solutions that achieve lean and green manufacturing through reduced time, chemicals, water, energy and environmental impact.

**TOOLING:** Because of their ability to protect tooling in a thin film regime, 50% less lubricant is used. Excess application waste and housekeeping burden is eliminated. The high-performance film barrier clings to critical surfaces under high frictional heat conditions, reducing die polishing down time on average by 25%.

**WELDING – ASSEMBLY:** Oil-free surfaces provide an improved condition for welding and assembly. Studies using MIG, TIG and resistance welding techniques have proven that in most cases welding can be achieved without prior washing.

**CLEANING - PAINTING – DISPOSAL:** Removal of these polymer lubricating films using water at 43°C or in conjunction with a low concentration of a mild alkali cleaner, reduces chemical, water volume and energy use by up to 75%. Cleaning and pre-treatment chemicals perform more efficiently and last longer between system clean-outs.



Washer disposal is reduced up to 75%. Paint rejects caused by oil boil-out and cratering are eliminated. Polymer lubricants have the lowest aquatic toxicity. Treatment costs, volume and liability are reduced by 75%.

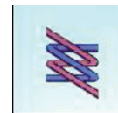
Polymer based lubricants have been incorporated into a “Gel” form, used in mandrel bending of tubing used in the manufacture of automotive exhaust systems, bull and sport bars. They have a strong affinity for metal tube surfaces, providing a micro-layer of lubricating film on metal surfaces during demanding tube bending applications. The chemical nature and thick viscosity translates to the lubricant staying put. Pumping “through” the mandrel results in less lubricant dripping onto machinery and surrounding flooring. These characteristics allow for the lubricant to be applied in reduced volumes achieving reduced consumption and lowering process costs.

Today’s successful metal forming companies need to partner with lubricant suppliers who focus on tangible business improvement and the financial outcome of their clients. They must not lose sight of the environmental impact their product may have, thus supporting both a lean and green value stream. Polymer based synthetic lubricants define “Lean Green” metal forming.

Irmco Lubricants are manufactured in Evanston IL USA. They are available through the Australian/ New Zealand distributor **Idee Parfait Pty Ltd, Tel (07) 3348 9333.**



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South Fence Machinery  
Spring Specialists Ltd  
Stainless Steel Wire and Mesh  
Superior Industries NZ  
Ullrich Machinery Company  
Wiredex Wire Products  
Wiretainers Pty Ltd

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### 2018

**Sept 16 -18 - ASI / AWIA conference - Park Hyatt Melbourne**

**Sept 26 - 29 Wire China -Shanghai China**  
<http://www.wirechina.net/?list-458.html>

**October 1 - 3 SMI Metal Engineering Expo – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA**  
<http://www.metalengineeringexpo.org/>

**October 11 -12 Institute of Spring Technology Technical Conference - Manchester UK**  
<http://www.ist.org.uk/ist-conference-2018/>

**October 17 Fencex Perimeter Security and Access Control Exhibition**  
Stoneleigh UK

**November 27 -29 Wire India** Mumbai, India  
<http://www.wire-pindia.com/>

### 2019

**March 15 -16 AFA**  
Indiana Convention Centre, Indianapolis, Indiana USA

**May 13 - 16 Interwire Trade Exposition**  
Georgia World Congress Centre, Atlanta USA

**June 18 - 20 Wire Russia**  
Expocentre, Moscow

**June 23 - 25 Wire & Cable 2019** Philippines  
SMX Convention Centre, Pasay Philippines

**August 14 -16 Wire & Cable 2019** Vietnam  
Saigon Exhibition & Convention Centre, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam

### 2020

**January 14 - 16 International Trade Fair for Perimeter Protection, Fencing and Building Security**  
Messezentrum, Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany

**March 30 - 3 April International Wire and Cable Trade Fair**  
Fairground, Dusseldorf, Germany



## TRAINING AWARD

Do you have an employee you think would benefit from some professional development?

The AWIA Training Award may be just what you are looking for. The award is a cash grant of A\$2500, and is open to any employee of a member company. Award criteria can be found on our website under the News tab ([Training Award Criteria](#)).

Our last winner, Kane Yaneff from Lee Bros Fencing, planned to visit wire2018 in Dusseldorf in April, but a family matter prevented his trip.

We look forward to hearing from Kane when he uses his award. Let's continue to help good people stay in our industry.

[richard@wireassociation.com.au](mailto:richard@wireassociation.com.au)

## "The LINK"

is an industry newsletter publication by the Australasian Wire Industry Association Inc.  
ABN 95 602 035 937 ARBN 103 377 537

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