

Incorporating: Australasian Fence Industry Association; Australian Chain Link Fencing Association; Temporary Fence Association Australasia; Spring Manufacturers Association & Wire Workers; Reinforcing Steel Manufacturers Association

THE WIRE LINK

WHICH IS THE APPROPRIATE SPECIFICATION FOR A TENNIS COURT?

More Architects, Councils, tennis clubs, fencing suppliers and fencing contractors are now asking this difficult question on a more regular basis.

Not every fencing supplier and contractor is aware that the Australian Standard for Chain-link fencing is divided into multiple parts.

Most contractors and Architects are familiar with **AS1725-2010 Part 1**, which covers security fencing and gates, but fewer are aware that there are two separate standards for tennis court fencing - **Parts 2 & 3**.

Firstly, **AS1725-2010 - Part 2** covers the recommendations for commercial tennis courts which "is intended for use by Councils, tennis clubs and associations where the player participation is generally higher and therefore requires a commercially stronger (heavy duty) construction design for longer service life."

Secondly, **AS1725-2010 - Part 3** "applies to tennis courts intended for residential use only where player participation is generally lower than on commercial courts."

Much of the confusion arises when a designer specifies fencing for a club or commercial tennis court to comply with the Australian **Standard AS1725-2010** but makes no mention of which particular part of the Standard the fence needs to comply with.

The end result can be that the purchasers (Councils or tennis clubs) can have installed fencing which complies more with a residential tennis court fence which may have a shorter service life than what they had expected.



These photos illustrate the impact damage that can occur on a club tennis court when lighter materials are used in high impact areas



To avoid costly rectification and hours of unhappy mediation it is suggested the industry becomes more familiar with the implementation of these standards.

NOTE FROM AWIA PRESIDENT

2014 has been a year which has seen many challenges for a number of businesses in our wire, spring and fencing sectors.



The uncertainties reflected in the stock market as well as in the general economy have also been evident in the patchy levels of demand experienced in some sectors of the industry.

Many businesses have had difficulties adjusting to the new norm.

The weakness in the Australian dollar has helped our manufacturing competitiveness, however it has put pressure on the costs of any raw materials imported as part of product offerings and has somewhat limited the positive effects of the lower value of the Australian currency.

Personally, it has also been a challenging year for me. Following my bout of ill health I have decided to relinquish my role as Managing Director of **Jubilee Spring**. I will however continue in my role as president of the **AWIA** for the remainder of this term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful friends I have made over my 40 years' involvement with this Industry. I look forward to continuing to work with future committees after my term of office has finished in furthering the aims of the **Wire Industry Association** in upholding product quality standards, promoting ethical business practices and enhancing the prosperity of the industry.

It has been one of the best experiences of my life to be an active member of this Industry Association and I would highly recommend it to anyone wishing to gain a broader insight into our industry.

John Guest
AWIA President 2014

AWIA Sponsors





Fencing Members

- 0508 TempFence
- 1300TempFence
- AAC Temp Fence
- Aurora Fencing GC Pty Ltd
- Advanced National Services
- Advanced Steel Products Ltd
- Aim Fencing
- All Temporary Fencing
- Ambit Industries
- ARC Fences
- ATF Services
- Atlas Rodek Fencing
- Australian Security Fencing
- Australian Steel & Wire
- Barry Bond Fencing
- CAI Fences
- Carrick Hoarding Hire
- Centurion Temporary Fencing
- Chainmesh Security Fencing
- Citywide Temporary Fencing
- Coast Wire Fencing
- Crown Temporary Fencing
- Diamond Fence (Aust) Pty Ltd
- Diamond Security Fencing WA
- Discount Fencing
- Doogood Powder Coating Pty Ltd
- Downee
- Emu Wire Industries
- Fahey Fence Hire
- Fence Hire WA
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- JSB Fencing & Machinery Hire
- Keena Fencing Pty Ltd
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- Olympic Fencing Pty Ltd
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- Oxford Plastic Systems Ltd
- Playsafe Fencing Pty Ltd
- Protective Fencing Pty Ltd
- Ready Fence NSW
- Secura Fence and Fabrication
- SiteTech Solutions
- Superior Fences and Gates
- Supreme Fence & Gate (Aust)
- Supreme Line Fencing
- Taylor Fencing
- Temp Fenz
- Temporary Fence Hire
- The Temp Fence Shop
- Totem Fencing
- Ultracourts Pty Ltd
- Vater Distributors
- Victorian Temporary Fencing
- Visible Temporary Fencing
- WA Temporary Fencing Supplies



NEW SOUTH WALES FENCING CHAPTER

Malcolm Michael recently had a meeting with the Sector Manager overseeing the wire products related standards at **Standards Australia**. Due to procedural changes at **Standards Australia**, industry standards are not automatically reviewed after a specific time. We are endeavouring to ascertain the level of support and the costs involved in updating **AS2423 - 2002** which covers the manufacture of coated steel wire based fencing products including chain-link fabric.

This information will be of assistance to the NSW fencing group when it meets in **April 2015** to discuss the review of **AS2423** and the possible insertion of a section in the standard to cover 358 Security Fencing panels.

malcolm@wireassociation.com.au



WESTERN AUSTRALIA FENCING CHAPTER

Following up on his visit late last year, **Malcolm Michael** is planning another visit to Perth to visit WA fencing members to brief them on the current status of a submission

to **Australian Standards** to review the **Standard AS4687- 2007** for Temporary fencing and hoardings.

Malcolm will also seek input from permanent fencing members on sections of **Australian Standard AS2423 - 2002** (Coated Steel wire fencing products) which impact on their business activities. These comments will be relayed to the NSW working group to be considered in any submission for a review.

malcolm@wireassociation.com.au



VICTORIAN FENCING CHAPTER REPORT

The Victorian chapter is hosting the Temporary

Fencing & Hoardings Australian Standards review working party for **AS 4687-2007**. Two meetings have been held so far, the first in **November 2014** and the second in **January 2015**.

The working party is canvassing comments and suggestions where members feel that the Standard needs reviewing to bring it into line with today's industry practices.

For more information contact:

Brian Mullarvey

Email: brian@wireassociation.com.au

Welcome to our New Members



Totem Fencing commenced their operations in Darwin in 1997 as a small concern and has grown to become the market leader in fencing in Northern Territory. Now employing 15 full time employees they have developed a strong relationship with contractors and suppliers enabling them to provide a quality and reliable service to their clients.

Based in Berrimah, **Totem** manufacture and stock a large range of fencing, gates, **Downee** fence fittings and automation. **Totem** have expertise in the installation of high security fencing projects and have been involved in the fencing installation at **Curtin Detention Centre** in Derby WA and the **Wickham Point Detention Facility**.

For more information:

www.totemfencing.com.au



Supreme Line Fencing is a Tasmanian owned company which has over 20 years of experience in serving the industrial and commercial fencing needs in Tasmania.

At **Supreme Line Fencing** they pride themselves on being specialists in the installation of chain-link, weldmesh and tubular fencing. According to Director **Paul Lunson**, not only are they experts in security fencing, "they can also design gates to make their clients' properties look visually stunning."

Paul also adds they are excited and proud to be the first **AFIA** member in Tasmania.

More information:

paul@supremelinefencing.com.au



Is a temporary fencing company which commenced operations in 2007 as a single operator business supplying temporary fencing around the Geraldton area in WA.

Eight years later the business has grown enormously to a position where they are the preferred source for temporary fencing hire on numerous major projects and infrastructure sites in the Pilbara and the mid-west region of WA.

Part of their success, according the Manager **Matthew Powell**, is that 'their team considers optimum safety paramount; hence they go above and beyond the standard safety regulations to ensure that all site hazards are identified and the risks managed appropriately.'

Contact: matthew@fenceitwa.com.au

www.fenceitwa.com.au

FENCING SNIPPETS



New Manager at Coopers Plains

ARC Fences has announced the appointment of **Mike Thompson** as the Manager of the fencing facility at Coopers Plains in Brisbane.

Mike's fencing experience goes back to his early days with **Cyclone** in 1981 in Brisbane. Following the amalgamation of **Cyclone** and **ARC**, **Mike's** responsibilities included supervision of the combined warehouses in Geebung.

More recently he has been working for **ARC** in the reinforcing industry. He says he is looking forward to renewing contact with his Brisbane fencing colleagues.



We welcome **Mike** back into the world of fencing.

Contact: michael.thompson@arcreeo.com.au

Something New

Modular Green Wall Panels

There is a growing trend (no pun intended) amongst Architects and Landscape designers to design eco-friendly green walls (plant climbing fences) and other plant screening structures.

In recent times specialized fusion welders have been developed to create a 3D mesh product which creates a growing space between the two vertical faces. This product is commonly known as **ECO Mesh** or **Modular Plant trellis systems**.

It can be installed attached to an existing wall, connected to posts to build a fence or be erected as a free form curved screen wall.



The panels are manufactured from Galvan zinc/aluminium wire to provide extra protection to the wire from the exposure to excessive moisture and growing agents. Panels are available powder coated in a number of colours including Carbon black, Grass green and white.

Mesh aperture size is 50 mm x 50 mm, standard panel heights are 900 mm or 1200 mm, lengths vary between 1800 mm to 6000 mm.



Anrui Welded Wire Mesh & Fence Factory, a subsidiary of **Fengyuan Group** in Anping County, Hebei in China is a manufacturer and supplier of this product.

More information can be found on their web site:

www.3dweldedmesh.com
or from **Frank Jin**: info@3dweldedmesh.com



ONE STEEL ANNOUNCES STAFF CHANGES NSW SALES

Following the recent amalgamation of **OneSteel's** Rod & Bar and Wire businesses, a review of sales resources has resulted in the creation of the new external sales position of "Sales Manager - Wire".

This position will have account management responsibilities for wire customers in Vic, NSW, Tasmania and South Australia.

OneSteel is pleased to announce that **Rohan Russell** has been appointed to this position. **Rohan** brings a wealth of experience to this position with over 35 years in the Wire industry; the last 25 years of which were in wire sales with **OneSteel**, primarily in the southern states.

Unfortunately this change has resulted in **Ross Smith** leaving the **OneSteel** business and his role as Wire Sales Mgr - NSW after nearly 37 years' service to **AWI / OneSteel**.

Ross began his career as metallurgist at **AWI's** Wire Mill in Chiswick in 1978 and worked his way through a number of roles including both Wire Drawing Superintendent and Quality & Technical Superintendent prior to joining the NSW Wire sales team in 1997.

Ross' thorough understanding of wire making and wire working proved to be invaluable for the many and varied wire working customers that he serviced over his 16 years in sales and he has always been and remains a highly respected member of the industry.



From the **Wire Industry Association's** point of view, **Ross** has been a stalwart member of the **AWIA**, holding a position on the National committee in his own right for some years as well as being the NSW Fencing Chapter Secretary.

Ross has generously given much of his personal time to furthering the interests of NSW members and fencing chapter colleagues.

We hope that his expertise and enthusiasm will not be lost to the industry.



AS 4687 - 2007 Temporary Fencing Standards Review

Over the last couple of months the Temporary Fencing Standard Review working group has met on two occasions. The task facing the working group is to be able to reach a consensus in determining whether the current standard can be twigged, reflecting product developments and usage changes over the last 8 to 10 years, or to consider if a complete rewrite of this Australian standard is required.

Changes in the way the new standard development costs are supported and a general consensus amongst the review working group that most aspects of the current standard are still relevant, is leaning us towards supporting a request to **Standards Australia** to review sections of the current standard in its present format. Sections that may need rewriting could include references dealing with attachment of shade cloth to panels, bracing and looking at expanding the temporary hoarding section which is very brief at present.

Many of your comments received highlighted instances where temporary fences were inadequately braced to minimize the risks of panels toppling over should they be subjected to sudden wind gusts.



Incidents waiting to lack of bracing and undone by sub-

happen including fittings, probably contractors.

I am pleased to report in travelling around in recent months I have noticed much more effort being made by second tier and smaller hirers to use different methods to improve the stability of their fences especially those with shade cloth attached.



Examples of different stability bracing.

Several members had suggested that an industry matrix be developed indicating the number of anchor blocks which should be incorporated into back bracing to maintain the stability and the integrity of the fence. The review working group considered this request, however, due to the many different temporary fencing designs and other factors it would be too difficult for us to take up this challenge.

I would especially like to thank those temporary fencing members who travelled from interstate to Melbourne to be part of our working group deliberations.

My thanks also to those colleagues who sent me comments on issues related to the standard.

I am collating the comments received and will distribute them to all our temporary fencing colleagues in the coming weeks.



The Association urges industry members to ensure that their installation manuals clearly indicate the bracing methods required to provide stability. These instructions should take into account local site conditions.



Brian Mullarvey

Secretary
AFIA & TFAA

Contact:
brian@wireassociation.com.au

ONGOING MEMBER PROFILES



This month's member profile is **Secura Fence & Fabrication**, a fencing supplier and installer in South Australia.

This family owned company had its genesis as **Freebird Fabrications** some 11 years ago. Following several years employed in production welding at **McNamara Fencing**, **Peter Jagminas** (one of the two current principals), decided to leave **McNamara's** and set up his own fabrication company.

The name of the company was changed in 2012 to **Secura Fence & Fabrication**, to better reflect its current focus on the supply and installation of commercial and security fencing.

However, the company still maintains a strong fabrication capability, producing bus shelter bollards, balcony balustrades, tubular safety railings for schools and Council projects and other associated welded products.

From their production facility at Hackham, **Secura** also supplies fencing components to other Adelaide fencing installers.

Last year **Secura** completed a significant project supplying and installing fencing and steel work to the Seaford to Adelaide rail project over an eighteen month period.

As well as commercial fencing **Secura** has developed expertise in constructing concrete retaining walls and minor earth works associated with fencing projects.

More information on **Secura's** capabilities contact:

Tiffany Cations (08) 8186 5155

Email securaccounts@bigpond.com



SKILLS AND TRAINING

“Overflowing inbox - Chronic time waster” says Cyril Peupion

Cyril Peupion was our key note presenter at the AWIA conference held at Coral Sea Resort, Airlie Beach in Queensland 2011.

During his presentation he suggested many practical tips to help people change their work habits and take ownership of their work processes to dramatically improve their performance.

He targeted email overload and suggested most people are familiar with the feeling of dread associated with an overflowing inbox, however, according to **Cyril** there are ways to overcome this distraction and find focus.

In his best selling book, “**Work Smarter: Live Better**”, **Cyril** shares many of his practical thoughts on how we can work more effectively.

It's definitely worth securing a copy of this 200 page book which is packed with practical hints which can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of your work place. It will only cost around \$25 and could give you a return 1000 times over.



More information www.wslb.com.au

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD TO RICHARD NEWBIGIN

Richard Newbigin was presented with an AWIA **Meritorious Service Award** by President **John Guest** at the September 2014 AGM during the conference in Surfers Paradise.

Richard, the Managing Director of **Jex Industries** has been a member of the Association since 1998. He has served on the National committee between 2000 and 2012 serving in the roles of Vice President 2004/05, President 2006/07 and Treasurer between 2007 and 2009.

During **Richard's** first term as Treasurer the Association moved to the MYOB accounting system and was able to generate proper financial statements for presentation to members. **Richard** is proud that in each of his terms as Treasurer, the Association recorded a growing surplus, thereby ensuring that the Association had sufficient funds to meet forward commitments.

Richard also held the position as Southern Region Chairman and was responsible for organizing many successful social functions.

The Association sincerely wishes to thank **Richard** for his dedication and service to the Association over the last 12 years.



POWDER COATING SERVICE LIFE



Interpon Powder Coatings, the world's largest powder coating manufacturer has been supplying powder coatings to the Australian market since 1980.

According to spokesman, **Cameron O'Brien**, “**Interpon** is passionate about providing the industry with innovative products and services.”

Recently **Interpon** presented an overview of their latest products and systems at the annual **AWIA** Conference held at the Marriot Hotel, Surfers Paradise in September 2014.

One of the key messages delegates received was “to select the right product for the right location”.

It is imperative when longer service life guarantees are specified by architects and designers for fencing products; it is commercially prudent to ensure that these requirements can be met.

At the conference presentation, the correct substrate preparation, especially in corrosive environments was stressed as a key aspect to successfully coating products.

Delegates were briefed on several products which will extend the service life of fencing products

- **Interpon Metaplex™** system offering 10 and 15 year warrantable powder coat system for steel and aluminium.
- Introduction of the **Interpon Align™** system. Patented technology consisting of 2 coats - 1 bake.

For further details **Cameron O'Brien**:
www.specifyinterpon.com.au
cameron.obrien@akzonobel.com

Downee

Presentation of Downee Design Award

The presentation of the **Downee Chain-Link Innovative Design Award** was made at the September Annual conference.



David Takacs accepted the award on behalf of fencing contractors **Diamond Fence (Australia) Pty Ltd**. The award was presented to **David** on behalf of **Downee by Marco Beltrame**, General Manager.

The innovative project selected by the judging panel for the award was

the bike store at the **LaTrobe Institute for Molecular Science** at Bundoora, Melbourne. The project was designed by Melbourne Architect **Lyons** for the **La Trobe University**.

We thank **Downee** for their continued support of this award which encourages designers to look to incorporate innovative uses of chain-link in residential, commercial and institutional projects.



Business
business.gov.au

Entrepreneur's Infrastructure Program for Small & Medium Enterprises

The **Entrepreneur's Infrastructure Program** is the **Australian Government's** flagship initiative for business competitiveness and productivity at a firm level. It forms part of the **Australian Government's** new Industry Policy. With a national network of more than 100 experienced private sector advisors, the program offers support to business through three elements

- **Business Management** - providing support for business improvement and growth;
- **Research Connections** - helping small and medium sized businesses collaborate with the research sector to develop new ideas with commercial potential; and
- **Accelerating Commercialisation** - helping entrepreneurs, researchers, start-ups and businesses address key challenges in the commercial pathway of bringing novel products, processes and service to market.

To be eligible to participate in the program businesses must have a turnover above \$1.5 million, have traded in Australia for at least three years, possess an Australian Company number, be financially solvent and operate or provide services to specific growth sectors in the economy.

More information on this program can be found: www.business.gov.au

We Welcome a New Wire Products Member in NZ - Wire Displays



Back in 1984 **Mark Corrigan** established a small wire and tube fabricated products company in Paraparaumu which is located in the southern part of the North Island of New Zealand, 50 kilometres from Wellington.

Initially **Mark** concentrated on producing small runs of wire products, however, over recent years the company invested heavily in new plant and equipment which enabled the company to expand its product range and enter new markets.

With an eye on remaining competitive **Mark** invested in the latest 2D and 3D CNC wire forming and butt-welding machines. He also acquired a 3 axis mesh welder.

The coupling of experience and the latest advanced equipment has allowed Wire Displays to become one of the leaders in wire based manufacturing and fabrication in New Zealand.

Mark says they "pride themselves in being 100% New Zealand owned and operated". He adds "our competitive pricing and company reputation will ensure our continued involvement in the area of wire product manufacturing will continue well into the future".

More information: info@wiredisplays.co.nz

Upcoming Wire Events



Interwire Trade Exposition will be held between **April 27 - 30, 2015** at the **Georgia World Congress Centre, Atlanta GA** in the USA.

Introduced in 1981, **Interwire** is the largest and longest-running wire and cable marketplace in the Americas. Hosted biennially, **Interwire** is an international trade event that includes exhibiting companies, speakers, and visitors from more than 50 countries.

When industry professionals look for new wire and cable technology, supplies and equipment they choose **Interwire**, the benchmark for wire businesses in the Americas.

Information is exchanged at **Interwire**. Machinery is debuted, reviewed and sold at **Interwire**. The promise of international networking on the Americas' stage continues to excite visitors to this vital forum. The show crosses dozens of vertical industries including automotive, construction, aerospace, transportation, and communications, among others. **Interwire** is held in conjunction with WAI's Annual Convention.

More information from Wire Association International Inc: www.wirenet.org

The 11th International **Wire & Cable Trade Fair for Southeast Asia** will be held at the Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC), Bangkok Thailand, between 16-18 September 2015. This biennial trade fair was first held in Singapore in 1995 and was relocated to Bangkok in 2007.



The range of products displayed at the fair includes machinery for Wire processing and finishing; Fastener technology and production; Spring making; Process technology tools; Test engineering and environmental protection.

You may like to look at including this fair in your next family trip to Asia.

The fair is organized by Dusseldorf Asia.

More information www.wire-southeastasia.com



WIRE LINK NEWSLETTER

AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL

This newsletter can be forwarded to you or members of your staff simply by sending a request and your email details to:

brian@wireassociation.com.au

Previous copies of this newsletter are available on:

www.wireassociation.com.au

then click on linked Associations – "**Australasian Fence Industry Association**", lastly click on "**News**" tag.



TEL Fair 2015, International Istanbul Wire Fair

Istanbul is the business capital of Turkey as well as the business centre for many countries in the Mediterranean region. **TEL Fair** is a biennial event and a great opportunity to meet thousands of wire industry professionals as well as perhaps combining an after Fair visit to this remarkable city.

The Fair will be held between **26 - 28th March 2015** at the **Istanbul Expo Centre**.

Detailed information can be found on the Fair website at <http://www.tube-wire-coil-fair.com>

WIRE APPOINTMENTS



Evan Guest - Director / Business Development Manager - **Jubilee Spring**.

After working for over 5 years as an Application Engineer with **Lee Spring** in the USA, **Evan** has re-joined the family business in NSW.

Working at **Lee Spring** has been an exciting and rewarding experience for **Evan**.

Lee Spring is based in New York and operates five technologically advanced plants strategically located to service all regions of the United States. His time in the States has given **Evan** the opportunity to view first-hand the state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, as well as the Lean Manufacturing Techniques which are required to produce the exact springs and metal parts needed to meet the demands of the 21st century technological age.

Some members may recall, we featured an article on the "**Hazcam**" cameras mounted on the **Mars Rover "Curiosity"** back in January 2013. The springs on the protective covers on the "**Hazcam**" were manufactured and supplied by **Lee Spring**.



Training Award - Trip to America

My trip to the United States was definitely more informative than I could have ever imagined. First stop was Chicago for the **CASMI** spring show. It was mind boggling to see this one particular exhibition showcasing just the manufacture of springs. Here in Australia our trade shows cater for a much more diversified manufacturing group rather than just spring manufacture.



Being able to compare the technological advancement of the equipment on show compared to our own equipment was definitely interesting. In some cases we compared favourably, however, there was some pretty amazing equipment on show.

It was also amazing to see the wide range of choice that spring manufacturers have for wire and material supplies including a large number of rapid heat treatment processors. It was nice to put faces to the names of some of my contacts and they were all most welcoming.

New York was such an eye-opener! The spring manufacturing companies there are massive with factories filled with large numbers of machines that run continually.

One company in Connecticut, just outside New York had this one guy minding 20 machines, all running at the same time; some machines ran the same job every day.

One could only wish that we had the same volume of work here in Australia. Seeing the efficiency of this particular spring company was the highlight of my trip.

Visiting **Lee Spring**, one of the largest spring suppliers in the US, was another highlight. **Steve**, the owner, took time out personally to take us on a visit to four other spring companies.

I just want to take the time now to thank everyone at the **AWIA** for giving me the opportunity to have this fantastic experience. Not only has it broadened my knowledge and insight into the Spring World, I have a lot of great memories to go with it.

I highly recommend the Association continues this innovative award so other people in our industry can experience this wonderful opportunity which I have had.

Kylie Azzopardi

Applications for Training Award AWIA Training Trust

Some members **may still not be aware** the **Training Trust Award** is open to employees of all **AWIA** members, whether they be spring makers, wire products manufacturers or fencing component producers.

Application forms giving details of the selection criteria will be circulated in **March for the 2015/16** year.

This is a great opportunity for one of your staff to receive a substantial benefit towards further study or an educational experience to improve his/her industry knowledge.

Kylie Azzopardi's article is a great example of a worthy award winner.

Conference Golf



At the AWIA conference in September, the Association's golfing fraternity again participated in the golf competition at Royal Pines.

An enjoyable day was had by all, however, the individual championship trophy was not awarded on this occasion as they decided to make it a social game. Start practicing for next year.



WIRE AND SPRING MEMBERS

- Ability Works
- Ace Wire Works
- APAC Wire Technology
- Ariston Wire
- Australian Steel & Wire
- Australian Mesh
- Automatic Wire
- Bayswater Plastic Coaters
- Bekaert Singapore
- Bernhart Springs
- Better Springs
- Bliss & Reels
- Boynes Springs
- Castle International
- Fraser Hrones
- Icoa Australia
- Idee Parfait
- Industrial Engineers Spring Makers
- Jex Industries
- Jubilee Springs
- M&F Group
- Machinery Forum
- Marsh Springs & Metal Products
- Mesh Works
- Multi Slide Industries
- National Springs & Wire Products NZ
- NZ Spring Works Ltd
- One Steel Market Mills
- Quality Springs
- R.E. Walters
- S&S Springs
- S.A. Wire Ware
- Sanwa
- Smart Weld NZ Ltd
- Spring Specialists Ltd
- Stainless Steel Wire Products
- Superior Industries NZ
- Wiredex Wire Products
- Wire Mesh Industries
- Wiretainers Pty Ltd
- Wire Displays

NEWS FROM THE AMERICANS



In October 2014 the Chicago Association of Spring Manufacturers Inc (CASMI) held its "SpringWorld" exhibition in Chicago in the USA.

Association members **John Guest** from **Jubilee Spring** and **Graham Burrell** from **National Springs** in New Zealand both attended the show.

According to **John**, the exhibition was well attended and it appeared that many of the US spring companies were purchasing new machines to re-equip their plants.



Photo above: Evan Guest, John Guest, Kylie Azzopardi, Wendy Guest

He gained the impression after speaking to several spring company CEO's that they now had renewed confidence that the American economy was turning around. This turnaround in the manufacturing sector appears to be driven by a policy of buy American. The support given by the Government to the motor industry was also cited as a boost to the spring manufacturing industry.

John also learned of an American Spring company which had secured a contract to supply 20 million springs a week to China. It appears their success in winning the order was down to their ability to supply a superior quality product and meet a strict delivery requirement.

Generally speaking it appeared that most wire suppliers and on sellers were very busy.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2014 Annual conference was a departure from previous **AWIA** conferences. This year it was held in conjunction with the **Australian Steel Institute's (ASI)** Steel conference at the Marriott Resort & Spa Surfers Paradise in September 2014.

It was a much larger affair than our usual conferences, with well over 250 delegates attending from all sectors of the steel industry. Due to the **ASI's** reputation within the steel industry it was able to draw key speakers to brief delegates on industry topics. These included **Bob Baldwin MP**, who spoke about the Federal Government's policy for industry, the CEO of **Arrium** (parent of **OneSteel**) and several other presenters who provided the delegates with updates on the economy and the likely business climate over the next twelve months.

The format and running of the conference was very professional which was what you would expect from such a large organization such as **ASI**. The gala dinner featured an award ceremony with a number of National awards for excellence in the industry. The **AWIA** was given the opportunity during the ceremonies to present **David Takacs** from **Diamond Fencing (Aust)** with the **Downee Innovative Chain-Link Design Award**. The award was presented on behalf of **Downee by General Manager Marco Beltrame**. Our thanks again to **Downee** for their continued support of innovation in the fencing industry.

On the following day after the key note addresses, the **AWIA** held its own sessions which included the **AGM** and presentations on wire and pipe coatings from **Doogood Powder Coating's Brad and Nathan Jones** and **Interpon's Jeremie Henry**.



Photo: Conference delegates at **AWIA AGM**

Participation at future **ASI** conferences will be discussed at the Next National committee meeting in March 2015.

"The WIRE LINK"

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