

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

Next Conference August at Hunter Valley

Thursday 22nd to Sunday 25th August 2013

The national committee will be meeting in February to plan the format and social activities for our next Conference. Once again, an informative program featuring business presenters as well as speakers on specific topics relevant to the wire and fencing industries is being planned.



An opportunity will be built into the conference to allow delegates to visit some well-known Hunter Valley wineries situated in one of Australia's premium wine growing districts.



Make sure you make a note of the date when planning your holidays and the year ahead.

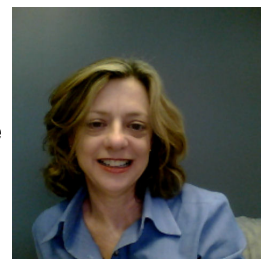
More information will shortly be posted on the website:

www.wireassociation.com.au/conference

NOTE FROM AWIA PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to 2013 and to the fiftieth year of the Australasian Wire Industry Association.



I hope you have had the opportunity to take a short break over the holiday period and welcome the new year refreshed.

Our conference in this special fiftieth year will be held in the Hunter Valley. Please note the dates in your diary 22 – 25 August 2013 and join us for this very special conference. It is a credit to the Association and its members to have an organisation which has reached such a milestone. Your participation will help make this event an even greater success.

Your executive team will commence planning for the conference over the next couple of weeks. Please let us know of any topics or special events you would like included in the conference program as soon as possible.

Indicators suggest that the trading conditions in 2013 will continue to be challenging for most of us. I would like to wish everyone best wishes in their business endeavours in the coming months.

Susan Just
AWIA President 2013



**NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE
BY E-MAIL**

We can forward by e-mail to you and your staff should you wish.

Available in PDF format which will not clog up your e-mails.

Send request with e-mail details to:

brian@wireassociation.com.au

Something New

Otter Fencing has released a professional quality, pneumatic netting clip gun and magazine style "C" shaped netting clips, suitable for the serious fencing installer. The clips are designed to secure the chain-link fabric to horizontal cables and are manufactured from zinc-aluminium wire, which is equivalent to heavy galvanized wire and is compliant with AS1725-2010.

The "C" clips are available in both a galvanized and black coated finish, with the latter complimenting well with Black PVC coated or Black Fusion Bonded chain-link fences.



The holding power of the Otter "C" clips are very impressive, due partly to the size of the clips which are 25mm and also due to the fact that they are made from medium tensile wire, which is far more resistant from opening up.

More information contact
glenn.otter@otter.com.au

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VICTORIAN FENCING CHAPTER MEETING

A meeting was held at the Tower Hotel, Hawthorn, November 2012.

Chairman Ray Otter welcomed 21 permanent security and temporary fencing members and colleagues to the meeting.

SWIMMING POOL FENCING

Rob Johnson, Exotic Pools, presented an update on changes to Victorian pool and fencing permits which now require the actual type and location of pool fencing to be included on the initial plans and permit.

Discussion on how this will affect temporary fencing erected during the pool construction ensued. It is understood that temporary pool fencing will now be designated as pool construction fencing.

TESTING STANDARD FOR TEMPORARY HOARDING

Andrew Lee, Chairman of the Temporary fencing standards sub-committee addressed a query from a company regarding the testing of temporary hoardings.

The enquiry sought information as to why AS4687-2007 did not provide definitive suggestions for testing hoarding panels and systems. The inquiry specifically referred to the temporary hoarding panels erected in shopping complexes.

SECURITY FENCING COMFORMANCE TO AS1725

The meeting was informed of some recent successes where architects had made changes to specific clauses in their documents to conform to the Australian standard. The clauses related to post spaces, pipe diameters and wire coatings which were not consistent with the standard.

Members are urged to contact Secretary Brian Mullarvey and report these types of discrepancies in tender documents. The Association will take up the case on behalf of the industry and hence individual companies will not be disadvantaged by reporting these anomalies.

REPORTING SUB-CONTRACTOR PAYMENTS TO ATO

Ross Webber from ATO conducted a briefing via the internet on Federal Government's requirements for fencing companies to record and report sub-contractor payments made to fencing installers (see article for more information.)

BRACES REQUIRED TO TEMPORARY FENCING WHEN SHADE CLOTH ATTACHED

Discussion took place on the reluctance of some hirers of temporary fencing to pay for the additional costs in supplying extra bracing and anchor blocks to projects where shade cloth may be attached to the panels.

Contact has been made with Rod Wilkie, Melbourne Testing Services to arrange for Rod to address a meeting in 2013 to provide members with a better understanding of the additional forces involved when shade cloth is applied to Temporary fencing.

Brian Mullarvey

Contact: brian@wireassociation.com.au



NEW SOUTH WALES FENCING CHAPTER

Firstly, Happy New Year to everyone.

In early December, the NSW AWIA Members held their Christmas Dinner at Dedes Restaurant in the Sydney Rowing Club. Everyone enjoyed the evening, starting with a beautiful sunset over the water followed by a 3 course dinner over which the trials, tribulations and successes of 2012 were discussed. All wished for a better 2013, especially on the business front.

Planning for our 2013 Christmas Dinner is already underway as it is the AWIA 50th year celebration.

The NSW Fencing Group had a difficult end to the year having to defer a couple of meetings due to members work commitments and the tough market conditions. However the group will strive to make headway in 2013 on our goals including ground work on developing a security fence standard for both wire and steel products.

Ross Smith



WESTERN AUSTRALIA FENCING CHAPTER

After visits to WA Councils and government bodies by AWIA Director Malcolm Michael, it was clear the Council officers require more information on what the benefits are for Councils, property owners and building contractors in making temporary fencing mandatory on residential building sites, prior to Councils considering changing their regulations.

Visits have been made to Councils in Victoria which have mandatory temporary fencing regulations with a view to communicating this information to Councils in the Perth area. Visits are planned to the Perth Councils in the first quarter of 2013. Local members will be advised on the outcome of these visits.

Contact: malcolm@wireassociation.com.au

FENCING INDUSTRY SNIPPETS



After 35 years plus at its premises in the Melbourne suburb of Clayton and over 50 years servicing the fencing industry, Otter Fencing has recently moved to larger purpose built premises, complete with trade sales shop in Dandenong South.



Now located a stone's throw from the East-link freeway, the new location according to General Manager - Glenn Otter, will provide much better transport access, improve production efficiencies and will position Otter Fencing well to better service its customers.

Ph: 1300 856 788 www.otterfencing.com.au



Swimming Pool Fencing Australian Standard Upgrade

The Australian standards committee CS034 completed their work reviewing the standard relating to swimming pool fencing and a new standard **AS1926.1-2012** was published in November 2012.

This swimming pool standard supersedes AS1926.1-2007. Copies of this standard can be purchased by contacting **SAI Global** (saiglobal.com). Standard costs \$103.54 for a PDF download copy or \$115.14 for a hard copy.

New General Manager at Hurricane Wire Products Queensland



Tim Taylor has held the position of General Manager of Hurricane Wire products in Brisbane for the last two years. Tim will be moving on to a Business Development role within Mesh & Bar. Bill Clayton who joined Hurricane in January 2013 has been appointed General Manager.

Bill has many years experience in the wire and steel products industry. Originally from Victoria Bill came to Queensland with Whites Wires over fifteen years ago. In 2009 he assisted setting up Green Steel which imported steel posts and wire products from overseas.

In his new role Bill will be responsible for the manufacturing and sales of Hurricane wire products throughout Australia.

Contact: billc@hurricanewire.com.au

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR OR EMPLOYEE?



"I have someone **WORKING** for me. I think he's a **CONTRACTOR** but I've been told he could be an **EMPLOYEE**. What is he?"

According to Michelle Dawson of M+K Lawyers this apparently simple question just keeps getting harder to answer.

In some cases, the same situation gives different answers for tax, superannuation, workers compensation, payroll tax and other issues.

The risks of treating someone as a contractor when authorities like the ATO or the Fair Work Ombudsman think they are employees include:

- Superannuation Guarantee Charge liabilities, which carry penalties, interest and administration charges.
- Claims for annual leave and other leave entitlements
- Potential penalties for breaches of awards and the Fair Work Act
- Additional workers compensation premiums and payroll tax liabilities

You need to weigh up all of the features of the relationship to determine whether it's principal / contractor or employer / employee.

A written independent contracting agreement between the parties doesn't guarantee that will be the way authorities and regulators look at it, but a thoughtfully drafted agreement will go a long way to getting you there.

Michelle Dawson from M+K Lawyers has prepared a number of these contractor agreements for fencing members in Victoria.

For more information contact Michelle 03 9794 2531 or michelle.dawson@mk.com.au



The Association would like to welcome new fencing member FenceWright.

FenceWright specialises in the supply and installation of security fencing and gates. Building on many years' experience in the Western Australian market, FenceWright offers a full range of Chain-link security fencing, Garrison-type security fencing, Palisade type fencing and swinging and auto-matic sliding gates to suit.

According to Managing Director Matthew Sivewright "FenceWright undertakes projects throughout Western Australia". According to Matt "FenceWright's success is founded on its commitment to working with its clients to deliver security fencing solutions."

Contact: matts@fencewright.com.au

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CORNER



Amendments to Fair Work Act

In late October, the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Bill Shorten, introduced the Fair Work Amendment Bill 2012 (Cth) into Parliament. This Bill represents the first tranche of changes to address a number of recommendations arising out of the Fair Work Act Review.

Notable amendments under the Bill include:

- An increase in the time limit for making an unfair dismissal claim from 14 to 21 days
- An enhanced ability for Fair Work Australia to strike out unmeritorious unfair claims and award costs against parties unreasonably pursuing these claims
- Clarifying what may be included in a notice of representative rights; and
- A prohibition on opt-out clauses and enterprise agreements with less than one employee

More information can be sourced by contacting
Matthew Robinson - Fisher Cartwright & Berriman

Sydney: 02 9922 5188 Melbourne: 03 9098 9400

Strengthening Director's Obligations - Company Directors Note

According to a report posted by Satellite Accounting the Australian Tax Office (ATO) is cracking down on Directors in regards to unpaid PAYG and superannuation debts. New legislation was passed on 29 June 2012 which further affects Director's personal liability.

Prior to June Directors could escape personal liability for unpaid PAYG if, within 21 days from being served with a Director Penalty Notice (DPN) the Director entered into a written agreement with ATO to pay the amount stated in the DPN, or caused the company to be either into administration or be wound up.

The new legislation no longer affords these options. Instead Directors are personally liable if

- There is PAYG that is older than three (3) months; and
- The debt was not reported to the ATO within 3 months of the lodgement date

According to Satellite Accounting placing the company into liquidation or voluntary administration will not absolve a Director from personal liability.

If you are a Director of a company you should immediately review your PAYG and superannuation lodgement histories and ensure that any PAYG or superannuation debt is reported to ATO within 3 months of the lodgement date.

For more information contact:

Helena Mmos on (07) 3852 5055



American Fence Association's 2013 Fencetech will be held in Houston USA from February 27th to 1st March 2013. This year's exhibition will be the 51st annual exhibition featuring a huge range of fencing, decking and railing products as well as a range of educational seminars.

Over the years many of our Association members have attended Fencetech. It is believed a number of members intend to go again this year.

The 2014 Fencetech will be held in Las Vegas. Fencing Association Chairman, Ray Otter has proposed that our Association make efforts to organize a contingent to attend the Las Vegas exhibition and take advantage of group travel and accommodation costs.

For further information go to <http://www.fencetech.us>

Downee® Chain Link Design Award

Once again we are pleased to announce that DOWNEE has again agreed to sponsor the Chain-Link Innovation Design Award.

The Association is keen to acknowledge projects that have incorporated the innovative use of chain-link fabric and showcase the quality workmanship of our members.

Uniquely designed plaques will be presented to both the fence designer and the installing contractor with a cash award of \$1,000 to be shared between the designer and the contractor.

Members are encouraged to look through the projects completed over recent times and submit the details to the independent judging panel. It is envisaged that the award will be made at the national conference at the Hunter Valley in August 2013.

More information and an entry form can be sourced on www.wireassociation.com.au/afia/design





NEW MEMBERS ON NATIONAL COMMITTEE

At the annual AWIA conference held on the Gold Coast in September 2012 a number of new members were elected to the National committee.

They include:

Charles Johnstone (Automatic Wire - NSW)
 Darren Edmunds (Bekaert Singapore - VIC)
 Timothy Murray (Fencescape Fencing - QLD)
 Peter Caven (Vater Distributors - SA)
 Tom Bishop (ARC - VIC)

We welcome all these members to the National committee and look forward to their valued input on matters pertaining to the wire, spring and fencing industries.

CONTINUING PROFILES OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tom Bishop

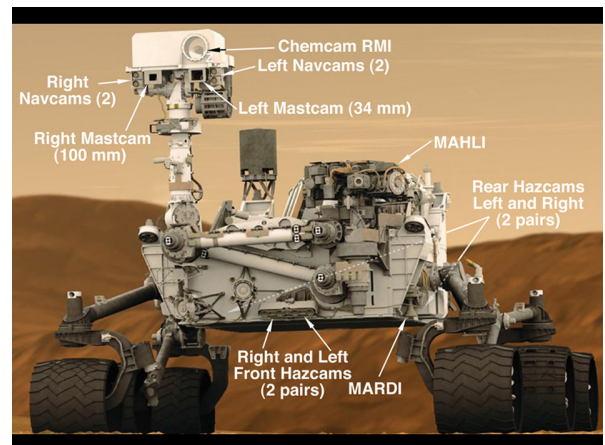
Tom Bishop is the National Fencing Manager at ARC - The National Reinforcing Company. Since joining Smorgon Steel in 2001 he has worked in a number of marketing and managerial roles. Prior to taking up his role as National Fencing Manager in 2010 Tom managed the Victorian Fencing business.

Together with wife Rebecca Tom is a Hawthorn resident though he supports the Richmond football club. He's an active participant in a number of sports and is frequently seen at the local tennis courts, swimming pool and golf courses.



Tom brings to the committee a broad understanding of sales and marketing in manufacturing and construction industry.

SPRINGS TO MARS



Being able to see the results of a US \$2.5 billion dollar mission to Mars relied on the functioning of a few torsion springs.

These springs have a main function of removing the protective covers away from the "Hazcam" cameras mounted on the Mars rover "Curiosity."

According to Evan Guest, now an application engineer with Lee Springs in the States "they achieved their goal beautifully by protecting them during the landing stage where significant dust clouds were created from the rocket propulsion during the point of lowering the rover to the Mars surface."

Evan, a member of the well know Guest family (Jubilee Springs) is working in the States to further his experience and expertise in the spring industry.

Evan sent back a couple of video links where more information can be seen on this remarkable mission.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVxlx435maM>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCeKE4FrSJ>



NZ Spring Works have been manufacturing precision coil springs, wire forms and flat spring products since 1990.

Located in Lower Hutt, Wellington the company has gained an enviable reputation for their products in the spring industry.

According to Production Manager Andrew McTaggart, the company has a wide range of customers which includes the NZ Defence forces, Railways, Government departments, shipping companies, furniture manufacturers, Roller Tilter door and Agricultural machinery manufacturers.

Andrew says they specialize in small and large runs of precision springs from 0.3mm to 16mm material. He adds they also do wire straightening and cutting.

Contact for more information www.nzspringworks.co.nz



This New Zealand based and owned spring company has been in the spring business since 1953.

They prize themselves on their motto of being able to supply from one to a million units.

Manager Steve Outtrim attributes much of the company's success over the years to their flexible attitude to business, offering friendly, helpful service on an individual basis, backed up by design assistance.

Located at Mt Wellington in Auckland NZ, they offer a full range of compression, tension, torsion, wire form and flat section springs.

Spring Specialists are registered to ISO 9001-2008 and operate a quality assurance program that starts with initial client meetings and continues throughout all stages of the project.

More information www.springspecialists.co.nz



Wire Members

Ability Works
 Ace Wire Works
 APAC Wire Technology
 Ariston Wire
 Australian Steel & Wire
 Australian Mesh
 Automatic Wire Bayswater
 Plastic Coaters
 Bekaert International
 Bernhart Springs
 Better Springs
 Bliss & Reels
 Boynes Springs
 Castle International
 CMC Australia
 Fraser Hrones
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 Industrial Engineers Spring
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 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

We would like to extend a welcome to the Association to three New Zealand spring makers

Spring Specialists
 Mt Wellington Auckland
 Smart Weld NZ
 Wainoni Christchurch
 NZ Spring Works
 Gracefield Lower Hutt

Industry Member Profiles



In 2010 *Bayswater Spring Works* was acquired and renamed **Bayswater Springs P.L.** by Queensland based spring manufacturer Thomas Marsh & Co. P.L. Over a period of 24 years of spring, clip and wire form manufacture, B.S.W. had gained a strong reputation for quality, service and competitive pricing.

Marsh Springs & Metal Products (Thomas Marsh & Co.) is one of the largest spring manufacturers in Australia, with product sold Australia wide, supplied from their Brisbane based factory.

Bayswater Springs' Manager Peter Bell says that the acquisition was an opportunity to establish a local presence in Victoria, and enhance supply capabilities to established new customers in the State, by using the resources of both companies.

Peter says the joint company expansion has been a success, despite the current difficult manufacturing environment in Australia. Focusing on competitive pricing, flexibility in manufacture, a high level of customer service, Peter expects the joint company venture to present medium term growth opportunities from niche markets throughout Australia.

Bayswater Springs P.L. is accredited to AS/NZS ISO 9001-2008.

Contact Peter Bell: peterb@bsw.net.au

BAUMA 2013 MUNICH GERMANY April 15th to 21st

Bauma is the world's largest construction exhibition covering more than 550,000 sq. metres with over 3,000 exhibitors and 400,000 visitors.

Held every three years, this international exhibition showcases construction and building material machinery, mining machines, construction vehicles and equipment. Featuring all these sectors, all market leaders and the latest in innovations, this is by far the best opportunity for those in the reinforcing industry to see all manner of equipment and material.

It is expected a number of our reinforcing members will have already decided to attend this year. For more details go to <http://www.bauma.de/en>

UPCOMING EVENTS

SpringWorld 2012 and 2014

The world's largest exhibition just for spring making is held in Chicago every two years. Organised by CASMI, SpringWorld brings to the spring makers a wide and in depth range of exhibitor ranging from hand tools to multi-axes CMC spring coilers plus materials of every kind.

Last October saw two of our members attend the Exhibition, Michael Priestly from Better Springs plus



John and Wendy Guest from Jubilee Springs with John winning an iPad at the show.

CASMI is already planning for SpringWorld 2014 to be held from the 8th to 10th of October 2014. More details available at http://www.casmi-springworld.org/associations/10866/spring_world/

Interwire 2013, Atlanta, 23 - 25 April

Immediately following Bauma, Interwire 2013 will provide for our wire members a comprehensive range of exhibitors of material and manufacturing equipment including automotive, construction, transport, whitegoods and general wire products.

In conjunction with the exhibition there is also an extensive range of technical papers presented to the attendees.

Organised by WAI (Wire Association International), the WAI will also be holding their 83rd annual conference.

For further information go to <http://wirenet.org/events/20-wai-article/174-interwire-2013-visitor-information>

More information on overseas wire shows and exhibitions can be found in Association Diary.

"The WIRE LINK"

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