

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

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA APPROVES DRAFTING OF NEW STANDARD

Standards Australia advised in November 2017 that their Standards Advisory Committee (SDAC) had approved the proposal submitted on behalf of the AWIA for an anti-intruder security fencing standard to be created.

The proposed standard will provide guidance on specifying more comprehensive, safer, stronger and consistent security fence systems which fit specific high security purposes.

More details about proposed new standard on [Page 9](#)



## LIBERTY ONESTEEL — A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS

GFG Alliance headed by Sanjeev Gupta, an international businessman and entrepreneur, is the new owner of OneSteel. GFG Alliance is a global enterprise with a presence in over 30 countries with activities spanning steel and aluminium production, mining, engineering, power generation, infrastructure and commodities trading.

Read about his address to the ASI's conference on [Page 6](#)

## ARE TEMPORARY FENCING CLAMPS ROBUST ENOUGH?

The Temporary Fencing Association (TFAA) has been made aware of the possibility that some temporary fencing clamps available on the Australian market may not be robust enough to maintain fence stability in cases when the fence could be exposed to the dynamic forces from strong winds and onsite mistreatment.

Read about our tests so far on [Page 7](#)



## AWIA Sydney - One day Mini-conference on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Coinciding with National Manufacturing Week in Sydney, the AWIA will convene a mini-conference in the locality of Darling Harbour. The format will be similar to last year's successful mini-conference with presentations on business activity and the economy as well as tips on our industrial relations management.

More information [Page 4](#)

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### VICTORIAN REPORT

A meeting of fencing members was held in November 2017 in Melbourne where fencing colleagues were updated on recent Association activities.

Amongst other topics discussed, members were advised it had been decided not to circulate the Association's drawing for Commercial tennis court intermediate pilot posts due to concerns that the recommended standard details for footings may be misinterpreted.

It was pointed out that the standard drawing did not take into account geotechnical differences on court sites. It was stressed that engineering advice should be sought when the design calls for the attachment of shade cloth and windbreak mats.

Contact:

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



### WESTERN AUSTRALIA REPORT

In October, FenceWright was sold to Karlka Developments, the commercial arm of the Karlka Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation, and is now known as Karlka FenceWright WA Pty Ltd.

The acquisition by this 100% Indigenous and Traditional Owner company will provide additional capital and support to further FenceWright's expansion into being a truly national security fencing contractor.

Natalia Parker, the Chair of Karlka Developments said "The acquisition of FenceWright is a landmark day for our Traditional Owners as we move towards economic self-determination."

Towards the end of May, Director/ Secretary, Richard Newbigin, will be visiting Perth for two to three days, and is looking forward to catching up with as many members as possible whilst there.

### NEW SOUTH WALES REPORT



After Standards Australia comprehensively reviewed all aspects of a proposal for an Australian Standard for "High security anti-intruder fencing in Weldmesh and open steel panels" we are pleased to announce that last November Standards gave approval for this project to proceed.

The proposal was initiated by the NSW fencing chapter. Special thanks must go to John Morris, Business Development Manager at Protective Fencing who over the last 12 months pulled the successful proposal together as well as garnered support from other stakeholders for the submission.

We are currently awaiting notification from Standards Australia for a proposed kick-off date to form a working group to draft the new standard. This is expected in the next few months.

Standards Australia has rated this project as large on their complexity index and it will require the input from many stakeholders across the High Security industry to produce a standard which facilitates superior, consistent fence systems which provide improved protection for people, services, utilities, infrastructure and physical assets in an increasingly hostile global environment.

Those interested can contact John Morris at [jmorris9949@gmail.com](mailto:jmorris9949@gmail.com)



### SOUTH AUSTRALIA REPORT

It is intended to convene a meeting with SA sliding gate makers in mid March.

Progress on compiling of the National Code of Practice for Design, Manufacture, Installation and Maintenance of Sliding gates will be tabled at this meeting. The Association has been seeking input from gate makers and suppliers nationally to ensure that the proposed Code reflects industry wide practices.

AFIA secretary Brian Mullarvey will join local members of the SA working group at the meeting to be hosted by Downee Manager Grant Murdoch.



### 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.

**NOTE FROM PRESIDENT**



To all our members welcome back to 2018 and Happy New Year. No matter where you are in Australia or New Zealand, I hope that the Christmas break was a wonderful time for you and your families.

2018 is going to be the year of increased local production in manufacturing, as well as the continuing construction and Infrastructure boom. Some of the issues I see facing our members this year are;

Increased electricity costs; The continuity of raw material supply because of China slowing production; Wage pressure and increased pressures from the banking sector due to the royal commission.

On the committee's agenda will be a well-attended and interesting conference in September as well as continuing to grow our membership and offerings to our members.

2018 is also a Wire Dusseldorf year and we are hoping to again arrange a gathering of members who will be in Germany in April.

I look forward to our committee meetings and events this year and hope to see and talk to many of you during the year.

If you would like to be more involved in the association please contact me to discuss how that may be possible.

I hope the start of the year is a strong one for the whole manufacturing sector and especially for all our members.

Sincerely

Charles Johnstone



**Vater's new appointment in Melbourne**

Vater Hardware would like to introduce their new Victorian Key Account Manager Jamon Rigoni

Jamon should be well known to many in the Victorian fencing industry having spent over 10 years servicing local fencing companies.

He says with this experience and key contacts both within and external to the fencing industry he will be able to achieve successful outcomes for his customers quickly and efficiently.

Jamon says he is looking forward to working with industry members



[jrigoni@vaterhardware.com](mailto:jrigoni@vaterhardware.com)

**NEW MEMBERS**

**We would like to welcome the following new members who have recently joined the Association.**

Perth Temporary Fencing is a family owned and operated Western Australian business that has been supplying and installing temporary perimeter fencing, temporary hoardings as well as temporary pool fencing in Perth and surrounding districts for over three years.



More information [shaun@perthtempfencing.com.au](mailto:shaun@perthtempfencing.com.au)



Jaybro, headquartered in Sydney, has over 20 years history supplying a wide range of consumables to the construction industry which includes temporary fencing and barriers, traffic signs and drainage equipment.

The company established a branch in Brisbane in 2010 and has continued to build its business through organic and acquisitions including purchasing the Fortress Fencing business in 2016.

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



IIL Australia Pty Limited was incorporated in May 2014 as a trading arm of International Industries Limited (IIL) to represent the Group's interests in the Asia Pacific region.

IIL Australia was established to provide world-class products made to Australian Standards, backed by dedicated customer service focused on steel supplies and plastic pipes.

For more information: [www.iilaustralia.com](http://www.iilaustralia.com)  
or [sohail@iilaustralia.com.au](mailto:sohail@iilaustralia.com.au)

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### REPORT FROM AWIA DIRECTOR

Welcome to 2018. I hope the holiday season has given you all an opportunity to refresh and to look back on 2017 and gloat over your successes. If there were accompanying disasters, as there usually are, now's the time to wipe them from the slate and follow up the successes.

For those of you who attended the AGM in September, you will know that the Association has steadily progressed through the year with increased revenues coming from a progressively expanding member base, increases in sponsorship funds, and a couple of new revenue sources from the sale of publications and also some advertising sales in our Wire Link newsletter. The increase in available funds has allowed Brian and I to visit greater numbers of existing members and potential members, while still allowing a modest increase in the annual surplus.

Our accrued points with Qantas Aquire are also slowly increasing, which should enable us to do even more visits with less use of Association funds, and I would encourage members to consider quoting the AWIA ABN (95 602 035 937) whenever they are making travel reservations with Qantas.

Since the AGM, and the half day conference on the Gold Coast, we have held a number of technical, committee and social functions to round out the year. The Christmas party at the MCG was a highlight.

2018 will see further work on the revision of AS4687 which we hope to have published early in 2019. It's a long process. We will also commence work on a new Australian Standard for high security fencing following the excellent work done by one of our members in having their project proposal accepted by Standards Australia.

Our year is already looking very busy, but we are here to assist members, so if you have a particular need that you think we could help you with, please contact either Brian or me.

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



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### Support Cables for Chain-link Security Fencing

A question is sometimes posed; does the Australian Standard specify only one type of cable for supporting chain-link fabric?

Local practices in different states vary; however, this has been taken into account in the Australian Standard AS1725-2010.

The Australian Standard allows for a 4.0mm single strand, metallic-coated spiralled helicoil wire to be used.

It also specifies twin 3.15mm diameter metallic-coated wires twisted between posts may be used.



#### IMPORTANT TO NOTE

However, the Standard states that *support cables* shall be of the **same coating quality as selected for the chain link fabric**



Copies of Australian fencing Standards can be sourced from SAI Global  
Email [sales@saiglobal.com.au](mailto:sales@saiglobal.com.au)  
Phone 13 12 42

### Sydney Mini Conference May 2018

Once again, the AWIA will hold a mini-conference to coincide with National Manufacturing Week (NMW). This event has been well attended since its commencement in 2016. This year NMW will be on at the Sydney Show-ground at Sydney Olympic Park, between 9 and 11 May.

It is likely that the AWIA mini-conference will be held around Darling Harbour as it was in 2016, starting with a dinner on 9 May for NSW members and any other delegates arriving that day, followed by the conference on 10 May with some refreshments to round out the day, and to allow delegates to network with each other.

The program for the conference is in the planning stages, but expectations are that Mei Leong, Senior Strategy Analyst with Liberty OneSteel will provide an update on her comprehensive Economic Briefings, and that a speaker from FCB Group, the Association's employment law specialists, will also attend. In 2016, Matthew Robinson from FCB challenged delegates with a game show styled presentation which proved very popular and very rewarding for the eventual winner.

Members will be updated on plans for the conference in due course, but if there are any topics you would especially like to have covered, please contact

**Richard Newbigin at:**  
[richard@wireassociation.com.au](mailto:richard@wireassociation.com.au)

## Sliding Gates - National Code of Practice

During calendar year 2017 with the assistance of Simon Vanessa and the staff at Downee, briefing meetings were attended by sliding gate manufacturers and suppliers in Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. The principle purpose was to explain the need for compiling a **National Code of Practice for the Design, Manufacture, Installation and Maintenance of Sliding Gates** and to also garner consensus on the scope of the document.



The inclusion or omission of information on swing gates was an issue which received considerable discussion. It was also agreed that the safety aspects of the installation and operation of sliding gates should be fully covered.

Although progress on writing up the Code of Practice has been slower than had been hoped, the outline document is nearly completed and many of the definitions to be included in the document have been written up. During the year it is intended to schedule

more stakeholder working group meetings in the different states to seek input on topics such as Risk Analysis, Automation and Handover procedures.

Should you be interested in attending one of these stakeholders' meetings in Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney or Melbourne please contact:

**Brian Mullarvey** [brian@wireassociation.com.au](mailto:brian@wireassociation.com.au)



## Some Gates Need More Specialized Manufacturing and Installation Skills Than Others

Victorian fencing company, Lee Brothers Fencing, took on the daunting challenge of supplying and installing a huge automatic acoustic sliding gate at the Tarneit Central Shopping complex in Melbourne.

With a gate opening of 14 metres wide and 7.0 metres high the gate has been designed as a bi parting ground mounted sliding gate with each gate leaf being 9.0 metres long and weighing approx. 7 tonnes.

Lee Brothers decided to manufacture each gate leaf in three 9.0 metre long by 2.3 metre high sections and then bolt the sections together during the installation phase. Although the installation had its unique issues, Lee Brothers director, Andrew Lee said "coordinating the different phases of manufacture and the logistics of transporting the gates and components required detailed planning and attention".

The sliding gate was designed with 2.0 metre long overhang supported through the tunnel posts. The tunnel posts consisted of 4 vertical posts (200mm x 200mm) welded to a base plate designed to hold the gate in place and is used to attach all of the guide wheels.

As the tunnel posts each weighed approx. 2 tonnes the supporting concrete slab was engineered to bear the excessive weight of the complete gate structure. Each leaf has 6 pairs of pivoting rolling wheels and the gate runs on a specially designed custom track specifically engineered for the purpose.

The gate installation was carried out by placement of the completed tunnel posts prior to manufacturing of the gate frames. Once installed the gate frames were fabricated to suit the exact gate opening, this ensured perfect sizing.

Each gate leaf was installed by lifting one section at a time and then bolting the leaves together. Once bolted together and lifted into the tunnel posts, the guides and stops were installed. With the gate frames secured and sliding perfectly Lee Brothers were then able to install the acoustic material to complete the gates.

The final stage of the project was the manufacture and installation of a custom automated sliding gate motor to drive these gates. When operational the gate provides an automatic transport exit point at the Tarneit Central Shopping centre.

Lee Brothers Fencing said they were very proud to work with the Hacer Group (the Builder) and their engineers to be able to design and deliver such a complex project to the market.





## Is there a difference between OHS and WHS obligations?

Is there a difference between Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Work Health and Safety (WHS) in Australia? The short answer: "No". In January 2012 new WHS laws commenced in most states and territories to harmonise existing OHS laws across Australia. With this modification came a change in terminology, and OHS obligations became known as WHS obligations.

The workplace health and safety laws in Australia place the responsibility on the employer to do all they reasonably can to prevent accidents and injuries.

Under these laws employers must have insurance to cover their employees in the event of an accident. In addition, employers have a positive duty to ensure both the physical and mental health of their workers.

### What are my WHS Obligations?

Employers must be able to demonstrate that they have taken steps to ensure a safe work environment. This includes a process of risk management and complying with all applicable WHS legislation and industry standards.

At its most basic, an employer has an obligation to:

1. Identify any workplace hazards;
2. Demonstrate to employees how to safely fulfil their duties and role;
3. Provide safety equipment when needed;
4. Provide all new employees with a WHS induction;
5. Take reasonable and necessary steps to avoid workplace injuries;
6. Provide safe work premises; and
7. Assess risks and implement appropriate measures for controlling them.

For any questions regarding WHS, enterprise bargaining or compliance issues, please contact **FCB Group** on **+612 9922 5188**

## LIBERTY STEEL A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS



On September 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 the former Arrium Mining business and the OneSteel businesses became part of the GFG Alliance family under the new names of SIMEC Mining and Liberty OneSteel.

According to Sanjeev Gupta, Liberty OneSteel's new owner, "GFG will assist in building a strong, safe and prosperous future for the Australian Steel industry." Mr Gupta addressing the Australian Steel Institute (ASI) conference on the Gold Coast in September outlined the strategic importance of the Australian market to the GFG Alliance and the strategic role of steel in the future development of Australia's Infrastructure.

With the growth in Australia's major transport infrastructure project forecast to outstrip the peak of the mining boom by up to 70% over the next 5 years, Mr Gupta expressed his confidence in the growth prospects for steel markets and for steel usage in Australia in coming years. He also highlighted his strong belief that Australia could become a global leader in steel with the abundance of raw materials locally available.

At the conference Mr Gupta set out his strategic vision for Liberty OneSteel which would build on the strengths of the existing businesses. He identified the businesses' core assets as its facilities and its people. He then went on to describe GFG's culture as agile, entrepreneurial, energetic and ambitious with its strong focus on growth.

Liberty OneSteel is currently engaged in a 100 day transformation agenda led by the businesses' leadership team, identifying the requirements for investment to drive growth and the opportunities for staff, customers and suppliers this will unlock.

More information on Liberty OneSteel web site - [www.libertyonesteel.com/news](http://www.libertyonesteel.com/news)

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## FIT FOR PURPOSE?

**Are some fence clamps currently being used in temporary fencing systems robust enough to maintain a temporary fence's integrity when exposed to unbalanced forces such as high wind situations?**

The Australian Standard for Temporary Fencing AS4687 states

*“All clamps, pipe fittings, hinges and any other parts that are used in temporary fencing shall be manufactured in accordance with the relevant Australia Standard to ensure that the temporary fence system remains secure and maintains its integrity” (section 2.1.5)*

At this stage as there are no guidelines for fitting design requirements in the Australian fencing standards, it can be difficult for installers and purchasers to determine if their fencing system meets this requirement.

In past years when the vast majority of fencing fittings were developed and manufactured in Australia, users were confident locally available fittings could be relied upon to fulfil the role they had been designed for.

However, with an ever increasing emphasis on cost some of the original clamp design features have been disregarded and the thickness of the materials used in their manufacture has been considerably reduced.

Temporary Fencing Association (TFFA) asked the **Vater Corporation** if they could assist in determining the robustness of some of the clamps currently available in the Australian market place. With the cooperation of a number of temporary fencing suppliers and hire companies Vater has set up a series of tests to determine the robustness of not only some overseas temporary fencing couplers but also those that have been designed and made locally.

In all, 15 separate clamps were subject to a number of strength tests including 2525, 3232 and 4040 couplers. The measured metal thickness of the clamps varied across the fitting range, from 3.8mm to 5.00mm in the 2525 clamps, from 2.8mm to 8.00mm in the 3232 clamps, however there was less variation in the metal thickness of the 4040 clamps, from 3.8mm to 4.1mm.



Photos show the clamps undergoing testing and the result if a clamp fails. .

The preliminary tests were carried out in such a way as to simulate the basic forces that may be applied to a temporary fence system.

The aim of the testing was not to conclusively determine whether the fitting was suitable or not, but to identify areas of design and construction which may affect fitting performance. Forces were applied at 25kg increments until the fittings failed.

Although it was only a small test sample, it was found that in the smaller diameter clamps those manufactured from thicker material performed much better than the thinner walled clamps. In fact it took over double the kg force to reach the test failure point.

Initial observations indicate from the tests carried out so far, that not only does the material thickness of the clamp influence its strength but its shape and form are factors influencing its ability to continue to perform when subject to applied pressure.

Clamps with a pressed deformation design generally performed better than those which were formed flat; this was particularly evident with the 4040 clamps.

The results of the tests are still being evaluated; the next step will be to work with our engineering colleagues to calculate the force to be resisted before a clamp loses its effectiveness which could lead to the fencing system becoming unstable.

Our aim is to eventually be able to put numbers on the strength and robustness of these fencing clamps which should assist members in determining when purchasing fittings whether they are fit for purpose or whether they are risking the integrity of their fencing system.

The Association would like to thank **Vater Corporation** for making their testing facilities available and to the temporary fencing companies who supplied their clamps to enable this test to be carried out.



## Temporary Fencing Standard Review

Progress continues with the revision of AS 4687-2007 Temporary Fencing & Hoarding Standard. A meeting of the Technical Committee was held at the end of November at the offices of Standards Australia in Sydney, and, in spite of an unexpected fire alarm and building evacuation, the revision continues to move forward. This is the third meeting of the Standards Technical Committee since the kick-off meeting in May 2017.

It is expected that the proposed new Standard will be available for public comment towards the end of June 2018, with publication slated for February 2019.

While the general scope of the revision was largely set by the original project proposal, the Technical Committee and the associated Working Groups are mindful that other changes to the Standard may be required over time, and will be making note of these changes for future revisions.

If any members would like further information, please [contact Richard Newbigin or Brian Mullarvey](#). Please keep in mind though that discussions held within the Technical Committee are confidential in nature.



Comments appearing on Green Peace's website appear to confirm this correspondent's reports that over the last twelve months dozens of huge and smaller steel mills have stopped or curtailed their operations.

The measures are part of an aggressive action plan which aims to cut wintertime particulate pollution by 15% year-on-year over the next twelve months. These cuts are badly needed as Beijing and the surrounding industrial provinces had suffered PM2.5 levels just prior to Christmas which were considered "very unhealthy".



From our China Correspondent

Whilst many of us are conversant through the press with major Chinese cities such as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, I'm sure most of you will not be able to tell me the name and whereabouts of what is claimed to be the largest city in China.

It's **Chongqing** (pronounced Chongking), situated in southwest China on the Yangtze River;

Greater Chongqing is an amalgam of surrounding municipalities and has a population of nearly 32 million. It is one of four municipalities which are administratively responsible directly to the central Government.

Chongqing is a major manufacturing centre having 198 of China's top 500 companies operating there. Its car industry manufactured over 3 million cars in 2015, no doubt more now.

In the next report we will endeavour to explain why China's steel output has risen in 2017, when the closure of so many of its mills has been reported.



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## Standards Australia gives approval to draft new anti-intruder security fencing standard

With the heightened awareness of criminal and counter terrorism activities in Australia, the need for stronger, more durable security fence systems which provide greater resistance to intrusion and penetration is now much more evident.

John Morris, Business Development Manager at Protective Fencing, compiled and submitted on behalf of the AWIA a proposal to Standards Australia seeking to initiate a new Australian Standard for: **“High Security Anti-Intruder Fences in Welded Wire Mesh and Open Steel Panels”**.

In the proposal John suggested a new standard which is more relevant and which better reflects the needs of the contemporary Australian high security industry was essential. It would also bring Australia in line with relevant international standards such as the British standard - BS EN 1722:2006 and the American standard - ASTM F1712.

### Approval Received

**Standards Australia advised in November 2017 their Standards Advisory Committee (SDAC) had met and after carefully considering the proposal have given their approval for it to proceed.**

The proposed standard whilst complementary to AS1725.1 will provide for more comprehensive, safer, stronger and consistent security fence systems which are more relevant and fit for specific high security purposes.

The Australian High Security Fencing market is estimated to be in excess of \$100m per annum and growing rapidly, with the majority of projects now using 358 welded wire mesh and steel palisade anti-intruder fencing; however there is no Australian Standard for these products.

It is envisaged the new standard will be of assistance to specifiers designing higher security fencing systems in many of the following applications:

- High risk Commercial Buildings
- Government Buildings; Diplomatic Buildings; Detention facilities
- Telecommunications
- Hospitals
- Airports
- Utilities such as Water and Energy supply facilities
- Railway, Ports and Road infrastructure
- Mining
- Venues of mass gatherings



Photos show types of high security fencing which could be included in Standard.



### Draft Scope

The new standard will specify requirements for fence materials and their combination and installation and will include the following:

- ⇒ Minimum fence heights. Generally between 2400mm and 3000mm high.
- ⇒ Component dimensions, together with permissible tolerances on size.
- ⇒ Mechanical properties of steel wire and steel products typically used in the fence system.
- ⇒ Recommendations for welding of steel wire including minimum shear strength of resistance welded joints.
- ⇒ Requirements for protective surface treatments including hot dip galvanised coatings, zinc alloy coatings and non-ferrous coatings such as organic powder coatings, plastic coatings and protective paint systems.
- ⇒ Specifications for steel posts and struts, steel gates and gate posts.
- ⇒ Relevant compliance testing regimes for steel wire and steel products and protective surface treatments.
- ⇒ Details of the fence requirements and installation site that should be agreed between the fence supplier and purchaser at the time of ordering a fence

An AFIA working group will be formed over the next few months to provide input to the Standards technical committee which will be charged with the responsibility of creating the standard

**For more information contact either Brian Mullarvey [brian@wireassociation.com.au](mailto:brian@wireassociation.com.au) or John Morris at [jmorris9949@gmail.com](mailto:jmorris9949@gmail.com)**

## Unnecessary imposition on temporary fencing Industry

Over the years the Temporary fencing industry has suffered the impost of hundreds of thousands of dollars every year resulting from the need to continually repair temporary fence panels which have been severely damaged on construction sites.

This damage cannot always be attributed to normal wear and tear. Unfortunately, in many cases it has more to do with a disregard by some construction personnel for the treatment of our product. It is accepted that in confined areas, working with excavators and backhoes will inevitably lead to accidental damage, however, in these times of shrinking margins, what to do about this ongoing issue still needs addressing.

It is proposed to firstly establish the magnitude of this problem and then seek remedies, which no doubt will not be an easy task.

However, this issue will still be worth investigating.



All the damaged panels shown here on site and in the store belong to the same temporary fencing company.



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Are you aware, there can be a massive difference in the zinc mass coating applied to core wires which are used in the manufacturing of galvanised fencing products?

The Zinc coating on heavy galvanised wire can be up to six times the mass which is normally being applied to so-called standard galvanised wire.

The coating mass relates to the zinc coating or zinc / aluminium-alloy coating per unit surface area of steel based core wire. It is expressed in grams per square metre. The coating mass is one of the determinants of the predicted service life of fencing products.

*Guidance on corrosive protection and other valuable climatic and environmental factors influencing the corrosion behaviour of zinc coatings can be found in Appendix C Australian Standard AS 2423-2003.*

Should chain-link mesh be required to comply with the Australian chain-link fencing standard, AS 1725.1-2010, it should be manufactured from Heavy Galvanized wire (W10Z) or Zinc /aluminium-alloy wire (W05Z5A) when metallic coated mesh is required.

*More information on zinc and zinc/aluminium-alloy coatings can be found in the Australian standard AS/NZS 4534:1998*

### Bracing What's Appropriate? (What's Fit For Purpose)

When the Australian Temporary fencing standard AS4687 was released in 2007 the industry was somewhat still in its infancy. Whilst the technical committee writing the standard did recognise that visual barriers (shade cloth) may be fitted to temporary fencing, at that stage the practice was not as common as it is today.

The addition of shade cloth coverings changes the whole dynamics of a temporary fence and has to be taken into account in the installation stage.

The risk of damage and injury resulting from overturned temporary fencing (with shade cloth attached) was a key contributor in approval given by Standards Australia to review this Standard.



Photos show examples of braced temporary fencing with shade cloth attached

It is prudent as well as necessary for fence hirers to understand how their temporary fencing systems will remain upright and resist various wind loads.

Testing of fencing systems with shade cloth attached by an authorised Nata accredited testing lab can give temporary fencing hire companies performance guidance and will assist in minimizing the risks associated with fencing failures.

# OTTER

## FENCING

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## ATO – TAXPAYER ALERT. SUPER DEDUCTIONS FOR CONTRACTORS

### Is your fencing installer an employee or contractor - what's the difference?

In these days when out-sourcing has become prevalent in many industries, especially in the building industry and fencing sectors, it is worthwhile taking the time to review the status of your own subcontractors.

Check the table below which is posted on the ATO website to find out the main differences between working as an employee and working as a contractor.

If you are working as an apprentice, labourer or trainee you will **always** be an employee for tax and super purposes.

Situation	If you're a contractor	If you're an employee
<b>Ability to sub-contract or delegate</b> - Who does the work?	You're free to pay someone else to do the work instead of you.	You can't pay someone else to do the work.
<b>Basis of payment</b> - How does the person who pays you work out how much to pay you?	You're paid all or the majority of the amount of your quote once you finish the work (to an agreed standard). You generally supply an invoice to the other business before they pay you.	You're paid either: ** for the amount of time (normally hours or shifts) you worked ** a price for each item or for each activity you do ** A commission.
<b>Equipment, tools and other assets</b> - What you need to do your work?	You bring to the job all or most of the things you need to do your work. You have to buy or hire your tools of trade or any equipment you need to do the work.	The business you work for provides you with all or most of the things you need to do your work. or You provide all or most of the things you need to do your work but the business you work for gives you an allowance or pays you back for the cost of the things you bought.
<b>Commercial risks</b> - if you make a mistake, who pays to have it fixed?	You're responsible for fixing your own mistakes at your own expense.	The business you work for is responsible if you make a mistake. They pay for the cost of fixing it.
<b>Control over the work</b> - who tells you how to do the work?	You can do the work in any way you like as long as the work is completed to an agreed standard, or to the specific terms in your contract or agreement.	You follow any reasonable work requests your supervisor or the business you work for makes.
<b>Independence</b> - are you seen to be a part of the business or separate?	You're operating your own business independently. You complete the tasks or services as agreed to in your contract or agreement and are free to accept or refuse extra work.	You're seen to be part of the business and are not independent from it.

Each time you hire a contractor you need to determine if they're considered a 'worker' by WorkSafe – if so, you become their employer for WorkCover insurance purposes and you must include the money you pay them in your total remuneration.

[More information](#)

<https://www.ato.gov.au/business/employee-or-contractor/>



## Prompt payment of subcontractors

The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Kate Carnell, is examining payment terms and conditions for sub-contractors working on government projects.

Ms. Carnell has found that payment problems generally arise when a prime contractor is appointed to manage a project, and payments further down the supply chain become regularly delayed. She says that government agencies and prime contractors should ensure that payment terms and other conditions through the supply chain are no worse than those negotiated in the head contract.

In addition to a recommendation that government agencies pay invoices within 15 days, her inquiry also recommended that the Australian Government publish its payment terms and policies, require its head contractors to adopt the payment terms and practices of the procurement policy through the supply chain, and procure from businesses which have supply chain payment terms and practices equal to, or better than, its own practices.



## TRAINING TRUST AWARD

The recipient of the 2017 Training Fund Award is **Kane Yaneff**.

Kane is a third year apprentice employed at Lee Bros Fencing in Victoria and is enrolled at Kangan Institute undertaking a four year welding and metal fabrication certificate.

On completion of his apprenticeship Kane says he intends to continue his studies, saying he aspires to become a production supervisor. He feels by studying to achieve a certificate of management training it will assist him in learning more about supervision and organizing work.

Kane says the training he has so far received at TAFE has allowed him to gain a better understanding of a number of different aspects of metal fabrication including special welding techniques as well as improving his ability to read technical drawings.

A certificate marking this award was presented to Kane by President Charles Johnstone at the AWIA annual General meeting / Conference at the Marriot Resort in Surfers Paradise last September.

The Training Award will allow Kane to accompany other members of the Lee Group management team on a study trip to Dusseldorf in April where he will be able at first hand to see the latest technologies in the wire industry.

Applications for the 2018 Training Award are now open. Give some serious thought to nominating one of your employees for this award. More details available from Director, [Richard Newbigin](#).

## CYBER SECURITY

A [Cyber Security Best Practice Guide](#) has been developed to help busy small business operators understand the risks and how to prevent cyber-attacks.

The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman published the guide after research showed that 60 per cent of small firms that experienced a cyber breach went out of business within the following six months.

Ombudsman Kate Carnell said many small businesses lacked time and resources but couldn't afford to be complacent about cyber security. "Surveys have shown that 87 per cent of small businesses believe antivirus software alone is enough to keep them safe," Ms Carnell said.

"Cyber criminals are becoming more sophisticated and small businesses are particularly vulnerable. "Online threats are just as real as physical threats. Cyber security needs to be taken seriously, like having locks on your doors and a burglar alarm."

Ms Carnell said the handy guide produced by her office suggests getting advice from a trusted adviser.

"Accountants, IT specialists and skilled family or friends are the go-to sources," she said.

"There are also useful websites like [www.staysmartonline.gov.au](http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au) that provide simple, easy-to-understand advice."

Ms Carnell said small businesses shouldn't be afraid of "going online" because the opportunities and benefits could be immense. "Many small businesses have successfully blended their physical and virtual shopfronts to establish sustainable operating models," she said.

"It would be an incredible shame if small businesses shut themselves out of the online market because of fears about cybersecurity.

"There are risks attached to most activities, even crossing the road. Taking sensible precautions broadens opportunities and heightens the rewards."



© Can Stock Photo - csp15145074

For more information visit [www.asbfeo.gov.au/cybersecurity](http://www.asbfeo.gov.au/cybersecurity)



## MACHINERY REPORTS

### Barbed Wire Manufacture

The Italian machinery brand "Vitari" is a well know brand and has a deserved reputation for quality and reliability in the wire industry. Since 1925 over 7000 Vitari machines have been produced and shipped all over the world.

In 2015 Vitari was incorporated into the Eurolls S.p.A group of companies headquartered in Attimis (Udine) Italy.

Eurolls have continued to manufacture a full range of wire working equipment to the same precise quality standards.

Included in their range are high speed Eurolls barbed machines capable of producing not only lowa barbed wire but also a wide range of other typologies such as Domingo, Glidden, Simplex and Waukegan using galvanized or plastic coated wire.

With a vertical, single motor and 4 speed gear box these machines allow easy setup with a semi-automatic unloading system.

The Vitari BVR models process **two line wires alternately**, clockwise / anti-clockwise. This allows the barbed wire to be installed easily as the alternating torsions keep the barbed wire in a straight line and not looped.



For more information [contact ProTube](#)

## MACHINERY REPORTS



### Wafios B3 Bending Machine

The B3 wire bending machine is WAFIOS' response to customer requests for a simple, cost effective machine. The CNC bending and coiling machine is most suitable for furniture producers, shop designers, electronics and toy industries, and of course automotive. It is also perfect for production of stainless steel parts.

The BM concept of turning the wire, not the bending head is part of the B3 design. The fixed position of the bending head improves performance, process reliability, quality and service life.

The machine works with wire  $\varnothing$  2.0-6.5 mm, maximum infeed speed of 120 m/min. The support plate can be adjusted manually, the bend-back clearance can be max. 700 mm.

The B3 is equipped with WAFIOS Programming System 'WPS 3'. The iQ functions (enhanced efficiency and productivity software) is available as an option.

The WAFIOS B3 has proved to be a highly successful concept, combining innovation with proven engineering concepts, answering the demands of modern manufacturing, in terms of flexibility, economy and performance. The low unit costs, the high output rate, the safe and simple handling as well as the minimized set-up times are the outstanding features of the WAFIOS B3.



For more information please contact Bliss & Reels –  
[sales@blissandreels.com.au](mailto:sales@blissandreels.com.au)  
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**DUSSELDORF 2018**

Date: April 16, 2018 -  
April 20, 2018

Venue: Messe fairgrounds | City: Düsseldorf, Germany

A glimpse into the future: Neither industry nor our everyday lives are conceivable without wire and its derivatives. At the same time, industrial progress goes hand in hand with the increasingly stringent requirements to be met by wire and wire products.

Whether your line is spring manufacturing or metal forming technology, or quality assurance systems: wire Düsseldorf is the ideal place to present and see innovative products on the international wire and cable industry stage. This year there are 1180 exhibitors at Wire, plus 965 for Tube, occupying 120,000m<sup>2</sup> of floor space, making it the biggest show in the history of Wire & Tube Düsseldorf.

Post trade show, Bliss & Reels is running a short tour to see some Schilt Engineering plants in Holland and Belgium. This will be of great interest to those interested in cut and bend machinery especially those in the reinforcing industry. Please contact Juergen Arndt ([juergen@blissandreels.com.au](mailto:juergen@blissandreels.com.au)) if you would like to join the tour. For more information about Schilt go to [www.schiltbv.nl](http://www.schiltbv.nl)

Link: <https://www.wire-tradefair.com>

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If you are looking for a way to reward an employee who is deserving of some praise for service over and above the call of duty, why not consider an **AWIA CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**.

Send the employee's details and the reason for the award to [richard@wireassociation.com.au](mailto:richard@wireassociation.com.au). (Limits may apply).



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**SOCIAL EVENTS**

The Association celebrated the end of 2017 with social gatherings attended by members in Melbourne and Sydney.



The magnificent Melbourne Cricket Ground was the venue for the 2017 Christmas Party, members enjoyed the view of the floodlit hallowed turf as they wined and dined. The function was held in the Executive Suite at the city end of the ground, where they had dedicated wait staff and a private bar.

Leanne Wilkie from Melbourne Testing Services not only drew the Lucky Door Prize, but also won it, walking off a very happy lady, with a bottle of Moet tucked under her arm. Well drawn, Leanne!

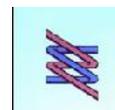
Epicure did a very good job ensuring that all went smoothly from the underground car parking for all guests to the food, wine and signage. It was hoped that the Association logo could have been displayed on the big MCG screens as well, but Cricket Australia had commandeered them already, and it is unlikely the budget for the event would have covered the cost anyway.

The evening was very enjoyable, and members are encouraged to attend this year's event.

If you wish to hold a corporate event, the MCG is a great venue, and you can contact **Richard Newbiggin** if you would like any further details.

In early December a few of our NSW members caught up at Boathouse restaurant on Black Wattle Bay to mark the end of the year. This venue must be seen to be believed, situated right on the water at Glebe; it has panoramic views across the ANZAC bridge. This restaurant is famous for its seafood menu and that can certainly be attested to by our members who attended.





## WIRE AND SPRING MEMBERS

Ability Works Australia  
Ace Wire Works  
Advanced Steel Products  
AM Wire Pte Ltd  
Anchor Wire NZ  
APAC Wire Technologies  
Ariston Wire  
Australian Steel & Wire  
Australian Mesh  
Austube Mills  
Automatic Wire  
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Protective Wire Mesh  
Industries  
ProTube Asia  
R.E. Walters  
Sanwa  
Smart Weld NZ Ltd  
Spring Specialists Ltd  
Stainless Steel Wire and Mesh  
Superior Industries NZ  
Ullrich Machinery Company  
Wiredex Wire Products  
Wiretainers Pty Ltd  
Wire Displays NZ

## DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2018

**February 6<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup>** - Fencetech USA Phoenix, Arizona  
<http://americanfenceassociation.com/fencetech-2017/>

**March 14<sup>th</sup>** - National AWIA committee meeting - Adelaide

**April 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** April **Wire & Tube 2018** - Dusseldorf, Germany  
[http://www.mdna.com/trade-shows/wire\\_tube](http://www.mdna.com/trade-shows/wire_tube)

**May 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>** May - **National Manufacturing Week** -Sydney  
<https://www.nationalmanufacturingweek.com.au/>

**May 9<sup>th</sup>** - **AWIA Member dinner** - Sydney

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** - **AWIA 1 day Conference**, Sydney

**May 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>** - **WAI Operations Summit & Wire Expo 2018** - Nashville, Tennessee USA  
<http://www.wirenet.org/events/calendar/1-wai-operations-summit-wire-expo-2018#.WmATmLyWaUk>

**May 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>** - **Hire18** - Brisbane  
<http://www.hire18.com.au/>

**June 11<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>** **Wire & Cable 2018** - Guangzhou Shi China  
<http://www.wire-cable-china.com>

**Sept 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>** - **ASI / AWIA conference** – Park Hyatt Melbourne

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

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

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

**November 27<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup>** - **Wire India** – Mumbai, India  
<http://www.wire-india.com/>



If you're using contractors it's your responsibility to find out if they're considered workers

by WorkSafe. This may affect your total remuneration – one of the factors that influence your premium. You may be liable if the contractor is injured while performing work for you.

Contractors can operate as sole proprietors, partnerships, companies or through family trusts. They can also refer to themselves as:

- \*\*\* consultants
- \*\*\* agents
- \*\*\* outworkers.

Each time you hire a contractor you need to determine if they're considered a 'worker' by WorkSafe – if so, you become their employer for Work Cover insurance purposes and you must include the money you pay them in your total remuneration.

[www.worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au)

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