

A Major Milestone for Structural Steel Standards

The joint AS/NZS Standards Committee, which is responsible for the review of both countries' structural steel manufacturing and supply standards, goes by the name BD23. Its focus is on the following:

AS/NZS 3679.1 Hot Rolled Bars & Sections

AS/NZS 3679.2 Welded Sections

AS/NZS 3678 Structural Plate

AS 3597 Quenched & Tempered Plate

AS 1163 Steel Tubes.

On November 29, the Committee met in Auckland to review proposed revisions following public comment. The meeting was hosted by SCNZ in Manukau City and chaired by Professor Mark Bradford of the University of New South Wales.

Among the key decisions taken were, that:

1. The format of all the Standards will be normalised to follow that of AS 1163.
2. All Standards will become joint AS/NZS Standards, reflecting the importance of steel making and steel construction in New Zealand.
3. Higher strength steels are now to be included, reflecting the desire for a move to include high strength steels within the scope of Steel Structures Standards AS4100 & NZS3404 over the next few years.
4. Seismic grade provisions, incorporating the requirements of the Steel Structures Standard NZS3404, Amendment 2, were agreed for the Hot-rolled Section Standard AS/NZS3679.1
5. Steel manufacturers on both sides of the Tasman are putting in place product development and testing programmes to meet these new requirements. It will take 9 – 12 months for these to be finalised.
6. Helically welded tubes are not currently included in the Steel Tube Standard AS1163, leaving a gap in the current suite of Standards
7. Improved specification procedures for identifying steels for galvanised end users were considered.

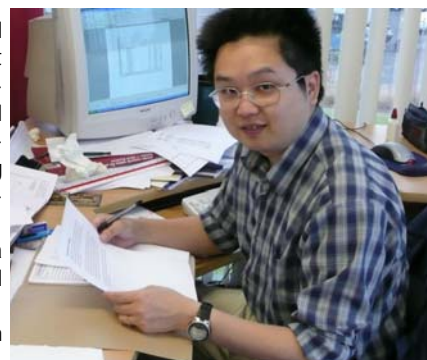
The next stage in the revision of these Standards is for the necessary changes to be made and issued by Standards Australia for a committee ballot in February 2008.



From left to right: Eddy Go, Project Manager Standards Australia; Paul Kelly, Bluescope; Arun Syan, Onesteel Tube Mills; Pat Dwyer, New Zealand Steel; Russell Barnett, Bisalloy Steels; Clark Hyland, Steel Construction New Zealand; Hayden Dagg, Onesteel Market Mills; Frank Cunningham, Orrcon; and Professor Mark Bradford (Chairman), University of New South Wales.

We Farewell a Colleague

Known to us as Xiao, his real given name is Huantian, but when he arrived in New Zealand he thought Xiao would be easier for Kiwis to pronounce. After graduating from the University of Auckland with a Masters degree, he joined HERA to work as a design engineer in Steel Structures Analysis Services. When Steel Construction New Zealand was incorporated in June 2006, Xiao went with the flow.



"During the past four years, I've been involved with more than thirty preliminary projects. These covered a wide range of steel construction in New Zealand, from industrial warehouses to commercial apartment buildings and steel bridges. There were also special projects engaging me in structural failure analysis and peer reviews. In 2004, I developed my first software COMBPEN, a package that helps with the design of composite beam penetration. STEELEST, STEELDECK and STEELDOC followed. I like to think the professionals who use them find them valuable."

Always sought after for his computer wizardry, Xiao will soon be leaving SCNZ to join Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner Ltd as a structural engineer. We wish him well in his quest to add CPEng to his post nominals.



December 2007 Vol.2 Issue 3

Steel Futures

Upcoming Events

Committee Meetings

16 January 2008

- Design and Construction Meeting - 8am

- Marketing, Membership & Communication 10:30am

23 January 2008

- Finance Meeting 2pm

Smarter, Greener Design and Construction Seminar

March 2008

Features

Careers in Steel Day

Career Advisors get a taste for the Steel Industry

Workchoice Day 2008

Get Involved!

Steel Sustainability

Task Group Meeting

Building Practitioners

Licence Scope Meeting a Huge Success

Structural Steel Standard

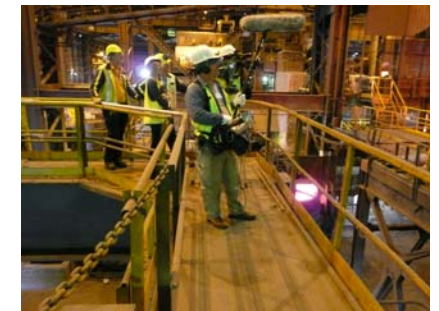
A Major Milestone

Xiao Huantian

We farewell a colleague

A DVD about Careers in Steel

The film-crew at work on the walkway are in New Zealand Steel's mill at Glenbrook. They are shooting the very first footage of what will become SCNZ's DVD titled *Careers in Steel*.



The always spectacular charging of the K-OBM (**Kombiniert Oxygen Bottom-blowing Maxhütte**). The K-OBM, which is a steel shell lined with refractory bricks, is used to convert batches of hot metal (impure iron) and steel scrap into refined steel by blowing oxygen through the bath.



New Zealand Steel personnel in the Hot Strip Mill make their way across the run-out table just prior to the arrival of a white-hot steel slab made from the black ironsands of the North Island's West Coast.



The slab arrives with a rumble and a noticeable rise in the ambient temperature. It passes five times through a Reversing Rougher Mill that douses it with water.



The steel starts out on a journey that will squeeze and roll it out to a strip 3mm thick and almost one kilometre in length. The first few scenes of our DVD impressed the camera crew; they warmed to their work.



Phone 09-263-5635, Fax 09-263-5638

17-19 Gladding Place, PO Box 76403
Manukau City, Manukau 2241,
New Zealand



Careers in Steel Day



Tea and Coffee at Hera House



Discussion with the Panel



Boarding the Bus



Steltech



Auckland Steel



Westfield Manukau Construction Site

The first screening of the DVD took place at HERA House on Tuesday 4 December 2007. The invited audience was comprised of Careers Services staff, led by Sue Lewis, Careers Advisors and Subject Teachers from schools in the Auckland region.

What followed was an extremely valuable dialogue between the 50-strong audience and a panel representative of the spread of careers in the steel sector: Dave Munroe of Fletcher Easysteel (Distribution), Mike Sullivan and Dean Pouwhare of D&H Steel Construction (Fabrication & Erecting). Wayne Wheeler of Steel & Tube (Distribution), Steve Stickland of Corus (Steel Decking) and Dick Parsons of Engineering Careers By Choice (an industry -focused Educational Trust).

After lunch it was time to board the coach and visit some of the locations where careers in steel are to be found.

First stop was Steltech Ltd at Takanini, where Production Supervisor Graham Dobbs explained how the large steel beams and columns are welded and thoroughly checked for quality.

Then it was off to Auckland Steel where Timothy "TK" Krissanen gave the visitors an insight into career opportunities in steel detailing.

And last but not least, the tour stopped off at the Westfield Manukau construction site on Ronwood Avenue. Westfield's Project Manager Paul Wood fielded questions on how he became a Project Manager and why he loves the work with a passion.

The consensus of the group was that SCNZ's role in commissioning the DVD served the important purpose of communicating the range of careers in steel that is open to young people, careers in which the emphasis is on safety, best practice, teamwork and high job satisfaction. Of course the levels of remuneration and reward are commensurate with skill and qualifications, which require sound training and a determination to achieve. The dialogue having been opened, the action that needs to follow it won't be far behind. The DVD is scheduled for distribution early 2008.

Workchoice Day 2008

Service Engineers Limited on Auckland's North Shore hosted two schools for Workchoice Day 2007. The date for this national event in 2008 is set for Tuesday 20 May, and SCNZ members who would like to participate as hosting companies are encouraged to put plans in place early.

The programme has been designed by the Workchoice Trust to give Year 12 students (Sixth Form) an opportunity to visit two different companies in which they have an interest, before they begin to narrow down their career options.

As a hosting company, you have an opportunity to profile your industry and attract potential employees. Two groups of 20 students will visit your company, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Your team's role is to give brief presentations, take the students of a tour of the facility and field their questions. For the morning visitors, you also provide a simple lunch.

All the preliminary organisation, the buses and rendezvous times etc., is handled by the Workchoice Trust. The Trust is also available to help newcomers to Workchoice Day plan the resource material to make it suitable for the students.

For an individual site, the cost is \$1,200 + GST. The benefits to you as employers are:

1. You combat recruitment difficulties associated with New Zealand's current labour shortage.



2. You afford your staff the opportunity to share their passion for their jobs.
3. Your involvement in the scheme will be recognised in regional newspapers on Tuesday May 15.

To find out more about what's involved, visit www.workchoice.co.nz/whats_involved_companies.php

If you're keen to participate, you can register from this link.

Steel Sustainability Task Group Meeting

The International Steelwork Contractors Group (ISCG) has established a Task Group to address sustainability. Membership of the Task Group consists of a chairman and nominated contacts from the steel associations of the six collaborating countries: Australia (ASI), Canada (CISC), New Zealand (SCNZ), South Africa (SAISC), United Kingdom (BCSA) and the USA (AISC).

Their first meeting was held in Sydney on 29 October 2007.

The objectives of the ISCG Task Group are:

- To use the international framework provided by the ISCG to develop steel as a sustainable form of construction in terms of economic viability, social progress and environmental responsibility.
- To collaborate on defining, developing and measuring the sustainable credentials of structural steel.

To monitor competitive trends and claims concerning the sustainable credentials of other structural materials, and to share this information with other ISCG members.

The Task Group sees the issues surrounding sustainability

as economic, social and environmental. The impact on the environment caused by pollution is being given special focus, in particular the 'Energy CO₂' from fossil fuel use, for heat, electricity and transport, and 'Chemical CO₂' from using coal to reduce ore to iron.

The Task Group decided to prioritise its collaborative effort on the issues of **Carbon Footprinting**. This includes CO₂ arising in the general business operations of the steel sector's supply chain, the use of energy, and more specifically from the manufacture of virgin steel from iron ore.

The Task Group agreed that carbon footprinting requires the embodied CO₂ emissions to be considered as well as operational CO₂ emissions in buildings

Claims for "carbon neutral" buildings need clarifying. The indicators are that a public and transparent Standards based approach will lead to best outcomes for industry and the construction as a whole.

To this end SCNZ are approaching Standards New Zealand to see what options are available for developing a suitable standards drawing on ISO approaches.

Good Progress made at Building Practitioners Licence Scoping Meetings

Last month Clark Hyland, Manager, and Simon Keown, National Training Officer, facilitated Building Practitioners Licence scoping meetings in Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington.

In workshop mode, the attendees considered the training that licence holders in our sector would ideally have, with a view to developing the necessary training resources in 2008.

With input from these meetings we have been able to draft a Licenced Building Practitioner – Specialist (Steel Structure) profile. This will be available to all members early next year.

SCNZ will discuss the next stage with the DBH, the aim being to have the make-up and requirements of the steel structure specialist licence formalised by the middle of 2008. SCNZ will then develop training resources and assist with the registration of applicants for the licence.