

STEEL FUTURES

JUNE 2020

STEEL SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER

Prior to the Covid-19 shutdown the construction industry started seeing a growing awareness from architects, designers, project owners and government agencies regarding sustainability of contractor businesses' product supply and the contribution to New Zealand's transition to a low emission and circular economy. Whilst this has been initially seen predominately on large or iconic projects, it has begun to be seen on some minor buildings and is likely to be something we see more often, particularly when we eventually return to normality. Also, we have seen sustainability to be one of the key "broader outcomes" that the Government is using as a selection requirement for contractors/sub-contractors in the Government Procurement rules.

As a result, Nick Collins from Metals NZ, Troy Coyle of HERA and Darren O'Riley representing SCNZ have successfully resurrected the Sustainable Steel Council (SSC) to coordinate and have a united approach on sustainability for the diverse steel industry of NZ. Troy and Darren are members of the SSC Board, along with representatives of Pacific Steel, NZ Steel, Fletcher Steel, and Stainless Steel Industry amongst others. The Sustainable Steel Council, with input from Industry has developed the Sustainable Steel Charter compliance audit tool, which is a very useful tool to audit our businesses current sustainability performance. Sustainability is not just about the product that we output, but also covers contribution to adding value to the economy, employment welfare, society and nature. This is all covered by the Charter audit tool, which is not only relatively simple and easy to complete but also gives you tools and templates to help in areas where your business may wish to focus on improving.

Another advantage to the Sustainable Steel Charter is that it is currently a key requirement for a NZ Green Building Council Green Star Design.



SCNZ is pleased to report the following SCNZ members have been successfully audited to comply with the Sustainable Steel Charter:

1. Grayson Engineering - Auckland
2. John Jones Steel - Christchurch
3. D&H Steel Construction - Auckland
4. Steelworks NZ - Mt Maunganui
5. George Grant Engineering - Auckland
6. Waikato Steel Fabricators - Hamilton
7. MJH Engineering - Lower Hutt
8. Global Engineering - Auckland
9. Pegasus Engineering - Christchurch
10. Whakatiki Engineering - Upper Hutt
11. Razos Engineering - Hastings
12. Eastbridge - Napier
13. Petone Engineering - Lower Hutt
14. Red Steel - Napier
15. Jensen Steel - Mt Maunganui
16. Steltech - Auckland
17. Dan Cosgrove - Timaru
18. Modern Construction - Hamilton

Well done to these businesses for achieving the Charter.

Nick Collins who conducted the audits said "the audit process identified some really neat work happening across member companies who are doing smart work on reducing waste, supporting staff good health, actively encouraging diversity in their workforces and making valuable contributions to the communities in which they live.

We have also a few more due to undertake the audit during June. The audit is relatively easy to undertake and is normally done via Zoom, for a cost of \$300* plus GST fee (paid to Sustainable Steel Council) including access to the SSC tools. The audit is available to all NZ based SCNZ Members.

If you are interested, please contact Darren O'Riley by email on darren.o'riley@scnz.co.nz – however please be aware that depending on numbers, your audit time may be delayed.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Two and a half months on from entering Alert Level 4 in response to the COVID-18 pandemic, it's welcome news to have made an early move to Level 1. These are certainly challenging times for the construction sector and for the wider New Zealand economy. Now, more than ever, our structural steel industry need to pull together to support each other and ensure we come out of this stronger than before.

As part of this effort, we've been busy advocating on behalf of our local structural steel sector. During lockdown, we produced a briefing document and circulated it to key Government ministers and officials. Headlining the briefing paper was our argument for vertical construction, specifically that the Government should take account of the fact that vertical shovel-ready projects have higher employment levels than horizontal infrastructure. Encouragingly, Minister Shane Jones, having received our briefing paper, took the opportunity to repeat this point at the recent briefing session with business leaders.

The document also highlighted the many strengths of our industry, including the three 'Cs' - capacity, capability and compliance. We drove home the following:

- Capacity: our highly collaborative network of 115 steel constructor companies has proven ability to meet demand, regularly partnering with each other nationwide to ensure a project is delivered to a high standard, on time and on budget. Importantly, our industry has not been impacted by a skills shortage or supply chain issues as a result of COVID-19.
- Capability: we are highly invested in future-proofing our industry, which has invested significantly in state-of-the-art technology, is supported by world-leading, New Zealand-based research, and is committed to training with 69 percent of structural steel contractors employing an average of four apprentices.
- Compliance: our track record of international best-practice quality and assurance programmes reduces risk and is vital at a time when we cannot rely on the quality and compliance of

imported product from low-cost economies.

We've carved up the briefing document into bite-size posts and have been actively pushing them out on LinkedIn and on our newly created Facebook page. We invite you all to follow us on these social platforms and help us spread the word for our industry by 'liking' and commenting, and 'sharing' with your own networks.

On the retentions scheme, we've had a fantastic outcome from our engagement with the Government, which has come to recognise that when big contractors fold, it is subcontractors that are hit the hardest. Minister Salesa clearly listened to our concerns and changes are underway to ensure our industry is better protected. The Government has introduced more security for subcontractors, including strengthening how retention money is held to prevent firms from dipping into retention money to use as working capital and requiring those holding retention money to issue a transparency statement stating how much is being held and where.

In other news, SCNZ is on board with the Government's recent decision to waive fees for all apprentices in a bid to maintain trades training through the Covid-19 downturn. It's a significant investment in the future of New Zealand's skilled workforce, including the building and construction industry, and an important step for the economy's recovery. We're proud of our sector's commitment to developing the skills of our people through apprenticeships. Our industry's best talent can be found and developed right here in New Zealand.

Unsurprisingly, COVID-19 has forced our SCNZ team to do many things differently – our engineering seminars are a good example of this. Lockdown and social distancing have meant we've had to consider alternative ways to deliver training seminars to engineers and we now use a webinar platform to do so. We're very pleased to report that they have been well received, and an added benefit of the approach means we can now access remoter areas and small engineering practices.

In closing, please note that it remains our intention to proceed with our SCNZ Conference and Awards 2020 on 25 September. This will, of course, be dependent on our COVID-19 status. Watch this space!

Darren O'Riley
General Manager, SCNZ



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

SCNZ has set up a Facebook page, joining LinkedIn as our organisation's second social digital platform. Search for "Steel Construction New Zealand" or click on the icons on the right!



TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS FOR CONSULTING ENGINEERS

SCNZ engineers are delivering short, technical presentations via Zoom, providing updates directly relevant to practicing structural engineers. The presentation covers the following topics:

- Fire in Steel Car Parks
- Durability
- EN 10219 Guide
- Steel Fabricator Certification (SFC)
- Distributor Charter
- Fastener Update
- AS/NZS 5131, AS/NZS 2327 updates

Keep a look out for new presentation topics planned for July and August!

For further details, and to arrange a presentation for your consulting engineering practice, please contact Zahid Hamid on zahid.hamid@scnz.org or call (09) 262 6681

HIGH STRENGTH BOLTING COURSE

A must attend for all high strength bolt installers, supervisors and inspectors. This course was developed in response to the extension of the Steel Fabrication Certification (SFC) scheme to include a site erection module, capturing activities including on-site bolting, welding and erection.

This course employs a “learn and apply” format comprising presentation material, practical demonstrations, and hands-on experience.

The first High Strength Bolting Course for SCNZ Steel Constructor Members post Covid-19 lockdown was held on Friday 26th June. Further courses are being planned for later in the year throughout New Zealand.

For more information and to register see:

<https://www.scnz.org/Events++Awards/High+Strength+Bolting+Training+Course>

LATEST SCNZ CASE STUDY

Check out the latest SCNZ case study, profiling the impressive Auckland International Airport Departure Terminal Redevelopment. This project won the Supreme Award at 2019’s SCNZ Excellence in Steel Awards.

The case study shares how the steel constructor, engineer, architect and builder worked together to overcome challenges and deliver a transformational project that forms an important milestone in Auckland Airports’s future-ready journey.

Read the case study here:

<https://www.scnz.org/Media+Centre/Case+Studies.html>

STEEL FABRICATION CERTIFICATION

Our congratulations to the following SCNZ fabricators who have recently been successfully audited and have gained their Steel Fabrication Certification (SFC).

This now takes the total of 42 fabricators who now have SFC nationwide. We also have many more who are well down the track to achieving SFC over the coming months.

- Atlantic Engineering - Auckland
November 2019
- Global Engineering Ltd - Auckland
March 2020
- Sable Engineering Ltd - Auckland
March 2020
- ATCO Steel Development NZ Ltd - Lower Hutt
April 2020
- Eastland Engineering - Gisborne
April 2020
- Morgan Steel - Tauranga
April 2020
- Cullen Engineering Ltd - Te Aroha
May 2020
- Universal Engineering Ltd - Gisborne
June 2020





STEEL CONSTRUCTION
NEW ZEALAND

IT'S ALL
CONFIRMED!

SAVE THE DATE

25 SEPTEMBER 2020

QUEENSTOWN

*SCNZ 3rd Annual Gala Awards Dinner
Annual General Meeting*

Stay tuned for more information