



## HOLDING THEIR ATTENTION

The ACT Prison Project is a revolutionary correctional facility. The client's philosophy (ACT Correctional Services) is inspired by human rights concerns with emphasis on the rehabilitation of offenders, rather than on punishment, which frequently increases repeat offending rates. These concerns are reflected in the architecture and design (by the Codd Stenders/May and Russell JV) and construction (by Bovis Lend Lease) of the ACT Prison project, which on completion will be named the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). The AMC has no bars and no razor wire, instead has cottage style accommodation designed to facilitate reform programmes.

While the ACT Prison project is built with rehabilitation as its central concern, it is still highly secure. However, aspects concerned

with security are subtler. This not only benefits the living conditions of prisoners, but also creates a more aesthetically attractive prison for near-by residents and businesses, as Mario Macri Construction Manager for the project says it is designed to look like a commercial business park rather than "like a fortress".

Bovis Lend Lease have been in the nations capital for over 50 years and continue their prominence in the nations capital delivering first class projects like Section 84B, Section 84 C, Section 92, Centraplaza and One National Circuit and have been working on the ACT Prison project since mid 2006. The sustainability elements of the project have been exceptional, with the construction site using sustainable energy drawn from 100% renewable sources, reducing carbon dioxide

emissions by 400 tonnes. The construction site also used technological developments to guarantee the site was not using any energy overnight with all the power automatically turning off via master controls.

The finished ACT Prison project will use numerous environmentally friendly technologies, including rainwater tanks and greywater re-use and buildings will be positioned to maximise light and minimise heat exchange. While prisons are not environmentally rated using the Green Star system, the designers have used a modified model which should see the prison achieve the equivalent to a 4 star Green Star rating, ensuring the prison will be more than ESD compliant.

Bovis Lend Lease has been working with the MBA on two new projects called Australian

School based Apprentices and kids assist program, involving year 11 and year 10 students respectively. These programmes are designed to encourage teenagers with an interest in building to gain work experience of the various aspects of the industry on site, with a view to subsequently undertaking an apprenticeship in an appropriate trade.

The 300 to 380 workers on site include many talented new employees. Bovis Lend Lease has a policy of progressing talented employees rapidly through the company structure, with one Technical Officer on the site becoming a services engineer in less than a year, and one leading hand progressing to Sub-Foreman in ten months. This has been made possible with mentorship from their Senior peers and an excellent training program

The company's investment in people is clearly a profitable one, and Mario Marci the construction manager for the project is careful to observe the guiding principle that it is the employees at Bovis Lend Lease that are the business's true assets.

Bovis Lend Lease is also, rightly proud of the safety record on site. Starting with the mandatory introduction of workers wearing safety glasses and gloves whilst on site and followed on with initiatives like Using mobile loading docks, that offer a platform, staircase and perimeter protection in order to guarantee the safety of crews and developing construction strategies such as assembling structural steel roofing on the ground before installation, meant that common hazards were easily overcome. The fantastic safety record held at the ACT Prison Proj-

ect is underpinned by its Incident & Injury Free program and is what has set Bovis Lend Lease apart from its competitors. This program has now been extended to involve the development of sub contractors. The safe work practices at the ACT Prison Project have allowed construction to proceed safely and at pace. With the completion of the ACT Prison project, Bovis Lend Lease will have put their name to a project that will become a benchmark in construction in Australia.

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## CERTIFIABLY SECURE

**T**he BCA Certifiers (Aust) Pty Ltd is providing the building certification services for the Alexander Maconochie Centre Prison project in the ACT. BCA Certifiers, formally BCA Solutions, was established in Canberra in late 1998 as a response to the privatisation of the building approval process in the ACT. BCA Certifiers employs five building surveyors and six support staff and has offices located in Canberra and Newcastle. The opening of a Brisbane office planned for later this year marks the continued success and expansion of the practice.

Christopher Young, the Building Surveyor assigned to the project, describes the project as both rewarding and challenging due to the large number of individual buildings spread over a large site. Some of these buildings incorporate complex alternative design solutions that required much thought and innovation.

During the compliance assessment phase the BCA Certifiers' team encountered many conflicts between achieving compliance with the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and achieving the mandatory security measures required for a prison.

In addition to achieving compliance with the BCA, the client brief required property protection be ensured to limit building and equipment damage in the event of fire. This was a high priority in the design to enable the continued operation of the facility in the case of a fire event.

BCA Certifiers specialise in the compliance assessment and certification of detailed and complicated commercial projects of all types. BCA Certifiers takes pride in delivering on client expectations for all projects and specifically the ACT Department of Justice and Community Safety for the ACT Prison Project.

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# SHOW OF STRENGTH

Founded in 2002, Pacific Steel Construction's four Directors share 90-years of experience in the steel construction industry, and the company specialises in providing quality steel structures to the building and engineering industries. The quartet of Directors all maintain a hands-on approach to their business, drawing on their extensive experience in a variety of specialised areas, ranging from engineering to boiler making, to offer clients a fully tailored bespoke service.

Pacific Steel Constructions has an extensive portfolio that includes numerous projects, ranging from Section 84 in the ACT, through to various government contracts for the construction of schools and prisons. In addition the company has recently completed work on the Parramatta Children's Court.

The company has two fabrication workshops, as well as an on-site construction crew for both steel erection and complex construction activities such as specialised welding procedures. Pacific Steel Constructions has between 35 – 45 employees, with twelve workers dedicated to the ACT Prison Project. In addition they employ apprentices and, in order to maintain a high standard of service, they also provide in-house training.

For the ACT Prison Project, Pacific Steel Constructions produced more than 250 tonnes of steel. The company supplied and erected the steelwork for the Prison, including the Gatehouse, Health Centre, Management buildings, Operators and Town Square building, Bus shelter, covered walkways, and Admissions. According to Company Director Nick Christou "the high quality structural steel component of this project was very labour intensive and exceptionally difficult to install due to the many site constraints. Pacific Steel Constructions were skilfully able to co-ordinate with the client and other trades to contribute to the success of the project".

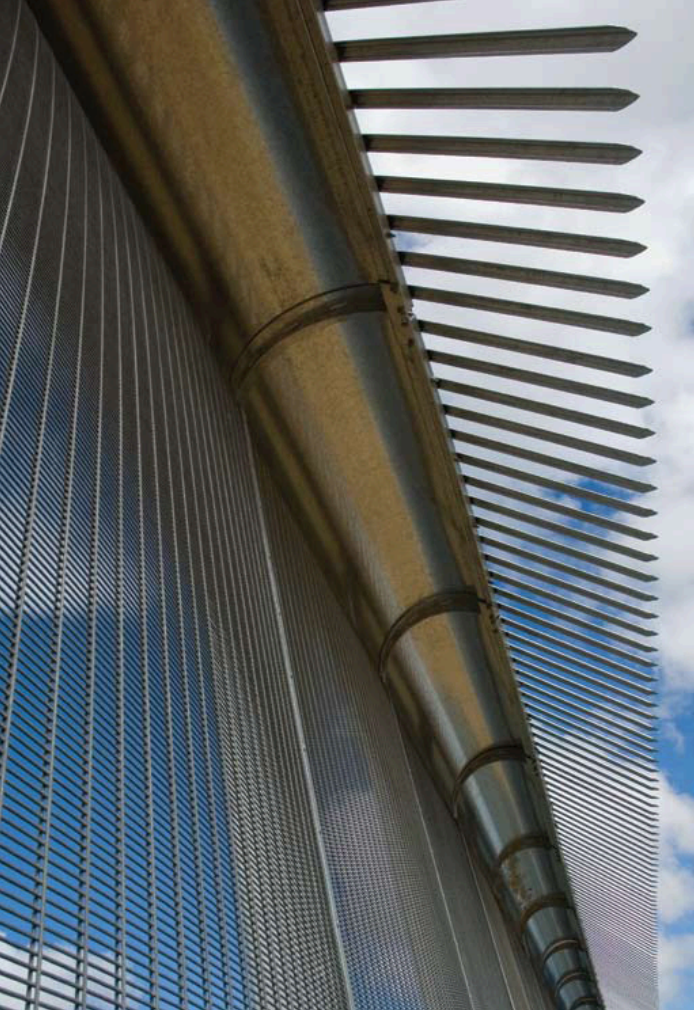
In order to create a safe working environment Pacific Steel Constructions employed a safe working platform to assist in the unloading of steelwork from trucks, and developed strategies for employee safety, which received special recognition from the client.

The company are currently working on the new A380 terminal at Kingsford Smith Airport, Sydney, which promises to be another high profile job for Pacific Steel Constructions.



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## HOLDING THE FORT

Founded in 1981, John Shears Fencing is a family run firm that has more than 25 years experience in fencing installation. As founder and company director John Shears says, the company began when he left school and installed hardwood fences armed only with a bag of nails. Now however, they have A\$6-million in assets and are responsible for developing and constructing the fencing systems at some of the country's most important secure locations.

John Shears Fencing specializes in the installation of high security fencing, perimeter fencing, and both mechanical and

electrical fencing, as well as in electronic detection systems and SEC endorsed. The company is approved to install fencing for high security, high value assets and sensitive assets. These include correctional facilities, airports, military sites and government properties. The company's nationwide portfolio ranges from work for Government assets to the perimeter fencing at the urban car maintenance centre at Auburn and Electrical Transmission facilities.

The company has three sister companies which all specialise in aspects of the industry, from site preparation through to

digging and finally plant hire. John Shears Fencing is exceptionally well equipped with everything from 30 ton excavators and specialised non-invasive digging rigs, to GPS and CAD technologies to ensure the accuracy of fence placement and installation, essential given the high security nature of the projects the company engage in. As John Shears points out the company's trainees learn everything from top end technologies through to "digging the hole."

While the company has a staff of 23 it also maintains an ongoing training process, and at each new development they employ a

number of locals and offer them training and employment. This not only ensures the quality of the work provided by the company but also means that the skilled workforce is expanding as the company expands, moreover, as John Shears observes, "it benefits the local economy" of wherever a project is located. The company also are working with the Department of Education and others in the industry to offer formalized industry wide training in the near future.

The fencing the company installed at the ACT Prison was SEC endorsed, intruder proof, and designed from mesh steel that is constructed to be impossible to cut with bolt cutters and impossible to climb unaided. Moreover with the tightly woven mesh texture the fences are opaque, appearing as transparent from a short distance away.

The ACT Prison project necessitated a close working relationship with the fence manufacturers Gryffin Pty Ltd who developed the design. The location of the prison, near middle class family homes, meant that 'unsightly' walls were rejected in favour of the transparent fencing. Conventional prison fencing systems like razor wire also were rejected in favour of the high security anti breach technologies. To avoid installing cameras on poles, surveillance is possible through the fencing. This not only improved the aesthetics of the fence it also offered increased security. Working closely with the team at Bovis Lend Lease, John Shears Fencing were also able to provide the necessary fencing at a competitive price, and the company view the project as a success.

John Shears Fencing are currently working at Sydney Airport installing a perimeter fence, and are looking forward to a successful future at the forefront of their industry.



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# A CUT ABOVE THE REST

Founded in 2002, Complete Cut are a family run company specialising in concrete cutting, sawing and drilling. The director Duane Clarke has twenty years experience in the industry, working as a concrete cutter in both Western Australia and in Canberra. The company's ACT office currently employs six people. Most of whom were trained in house. This serves to enable the company to insure the quality of the work undertaken and to foster a pro-active team which helps to guarantee the service provided.

Enjoying the ACT construction boom, Complete Cut have worked on numerous high profile projects in Canberra, with the ACT Prison Project merely the latest in a line of projects that has included Section 84, the Metropolitan Apartments, and Anzac Park West amongst others. The company maintain a high profile on site and are known for the quality of work they provide. Exceptionally well equipped for all manner of site work Complete Cut have recently taken delivery of a 74HP saw capable of cutting up to 680mm. The largest in the nation's capital and one of the biggest in the country, in addition they employ hydraulic cutting saws with 800mm drill bits able to drill any depths.

With a rapidly expanding portfolio of successfully completed developments the company have expanded interstate, opening an office in Queensland. Here they are once again enjoying the benefits of the growing construction sector. For Complete Cut the future looks exceptionally bright.

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# CONCRETE CONFINEMENT

CPS Concretors Pty Ltd has been in operation for nearly 40 years and during this time they have established themselves as one of the pre-eminent concrete pumping and placement operations within the ACT. Their longevity can be put down to the fact that they have been able to change and adapt their operations in keeping with fluctuations in the market and advances in technology.

The experience that CPS has gained during the company's many years of successful operation is an invaluable asset that sets it apart from many of its competitors. Systems and processes can be duplicated, but experienced and dedicated staff are very

hard to replicate. CPS has a series of training and OH&S systems in place to ensure their staff are highly competent and safe – this aspect of their operations also reflects in their high staff retention rate. Naturally CPS utilise the latest in technology and processes to ensure their clients receive the expert service they have come to expect.

Engaged by the developers on the ACT Prison Project, CPS provided the concrete pumping and placement for the initial works and slabs. The company is well versed with this type of project having been recently involved in the Department of Foreign Affairs Building and the new Centrelink Project. The works and efficiencies dem-

onstrated on the ACT Prison Development are testament to their significant abilities and are sure to further enhance an already sound reputation.

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