



**AUSTRALIAN  
MARINE  
COMPLEX**

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**THE AMC  
NEWS**

EDITION 11 – February 2010

Special feature

# Floating dock is ready!

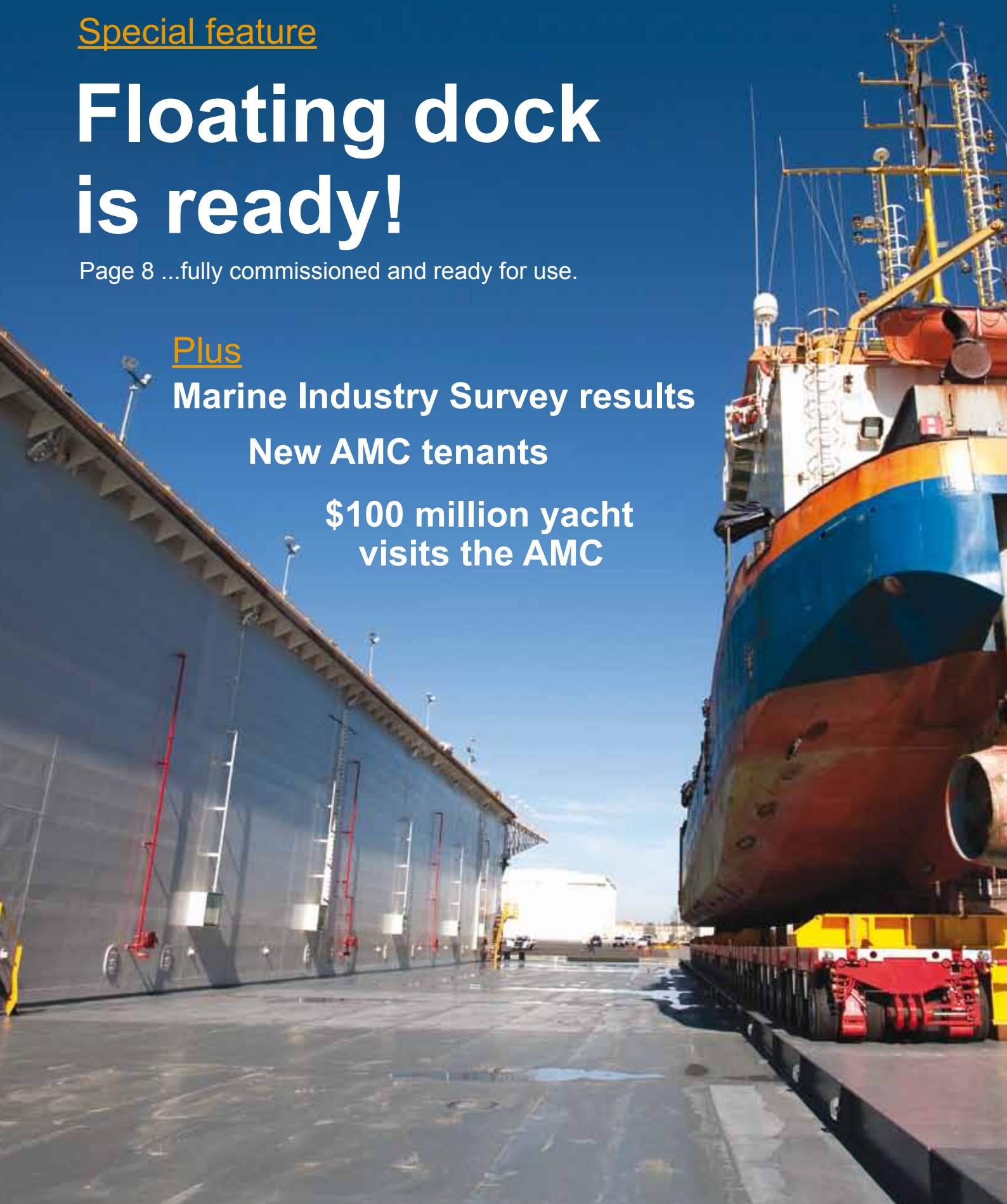
Page 8 ...fully commissioned and ready for use.

Plus

**Marine Industry Survey results**

**New AMC tenants**

**\$100 million yacht  
visits the AMC**



## Minister's foreword

This year marks the beginning of a new chapter for many businesses in Western Australia. It also marks a significant milestone for the Australian Marine Complex (AMC).

The AMC floating dock is now ready and available for use. This impressive piece of engineering excellence is the final component of the State Government's \$170 million infrastructure upgrade at the Common User Facility (CUF).

The demand for services at the AMC-CUF has not faltered with the facility generating more than \$356 million for the local economy from 227 contracts since it opened some six years ago – a total of \$124 million in the 2008/09 financial year alone. This trend is set to continue with strong results recorded in the last six months to now.

This work is unlikely to have taken place in the State without the availability of the CUF.

The standing and reputation of the complex as a whole is reflected in the number of businesses choosing to relocate or open workshops at the AMC.

Since the last edition of AMC News, Matrix Composites and Engineering and Marine and Civil Equipment have confirmed they will both move into the AMC Subsea Cluster. I understand that negotiations with two other high profile subsea specialist service providers may result in another 13 hectares of land being occupied.

The wider AMC has welcomed a number of new additions. I recently had the pleasure of turning the sod at the site of Australia's largest manufacturing facility on Nautical Drive. Civmec is a welcome addition to the complex.

The Premier, Colin Barnett, opened the new Australian headquarters for leading German engineering company, Polysius Australia Pty Ltd, on Contest Link.

These examples send a clear message that industry is recognising the benefits of being part of the AMC concept – the clustering of like-minded businesses with common-use infrastructure.



This edition of AMC News also announces the future establishment of a data centre at the AMC Technology Precinct. The centre will address the need for business data storage and backup facilities in the State.

I would like to thank those participants who provided feedback in the Department of Commerce's recent marine industry survey. The results will provide valuable information that will be very useful for both industry and the department to support future marine industry development initiatives.

I take this opportunity to wish AMC News readers a very happy and prosperous 2010.

**The Hon Troy Buswell MLA**  
**Minister for Commerce**

## AOG is back – bigger and better!

The 2010 Australasian Oil and Gas Exhibition and Conference (AOG) is back again.

To be held over three days at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre from Wednesday 24 to Friday 26 March, AOG's program has something for everyone involved in the oil and gas industry.

A conference and one of the biggest exhibitions in the southern hemisphere sets the scene for this year's program.

The Subsea Australasian Conference's seminars, workshops and forums will delve into topics including the future growth of the Australasian subsea market, current subsea projects, subsea system engineering, long distance tieback, technical challenges, geophysics and geohazards.

Exhibition visitors can expect to see the latest technology, products, systems and services associated with exploration, production, gas processing, pipelines, offshore services, engineering, design and construction.

AOG will connect you directly with subsea industry decision makers, more than 500 local and international exhibitors and an expected 450 delegates. The networking opportunities are endless.

AOG Exhibition Director Bill Hare said members of the subsea industry seeking solutions, inspiration, education and access to major local and international decision makers would find everything they were looking for under one roof.

To secure your next business deal visit [www.aogexpo.com.au](http://www.aogexpo.com.au) for a comprehensive program and booking instructions.

## Inside this issue

Land ahoy for WA's marine industry.....	3
New developments mean more water time for boaties.....	4
Australia's biggest fabrication hall to provide more than 650 WA jobs.....	5
Data safe at the AMC.....	6
US\$100 million sailing yacht cruises into the AMC.....	7
AMC floating.....	8-11
CUF update.....	12-13
Tenant update.....	14-15
Company profile.....	16

# Land ahoy for WA's marine industry

The results are in and the future outlook is positive for Western Australia's marine industry – \$3.5 billion to be exact.

A recent survey, commissioned by the Department of Commerce and completed by Edith Cowan University, investigated the size, structure and economic impact of the marine industry in WA.

The industry encapsulates the sectors of ship and boat building; upgrade, repair and refit; component manufacture; service and supply; dealers; importers; boat maintenance and detailing; berthing/marina/yacht clubs and tourism operators.

The department's General Manager of Marine, Defence and the Australian Marine Complex John O'Hare said the industry was currently valued at more than \$3.5 billion.

"The 208 businesses which responded to the survey indicated the industry was larger, in both turnover and employee numbers, than originally thought," Mr O'Hare said.

"A survey of the shipbuilding industry in 2002 found it was valued at nearly \$900 million. Just seven years later this has increased by a massive 62 per cent to \$1.46 billion – extremely positive figures and a significant contribution to the State's economy."

The single largest geographic area of marine industry activity is at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC). The ship and boat builders, repairers and maintainers at the complex benefit from being co-located close to marine equipment and component manufacturers, suppliers and service providers.

Mr O'Hare said respondents acknowledged the financial downturn had significantly impacted on the short-term growth of the industry.

"It is predicted that the current lull will be followed closely by a period of strong growth in the next three to five years," he said.

"A number of individual businesses also see opportunities for expansion including product diversification, new innovations (in-house) and moves into sectors external to the marine industry."

Employment is strong within the industry, which currently employs more than 7000 workers – 60 per cent in the shipbuilding, ship service and supply sectors alone.

Mr O'Hare said the survey acknowledged that apprentice numbers had stayed the same despite the industry's growth in the last few years.

"More apprenticeship training will be needed to ensure a skilled workforce is available to cater for the industry's predicted future growth," he said.

Respondents also identified the need for more training courses in business skills such as marketing and customer service.

A concern across the entire industry was the need for more marinas and boat pens in the State.

Department of Transport's Team Leader Metropolitan Facilities Ron Zappara said a number of government and private marina developments were being considered.

"A proposed 300-pen boat stacking facility at Woodman Point, located at the AMC, would be one of a number of initiatives by the State Government to address this concern," Mr Zappara said.

"Up to nine new marina developments have also been proposed along the metropolitan coast that could potentially create an additional 2500 boat pens."

The survey attracted a response rate of 76 per cent among known marine companies.

Edith Cowan University's Dr Helen Cripps said the incredible response rate was due to the efforts of the Boating Industry Association of WA, Westbuilt, WA Shipbuilder Association and Superyacht Base WA's promotion of the study through their members.

Mr O'Hare said the lack of industry data was the main driver for the survey's completion.

"Future planning, for both industry and government, can be difficult when you don't have current statistics to help interpret the current state-of-play," he said.

"These results will help us to understand the industries direction and development opportunities."

The Department of Commerce thanks everyone who responded to the survey. For more information or a copy of the executive summary visit [www.austalianmarinecomplex.com.au](http://www.austalianmarinecomplex.com.au)

## A snapshot of WA's marine industry

- The industry is valued at more than \$3.5 billion and employs more than 7000 workers.
- All sectors predict projected turnover will hover at existing levels or decline in the short term with increases expected in the next three to five years.
- 65 per cent of businesses have been operating for 15 years or less with an average of 20 years.
- There were 2197 Commercial Boat Licences as of October 2008. For the 12 months to January 2009 there were 5043 new boats registered and a total of 85,806 recreational vessels registered throughout the State.
- 73 per cent of boat builders surveyed had invested in improvements and/or innovations that had increased turnover in the last year.



# High Wide Load Corridor extended

The second phase of the High Wide Load Corridor (HWLC) has now been essentially completed. The new corridor links the heavy fabrication industries in the Kewdale/Welshpool areas to the Australian Marine Complex (AMC).

The HWLC enables pre-fabricated modules and large mining and earthmoving equipment to be transported along a designated road route efficiently and cost-effectively.

The upgrade will allow loads up to 8 metres high, 8 metres wide, 24 metres long and 200 tonnes to be built in suburban workshops and transported to the AMC.

Main Roads Senior Project Manager Greg Campbell said the second phase of the HWLC would optimise the efficiency and safety of the road network in the Kewdale, Welshpool and Kwinana areas.

“The project involved intersection modifications and the relocation of overhead power lines. Some works remain to be completed and will be undertaken over the coming months,” Mr Campbell said.

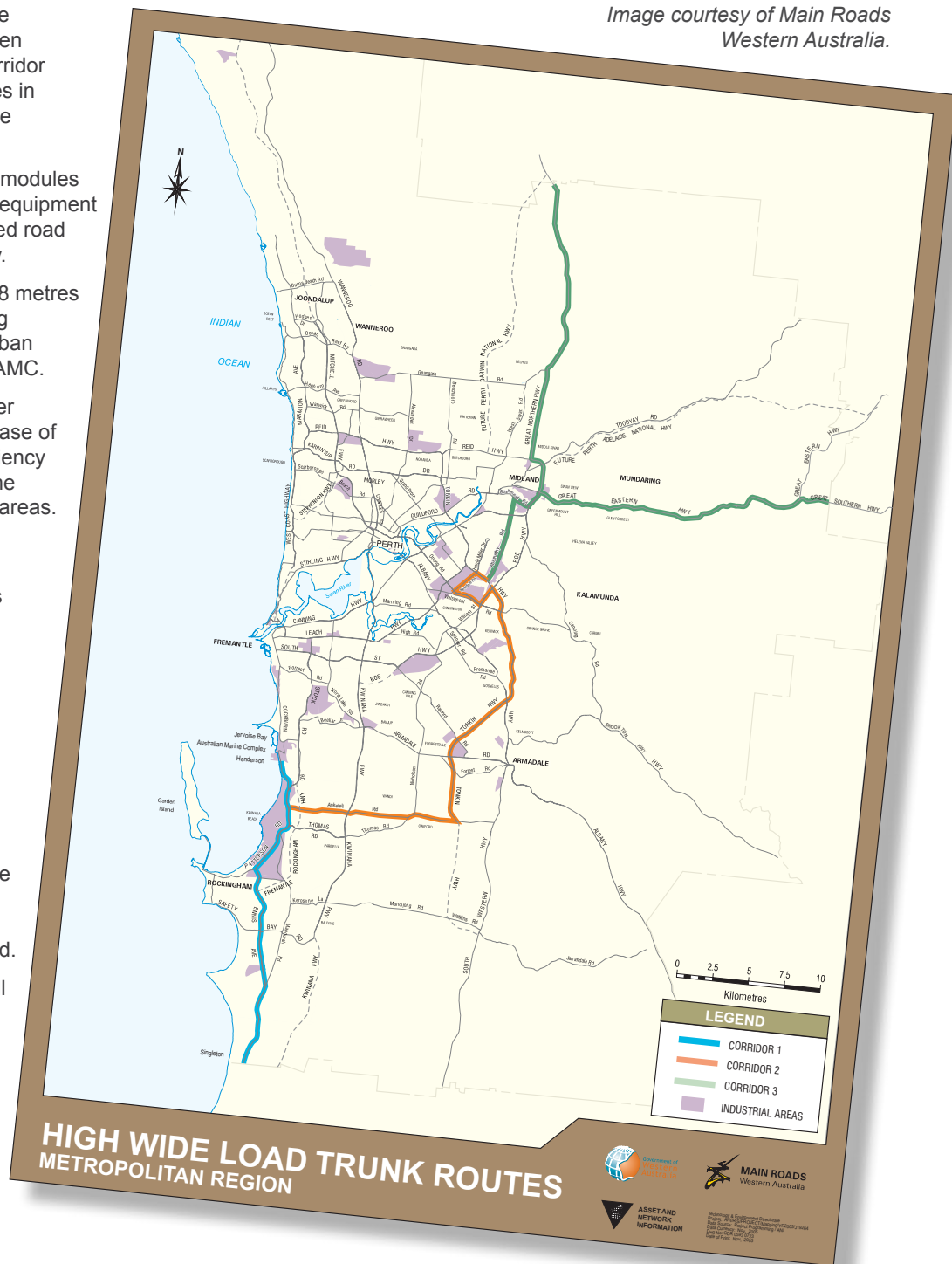
AMC Management (WA) Pty Ltd General Manager Richard Clark said the project would provide significant advantages for Western Australian industry.

“The HWLC will create time and cost savings as well as enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of our State’s heavy engineering and fabrication industries,” Mr Clark said.

The route generally follows Anketell Road, Thomas Road, Tonkin Highway, Roe Highway, Orrong Road and Kewdale Road.

The upgrade was managed by Main Roads with the assistance of Western Power and the cooperation of Local Government Authorities.

Image courtesy of Main Roads Western Australia.



# New developments mean more water time for boaties

Parking at Woodman Point Recreational Boat Precinct just got easier with the construction of 120 new car and boat trailer bays and another 180 bays planned this year.

Woodman Point boat ramp is one of Perth’s most popular recreational boating spots and the \$750,000 upgrade will significantly improve parking facilities at the Australian Marine Complex’s newest precinct.

Minister for Transport Simon O’Brien said the project would meet the growing demand for more parking at peak times.

“This project further complements the work undertaken to double the boat launching capacity at Woodman Point last year,” Mr O’Brien said.

“The four hectares of parking and the eight ramps will significantly reduce the waiting time for boat owners, making operations at the facility safer.”

Future developments at the precinct will see the establishment of a boat stacking facility, the refurbishment of the original four launch ramps and the creation of leasehold land for recreational boating support businesses.

Mr O’Brien said the Department of Transport had assessed a number of expressions of interest for the operation of a boat stacking facility at the site.

To keep up-to-date on the latest developments at the site visit [www.transport.wa.gov.au/imarine/19522.asp](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imarine/19522.asp)

# Australia's biggest fabrication hall to provide more than 650 WA jobs



Imagine two Australian Rules football ovals and that is exactly how big the Australian Marine Complex's (AMC) newest addition will be.

Civmec Construction and Engineering has chosen Lot 804 on Nautical Drive as the site to build its \$24 million undercover fabrication and assembly hall.

At 27,000 square metres in size, the facility will be the largest space of its kind in Australia and cater for the marine, defence, oil and gas and resources industries.

Minister for Commerce Troy Buswell said the facility would enhance and strengthen Western Australia's existing fabrication capabilities.

"Civmec's fabrication hall will enable the State to take advantage of opportunities that arise from projects such as Gorgon and Oakajee, as well as opportunities which result from the Defence White Paper published earlier this year," he said.

"The sheer size of the workshop will mean Western Australia will be able to compete for larger scale fabrication and module assembly tenders from the marine, defence, petroleum and resources industries.

"This investment is anticipated to provide 650 new jobs and a thousand more indirectly from new work that will be brought into the State.

"This workshop complements the activities taking place at the Australian Marine Complex and is a timely boost to the State's industrial capability."

Beginning some 18 years ago, Civmec is a locally-based company with a solid reputation for its work on large and small scale civil construction and engineering projects.

Civmec's Chief Executive Officer Jim Fitzgerald said the facility would meet the need for a one-stop-shop for large and small scale module assembly in the State.

"Civmec's vision is to create a multi-disciplined company capable of serving the increasing demands of the resources, oil and gas and marine and defence sectors," Mr Fitzgerald said.

"We are excited by the opportunities this workshop will create for the State, which will be up and running in time for the Gorgon Project."

The workshop is estimated to be completed by the end of 2010, with completion of the office some 12 months later.

(L-R) Pat Tallon, Minister Buswell, Jim Fitzgerald and Nick Tallon turn the sod at Civmec's new site.



Computer generated impression of Australia's biggest fabrication hall at the AMC.

## Facility specs include

- The capacity to hold up to 34 gantry cranes.
- Four 50 tonne cranes capable of lifting 200 tonne combined.
- The capacity to load and unload six trucks at one time without affecting production.
- The centre bay will span 30 metres with a roof height of 23 metres.
- Each side bay will span 25 metres with an average roof height of 14 metres.
- Bays will have NDT bunkers.
- Office space for 200 people.

## Data safe at the AMC

What would happen to your businesses valuable data if your servers crashed or there was a fire? A new centre at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) Technology Precinct offers a solution to this very question.

Located on the first floor of the AMC Jakovich Centre, formerly the Central Services Facility, the new AMC Data Centre will provide a convenient, secure and controlled space to house IT infrastructure for storage and disaster recovery.

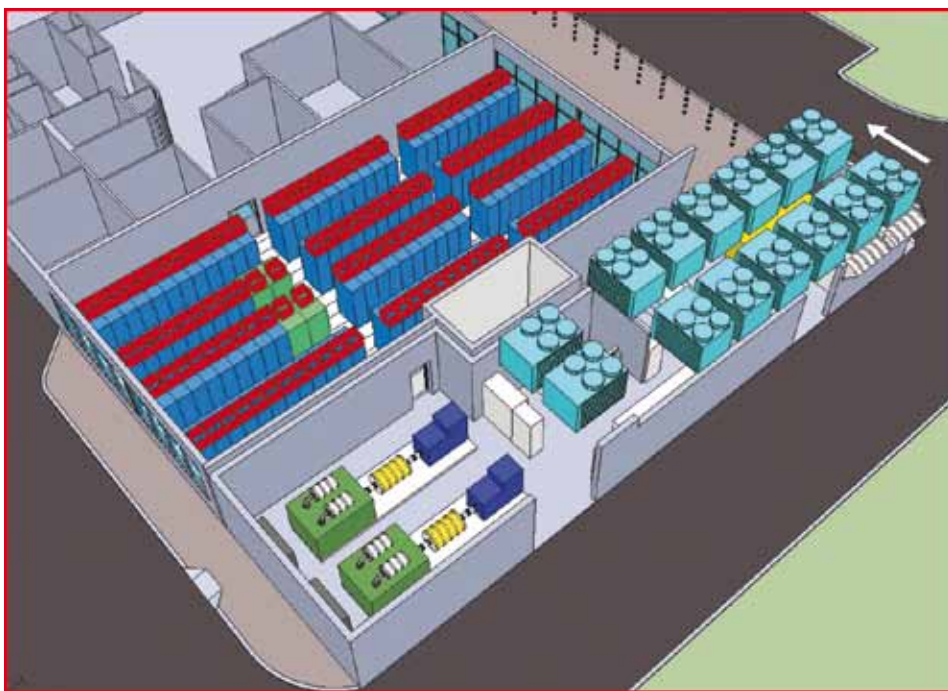
AMC Data Centre Chief Executive Officer Justin Thomas said it was not always financially viable to buy the infrastructure that is needed to keep a business's data secure.

"Companies collect meaningful data that is very important to their business but this data is not always needed day-to-day," Mr Thomas said.

"Data centres offer a cost effective solution to store and backup this data.

"Storing your servers off-site ensures your business information is safe from any event which puts your business continuity at risk."

Data centres house IT equipment in specially designed racks. As IT equipment use significant amounts of energy to run, the AMC Data Centre has been planned with the ability to power more of the rack through intelligent power and cooling systems.



A computer generated visual of the storage racks at the AMC Data Centre.

Mr Thomas said controlling the climate in the centre was critical and his designers had scoured the world to find the best solutions on the market.

"Keeping computer systems cool is imperative to the protection of the data they store," Mr Thomas said.

"Using innovative equipment and technology has been a major driver in the development of this data centre.

"In a Western Australian first, we are using the Chatsworth Vertical Exhaust Duct Server Cabinets, combined with computer room air conditioners, to regulate the temperature of the centre.

"This system allows more of the rack to be used to house equipment and therefore customers use less rack space and save money."

On completion, the centre will hold more than 100 racks with mechanical and electrical services capable of providing more than six kilowatts of

average power and cooling to each server rack cabinet.

Mr Thomas said using the centre would be as simple as 'plug in and go' for clients.

The centre will have a 24-hour security presence and clients will have round the clock access to their computer equipment.

For more information about the AMC Data Centre, contact Justin Thomas on 0412 995 878 or visit [www.amcdc.com.au](http://www.amcdc.com.au)

**"Storing your servers off-site ensures your business information is safe from any event which puts your business continuity at risk."**

# US\$100 million sailing yacht cruises into the AMC



The world's longest privately-owned sailing yacht cruised into Perth recently to take advantage of the State's renowned shiplifting and shipbuilding capabilities at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC).

The S.Y.EOS spent nearly two months undergoing extensive works by AMC-based companies, Evolution Yachts and BAE Systems Australia and all other services by West Australian SuperYacht Services.

Valued at more than US\$100 million, the S.Y.EOS measures 93 metres in length with a draft of 5.6 metres and has a crew of 20 onboard at all times.

SuperYacht Base Western Australia's (SYBWA) Chief Executive Officer Rod Tweddle said the visit not only benefitted the State's marine industry but also the local economy.

"More than \$2 million was spent on yard works, not to mention what the crew spent while they were staying in Fremantle for nearly two months," Mr Tweddle said.

Evolution started work on the yacht in Fremantle Harbour. The yacht then made its way to the AMC and was lifted out of the water by BAE's shiplifter. The works undertaken at BAE were considerable, including a complete wash down, water blasting and antifoul as well as the removal of props, shafts and stabilizers to service all bearings and glands.

Mr Tweddle said the visit was the result of meeting the yacht's Captain at the Raffles Marina in Singapore last April.

"While in Singapore, I visited a number of marinas to promote the capabilities of the State's marine industry and had a chance encounter with the Captain of the S.Y.EOS," Mr Tweddle said.

"They were suitably impressed with what the State could offer and the yacht set sail for Perth."

Specialists from the Netherlands and Antigua also travelled to Perth to complete work on the yacht's mast, rigging and to touch up the varnish.

Mr Tweddle said two varnish experts fly around the world to meet the S.Y.EOS yacht if it is ever in port for more than a week.



*The magnificent S.Y.EOS cruises into the AMC.  
Image courtesy of Armada.*

The dock's control system, in particular the manoeuvring system, makes the AMC floating dock exceptional.

# Australian Marine Complex floating dock is ready for use!



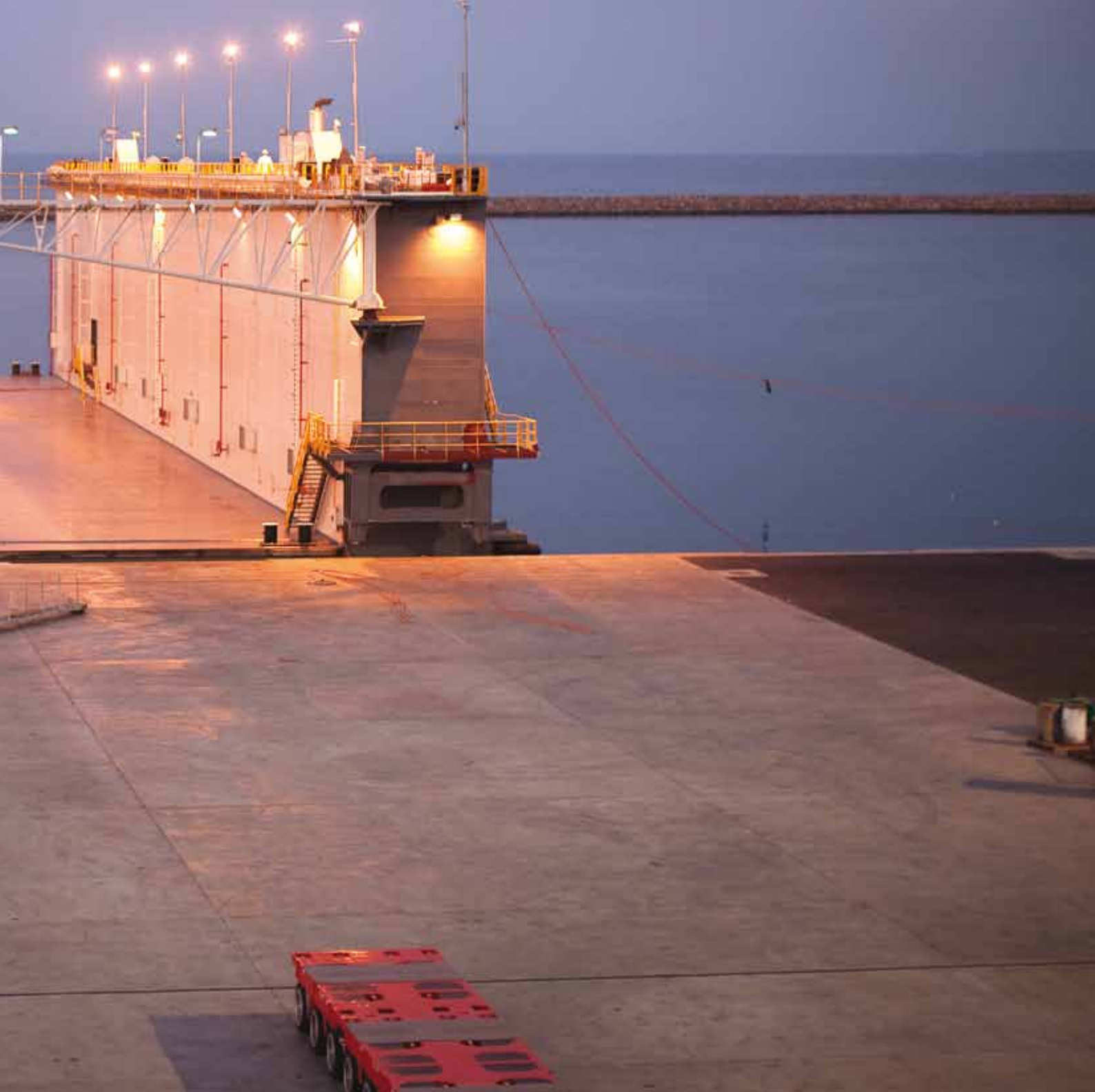
## It's all in the name

In recognition of the Henderson area's traditional owners, the Nyoongar people, the AMC floating dock and self propelled modular transporter system (SPMT) have been named Yargan and Kaalil.

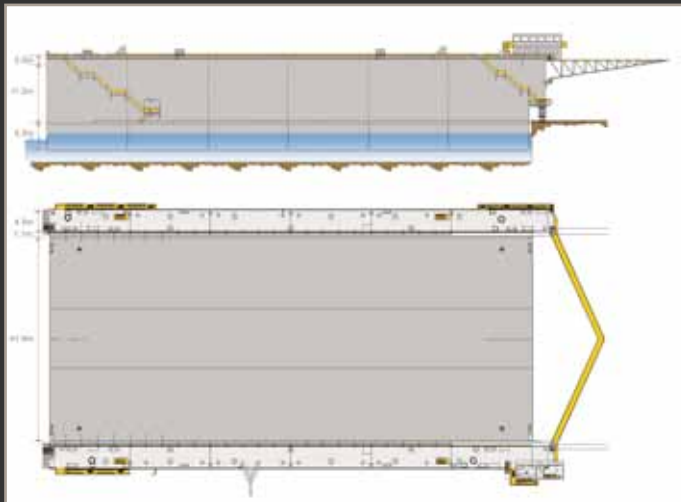
Yargan, the Nyoongar word for tortoise, is derived from the story of two young boys who swam in a forbidden waterhole and were each turned into a tortoise. Similarly, the floating dock will carry heavy vessels to transfer them to and from land and water.

Kaalil is the Nyoongar word for soldier ant. In many ways the SPMT system resembles a chain of ants carrying many times their own body weight. The trailers will be linked together to transfer heavy vessels and modules to and from the floating dock.

The AMC thanks the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and Nyoongar Elders for their counsel and permission.



2006 >>



2007 >>



2009 >>



2009 >>



## The Australian Marine Complex (AMC) floating dock has undergone trials and is now fully commissioned and ready for use.

The floating dock is a very significant piece of infrastructure for Western Australia. It complements the existing common-use infrastructure already located at the AMC Common User Facility.

The AMC floating dock will service the needs of the Royal Australian Navy, commercial shipbuilding, including the superyacht industry, as well as the testing of underwater subsea structures for the oil and gas industry.

Conceived as a two-part dock, Stage 1 consists of a 99 metre by 53 metre pontoon that is capable of

lifting vessels up to 12,000 tonnes for service and provides the capability to transfer vessels and modules up to 3,500 tonnes to land.

The design allows for a second stage to be built that will adjoin the dock and provide an additional 132 metres docking capacity. The second stage will be attached as required and operated seamlessly as one complete 232 metre unit.

The team at AMC News would like to take you through a pictorial journey of the AMC floating dock's epic journey from concept to reality.

>> In 2006, internationally acclaimed naval architects, Clark and Stanfield, were appointed to design the AMC floating dock.

>> In 2007, AMC-based ship builder Strategic Marine won the \$60 million contract to build the floating dock. The dock's construction took place in both Vietnam and Perth simultaneously. More than 70 per cent of the total project was completed by Western Australian companies. In 2008, the first piece of steel for the floating dock's side wall sections was cut in Strategic Marine's AMC workshop.

>> Strategic Marine constructed the floating dock's pontoon base at its Vietnam facility. The pontoon base consists of 24 watertight chambers that transfer water in a highly technical and automated process to ensure the correct support and positioning for vessels as they are docked and transferred.

2008 >>



2008 >>



2009 >>



2009 >>



>> In November 2008, the pontoon was loaded onto a Dockwise semi-submersible heavy transport vessel and shipped to the AMC from Vietnam. Once it arrived in the waters off the AMC-CUF, tugs towed the pontoon base off the transport vessel and guided the pontoon to its new home abutting the CUF's new transfer wharf.

>> Once the pontoon base was at the AMC, installation of the remaining components took place. A specialised team of more than 120 technicians, engineers and contractors completed the floating dock's 840 tonne superstructure including computer operating systems, power source, topsides, sidewalls and cranes. The sidewalls and topside modules contain the 'smart' components of the dock and were installed in six sections to the pontoon by AMC-based Phillips Engineering.

>> The AMC floating dock underwent trials in November 2009. Float-on and float-off tests using the Volvox Anglia, a 67 metre long vessel weighing 1,300 tonnes, proved the performance of the ballast control system worked perfectly. The trials confirmed that the dock was ready for use as it moved seamlessly through a series of onloading, offloading, docking and transfer manoeuvres.

>> At the completion of the trials, the floating dock was handed over to commence commercial operations at the AMC Common User Facility. The months of February and March are looking busy for the dock with a number of dockings already booked in. The first submarine is expected to be docked at the beginning of March.

### Conclusion

The AMC floating dock is the most technologically advanced in the world. It can perform functions of which no other dock is capable. The dock's control system, in particular the manoeuvring system, makes the AMC floating dock exceptional. No other floating dock in the world can move in more than one direction and very few docks have the ability to transfer and offload vessels.

The AMC floating dock is anticipated to deliver \$2 billion in project work to Western Australia over the next 25 years.

The AMC floating dock is a joint initiative between the Department of Commerce, LandCorp and AMC Management (WA) Pty Ltd.

## Work has begun on new service and supply base

Abigroup Contractors has commenced civil works on the Australian Marine Complex Common User Facility's (CUF) \$35 million service and supply base.

The Chevron-operated Gorgon Project will be the first beneficiary of the upgrade that includes the construction of a new wharf and a 4.5 hectare quarantined staging area to cater for equipment and trailer consignments to Barrow Island.

While the base is being built, Chevron will use an interim load-out facility currently being mobilised on 1.5 hectares of land within the CUF. The interim facility will provide the same level of quarantine assurance as the base but using temporary wash down facilities and equipment. It will be returned to common user access in July 2010 on completion of the base.



*Workshop in the Gorgon interim load-out facility.*

## Gorgon Project takes shape at the AMC

The first step in the delivery of the Chevron-operated Gorgon Project has begun at the CUF.

The Kellogg Joint Venture Group (KJVG) was awarded the contract to engineer and construct the LNG downstream plant and facilities and to provide logistics for the project.

As part of the \$2.7 billion contract, KJVG will construct three LNG trains; gas processing and treatment facilities; product storage and offloading facilities; and utilities and accommodation facilities at Barrow Island.

Local companies are tendering for significant portions of the pre-assembled racks and modules that will form the LNG loading terminal. The CUF Facility Manager has been working with the companies to co-ordinate their requirements into the CUF's future workload schedule and assist in the development of their build strategies.

The fabrication of tanks for the accommodation camp is the first infrastructure for Gorgon to be undertaken at the CUF. The tanks are a major part of the \$10 million contract awarded to Cimeco to provide water, fuel and sewerage facilities for the project. The tanks will be taken by barge to Barrow Island in early 2010.



*Cimeco has erected an enclosure at the CUF to blast and paint tanks for its new workshop.*

## New accommodation for Pluto

Workers building the offshore production platform on Woodside's \$12 billion Pluto LNG Project will soon be relaxing in new accommodation being built at the CUF.

Ferguson Seacabs was awarded the contract in September 2009 for the delivery of a 15 unit complex comprising of an office, galley, medical facilities and accommodation for 48 people. The units are being built into a large frame by AGC in the CUF Main Fabrication Hall. The completed module weighing in excess of 600 tonnes has been loaded onto a barge, transported to the field and installed on the platform. The load-out took place in the first week of the year.



*Pluto's new offshore accommodation module.*

## Port Hedland upgrade looks to the future

The Port Hedland Port Authority (PHPA) is upgrading its port with a \$20 million shiploader being built at the CUF.

Port Hedland is one of Australia's largest export ports by tonnage. Trade at the port is expected to increase by 30 million tonnes in the next three to five years and double within the next 20 years.

ProMet Engineers are project managing the upgrade of the port facilities for PHPA constructing the multi-user berth facility that will enable the port to handle exports of iron ore, manganese and chromite. The shiploader is being fabricated in Perth and assembled at the CUF. It is planned to be completed and transported to Port Hedland.



*Fabrication of shiploader structure is well underway.*

## Rapid growth project is just that

The CUF has been used to assemble an ore stacker for BHP Billiton's Rapid Growth Project 5.

Built by ThyssenKrupp Engineering Australia, the stacker is critical to the continued expansion of BHP Billiton's port infrastructure at Finucane Island.

ThyssenKrupp is assembling the stacker at the CUF following its initial fabrication in Kwinana by Doina Engineering.

This follows the construction of a similar stacker in July 2008 for BHP Billiton's Rapid Growth Project 4.



*BHP's iron ore stacker under construction.*

## Need more laydown space?

The laydown capacity within the CUF has been temporarily expanded to incorporate an additional 8 hectares of land known as the AMC-CUF North.

Available for lease on a temporary basis, the land has direct waterfront access and frontage to Clarence Beach Road.

AMC Management (WA) Pty Ltd's Jonathan Smith said the new land would eventually be developed for the shipbuilding industry but would provide a short-term benefit for companies in the marine, defence, oil and gas and resources industry.

All land-use enquiries should be directed to Jonathan Smith on +61 8 9437 0500.

## MADCO expands

AMC-based engineering company, MADCO, has moved its workshop to a larger, state-of-the-art site on Sparks Road.

Operating in Henderson since 1979, MADCO specialises in the repair and maintenance of rotatable equipment which includes all disciplines of machining, fitting, fabrication and specialized on-site commissioning.

At 6,000 square metres, the company's new facility includes offices and two freestanding workshops. The workshops house a fully equipped machine shop, a dedicated fitting shop and a separate fabrication area.

MADCO works across the mining, offshore oil and gas and construction sectors, specialising in improving equipment performance to reduce ongoing life-cycle costs.

MADCO General Manager Tony Lutz said the company strived to create innovative solutions for its clients.

"MADCO recently completed the refurbishment of a 10 person underground cage," Mr Lutz said.

"The cage incorporated major technical modifications to increase its reliability and safety, in compliance with all the State mining regulations.

"We have also recently introduced the Direct Bond Lagging System, a product that will improve the working time and life span of conveyor pulleys. The system has been approved by one of the major producers of iron ore in Western Australia."



The 10 person underground cage at MADCO's workshop.

### Contact information

#### MADCO

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Henderson WA 6166

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Email: [madco@madco.com.au](mailto:madco@madco.com.au)

[www.madco.com.au](http://www.madco.com.au)

## Perth company makes it big in the world market

Matrix Composites and Engineering has announced it will occupy 8.4 hectares of land in the Australian Marine Complex's (AMC) new Subsea Cluster.

Built in two stages, Matrix's new development will incorporate an integrated buoyancy manufacturing facility that includes bulk chemical storage, warehousing, composite sphere manufacturing, composite layup and casting, painting, dispatch and one of the world's largest full scale hyperbaric testing centers.

Matrix Business Development Manager Peter O'Brien said the new plant would incorporate some of the most sophisticated oil and gas testing equipment in the world.

"Once completed, our facility will house the world's largest syntactic foam buoyancy plant," Mr O'Brien said.

"It will also have the capability to manufacture and test any size of riser and production buoyancy to water depths of 16,500 feet (5030 metres). This equipment will more than double Matrix's current production capacity."

Mr O'Brien said the company's new facility at the AMC would consolidate its existing operating sites from six to two.

"The site's proximity to the ocean and Chevron's work at the new service and supply base was the deciding factor when we chose to relocate to the AMC," he said.

Construction of Stage 1 is currently under way with operations due to commence in April 2010.

Stage 2 will focus on the engineering side of the Matrix Group and feature a large test pit with the capability of gas testing some of the largest subsea trees destined for offshore developments off the Australian coast.

For more information about Matrix Composites and Engineering visit [www.matrixap.com.au](http://www.matrixap.com.au)

"Once completed, our facility will house the world's largest syntactic foam buoyancy plant," Mr O'Brien said.

## Who's who visit the AMC!

The last couple of months have proved popular for the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) with a number of local, national and international visitors taking the time to tour the facility.

New Zealand's High Commissioner Dr John Larkindale visited the AMC while in Perth to discuss Australia and New Zealand's partnership in the international radio astronomy project, the Square Kilometre Array. New Zealand has strong marine interests and Dr Larkindale was very impressed by the AMC's facilities.

Representatives from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute in Canberra visited the AMC on a fact finding mission to look at the strategic interests of the Indian Ocean.

Once again, the AMC played host to some of the delegates of the 3rd International Modular Construction and Pre-Assembled Fabrication Conference in November last year. The conference is Australia's only event dedicated to engineering, manufacturing, production and transportation of pre-assembled modules.

AMC Management (WA) Pty Ltd's Jonathan Smith made a presentation at the conference on the recent developments at the AMC Common User Facility (CUF). On the conference's conclusion, delegates were taken on a tour of the wider AMC precinct and the CUF. The tour included delegates from the steel, heavy lift logistics, heavy lift shipping and modular transporter industries as well as designers, engineers, planners and fabricators.

## Polysius moves in

Leading engineering company, Polysius Australia Pty Ltd, officially opened the doors to its new workshop at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) last year.

Polysius's innovative solutions for crushing, grinding, classification, thermo processing and automation engineering have revolutionised the processing plants of a number of successful resource companies in the State.

Polysius's Mr Kirsch said the move to the AMC meant the company would be able to more efficiently service its customers.

"Our new workshop allows greater access to our clients as well as provides closer access to Fremantle Harbour to make the collection of raw material imports easier," Mr Kirsch said.

"We invested \$20 million into our Western Australian operation with the expectation of creating between 50 and 70 new employment opportunities."

Polysius is internationally renowned for its POLYCOM High Pressure Grinding technology, an energy-saving and eco-friendly crushing and grinding system.

The company has long-term service contracts for its POLYCOM technology with Moly Mines, Gindalbie's Karara Iron Ore Project and Newmont Australia's Boddington Gold Mine.

Polysius Australia Pty Ltd belongs to the ThyssenKrupp organisation that is fully owned by Polysius ADG of Germany. Polysius is one of the leading engineering companies throughout the world providing innovative products and services to the minerals and cement industries.

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# The biggest Blast Booth at the AMC



With two workshops at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) and other sites throughout Australia, AlphaBlast Pty Ltd has become a home grown success story.

A member of the Orontide Group, AlphaBlast is an established contracting and service provider to the oil and gas, naval defence, marine and commercial industry sectors. The company provides comprehensive surface area treatment, UHP water jetting, abrasive blasting and other related fabric maintenance services.

In the past two years, the company has undergone a rapid transformation from a small Perth-based business to a notable player that includes a new custom built blast and paint facility at the AMC.

AlphaBlast General Manager Kim Twiggs said the company's success was largely driven by a strong culture for innovation, underpinned by proven experience, practical knowledge and an attitude for working to best practice.

"AlphaBlast believes that investing in the latest technologies and techniques helps the company to set new parameters, furthering our ability to provide both current and future customers with practical solutions," Mr Twiggs said.

"We made a decision to aim high and we are continually doing this. Investment in leading edge equipment, infrastructure and know-how is an intricate element of

our drive to offer and deliver high quality standards to the industries we serve. Our new venture serves to further enhance this position."

AlphaBlast's new facility on Sparks Road boasts one of the largest self contained blast chambers in the State with built in capabilities for recycling a wide range of abrasive media. Fully ducted, expandable and collapsible paint booth configurations have also been incorporated, as well as a range of other features which enhance production handling, storage and the flow of output efficiency. The equipment also controls and reduces the omission of potentially harmful substances to the environment.

Mr Twiggs said the new facility would allow the company to tender for high end specification projects while promoting a clean and safe working environment for AlphaBlast's staff.

"We believe that best practice begins with a full understanding of the customer's requirement as well as a strong practical knowledge of industry sector demand and an ability to deliver

a service above expectation. The development of this new facility at the AMC will reinforce our intent to continue this theme."

AlphaBlast has gained a good reputation for quality workmanship through its work on a range of industry project scopes.

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## Promote your company in the AMC News

The AMC News is received by more than 2000 readers including other businesses within the AMC, key industry representatives from many organisations, local councils and the media. This newsletter is a great way to promote your business and the new ventures at the AMC. In each issue we profile different companies within the Shipbuilding, Fabrication, Technology and Support Industry Precincts as well as Common User Facility activities.

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