



## Airport takes off... with BlueScope Lysaght



**Above:** LYSAGHT® Zed & Cee purlins and girts are efficient, lightweight and economical.

**Top:** The new \$260 million Adelaide Airport redevelopment.

Construction on Australia's newest and most efficient airport passenger terminal is off to a flying start, with the help of established Adelaide-based steel fabricators, Manuele Engineers, and BlueScope Lysaght.

The \$260 million redevelopment of Adelaide Airport is the largest steel construction project in the city. A completely new terminal is being built which will allow both international and internal flight passengers to depart or arrive through a common passenger concourse - a concept that provides for vastly more efficient use of passenger terminal space.

The new 77,000 sqm terminal will be able to accommodate in excess of 3000 passengers per hour, and up to 27 aircraft simultaneously. The airport's contemporary design includes 14 glass-sided aerobridges directly linking aircraft



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to the terminal building, 40 common-use check-in desks and 9 automated baggage carousels.

Plans for the terminal include greatly expanded freight handling facilities, property development and on-site business accommodation, in anticipation of Adelaide becoming an even more important destination for tourism and freight – due to the new Darwin-to-Adelaide rail link.

Leading structural steel fabrication firm, Manuele Engineers, is responsible for the supply and installation of the structural steelwork to the main terminal building of the new airport. Another structural steel fabricator, Samaras Structural Engineers, is supplying the structural steel for the two concourses on either side of the main terminal building.

“The main terminal section of the airport encompasses the check-in area, baggage claim, retail mall and international terminal. We are supplying 2,400 tonnes of structural steel for the project, as well as 24.7 km of LYSAGHT® Zed and Cee purlins,” says Vince Manuele, a director of Manuele Engineers.

Established in 1967 by Vince’s father, Vic Manuele, Manuele Engineers is a family-owned business,

**Below:** 24.7km of LYSAGHT® Zed & Cee purlins are being supplied to the project.



which specialises in complex structural steel fabrication. With over 50 employees, as well as around 70 dedicated sub-contractors, Manuele Engineers has worked on many large-scale, high-profile projects in Adelaide, including the supply and installation of 1,230 tonnes of structural steel for the Holden Plant, and 2,500 tonnes of steel for Westfields Marion, one of the largest shopping centres in the southern hemisphere.

“We are highly regarded in the industry as one of the most capable, efficient and reliable steelworkers in South Australia,” says Vince. “We are often approached for the larger projects – jobs that have very complex steelwork incorporated into their structural design, and where there is little room for error.”

Manuele Engineers were awarded the \$10 million structural steel contract by builders Hansen Yuncken. “This is a substantial job for us,” says Vince. “Our tender proposal, coupled with our reputation in the industry, convinced Hansen Yuncken that we were up to the job.

Vince says that while the structure of the building was straightforward, the tight timeframe has been a challenge. “The programme on this job is very

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Vince Manuele –  
Director, Manuele Engineers



*"The technical support provided by BlueScope Lysaght is outstanding. They are always there to help, and they have the experience and expertise to provide the solutions we need."*

Vince Manuele – Director, Manuele Engineers



demanding. We are working to a very tight construction schedule - it will be a record for us in terms of fabrication and installation. Sourcing the huge volume of steel and ensuring that it is all available to meet our construction schedule is paramount."

That's where BlueScope Lysaght comes in. "We buy purlins exclusively from BlueScope Lysaght. We have a very strong relationship with them. I chose to buy from BlueScope Lysaght because of their dedication to a project, their attention to detail and their commitment to us as a supplier. I see BlueScope Lysaght's exceptional customer service as a benchmark for all of my suppliers."

"The technical support provided by BlueScope Lysaght, particularly on projects of this type, is

outstanding. They are always there to help, and they have the experience and expertise to provide the solutions we need."

According to Vince, BlueScope Lysaght's demonstrated commitment to the project has been a key factor in the job's success so far. "The redevelopment of Adelaide Airport is a key project for the State – in terms of infrastructure, trade and tourism. As soon as we heard about the project, we earmarked it as something that we wanted to be involved in. BlueScope Lysaght were also committed to being involved in the project, for the same reasons. Consequently, they have been very much a part of our team from the word go."

He says that on a high profile job such as the Adelaide Airport, there is no room for error. "A good supplier is extremely important, as are short lead times. These days, we are building significantly faster than we used to - because of commercial pressures from clients, who are becoming more and more demanding. Time is always a critical factor. Time is money. That's why it's so vital that our suppliers are reliable, trustworthy, and an integral part of our team."

Construction on the Adelaide Airport redevelopment commenced at the beginning of 2004. The project is due for completion in late 2005.

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