

QISD Field Trip Program...

Tour of Southern Queensland Steel

On Wednesday 3rd Dec. last year a group of 25 QISD members visited the SQ Steel warehouse in Coulson St. Wacol. General Manager, David Rodmell welcomed us to his facility and presented an informative introduction to the steel processing industry, specifically beam-line operations.

The services offered by SQ Steel include saw cutting, drilling, cropping, punching, popmarking, hardstamping, notching, shearing & profiling.

The tour started at the drawing office where the information from steel detail drawings is entered into the beam-line processors. This included a good deal of discussion about the pro's & con's of NC Data & DXF file transfer.

The tour of the beam-line processing area came next, with the group broken in two for ease of movement and discussion. The operation of the punching & cutting machinery was explained in detail while the whole process was observed from close range.

Numerically Controlled Punching & Cutting Machinery



Photos courtesy of Jodie Hempsall.

Following some closing remarks, SQ Steel kindly provided refreshments at the end of the tour. Our thanks goes to David Rodmell and his staff at SQ Steel for providing steel Detailers with an interesting & educational afternoon.

AGM Summary....

At last year's AGM in October the management committee was unanimously re-elected. Two committee positions remained unfilled after Darren Mandell & Dave Stansfield withdrew. Geoff Graham from BDS Steel Detailers & Tony Dwyer from TD Drafting were elected uncontested to the committee. Since joining the committee, these gentlemen have worked hard on a number of issues to further the service that the QISD brings to it's members. I'd like to welcome Geoff & Tony to the Management Committee and thank them for their commitment to the detailing industry.

The AGM was followed by a brief general meeting where the committee's program and objectives were briefly discussed and was met with in-principal approval from the floor. The management committee is keen to build upon an already solid membership base and further raise the industry profile by targeting some short term goals.

They are, in summary:

- Develop position papers for Industry Standard Design Documentation & Steel Detailing Practice.
- Prepare Checklists for design consultants drawings.
- Present an award recognizing excellence in design documentation at the next ASI awards night.

For QISD members more visits, tours & presentations are planned for the current year including:

- Smorgon tube sections
- Recommended forms for RFI's, Document Control, Contract Variations etc.
- General meetings promoting open discussion between detailers and other industry players.

The AGM & general Meeting was well attended and enjoyed by company directors, employee detailers and sole traders alike with a buffet dinner and drinks following the meeting.

Changes in QISD web site address

The QISD has a new web site address. Please go to www.qisd.org.au . The site is a 'work in progress' affair so if you have any ideas or feedback, please don't hesitate to send it in.

ASI Tour of the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre....

During December 2003 the ASI conducted a tour of the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre. Adjacent to Conrad Jupiters Hotel & Casino the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre is a multi-functional building consisting of an Arena Area & an Exhibition Hall, which are connected by expansive foyers that can be divided by operable walls to form various rooms. The building is approximately 190m long by 90m wide with approximately 1300 tonne of hot rolled steel and 150 tonne of cold rolled steel used in its construction.



From the photographs it is not very hard to see what value steel detailers can bring to a project like this. The QISD recommends to its members to seriously think about attending these types of tours when they are made available.

ASI Awards Night

The steel construction industry "night of nights" will take place at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre on Friday 16th of July. This is the occasion to recognize the high achievers who, over the past 12 months, through their innovation, dedication or skill have made a significant contribution to the benefit of the steel construction industry.

This year the QISD will be presenting an award for excellence in design documentation. The judging criteria will be the design document checklists that have been developed by the QISD. This award will provide multiple benefits to the steel detailing community by:

- Raising the awareness of the QISD among design consultants and fabricators.
- Rewarding conscientious efforts by consultants to provide quality documentation.
- Maintaining current industry focus on documentation quality.
- Improving the professional image of the steel detailing industry.

As ever, the awards remain the centre-piece of the evening, but the event now also enjoys an excellent reputation as a great night out – an exciting mix of networking opportunities, quality entertainment, great food, good wine, live music & dancing. For more information, check the ASI website at www.asi.org.au

Technical Presentation

Smorgon Steel Tube Mills

Arun Syam from Smorgons will present their new "Bigger, thicker, stronger" range of hollow sections. This new series of sections ranges up to 400 x 12 SHS. The presentation will include catalogue handouts and question & answer time. Smorgons have also offered to supply savories & drinks prior to the event. This presentation will be followed by the general meeting.

Date: Wednesday 5th May

Time: 5:30 for 6:00pm start

Venue: Carina Leagues Club, Creek Rd. Carindale.

QISD General Meeting....

In response to feedback for members to have increased involvement in the running of the QISD, there will be a general meeting held straight after the technical presentation described above. This meeting will provide an opportunity for all members to participate in an open discussion of topics ranging from the importance of contract specifications to the QISD golf day. Your chance to get interested and get involved, it's also a chance to have a beer and a chat with colleagues from other drafting firms.

Competition: QISD LOGO

The management committee has had several requests from members for a logo to use on their drawings & documents. The current logo (if you can call it a logo) is not suitable for this use so the call goes out to all members to fire up their creative side and dream up a QISD logo for all members to use. Entries can be submitted electronically to secretary@qisd.org.au or post your logos to QISD PO Box 8250. Woolloongabba Qld. 4102

The competition closes on the 23rd of April. The winner will be announced at the next general meeting on Wednesday 5th of May. The prize for the talented individual who is deemed the winner will receive 12 months subscription to the QISD valued at \$30.00. Gasp!! Huge financial reward I know but the real prize will be the glowing admiration of your peers and colleagues as they see your logo, every day, on every drawing they produce!! Think of the fame!!

Letter to the Editor....

Introducing this new item to the QISD Newsletter. These letters provide an opportunity for members to display a point of view, share an experience or generally just get on the "soap box" and share their thoughts with their fellow members. Simply send your letters titled "Letter to the Editor" via the feedback form.

Beware of the Mark

For many years we have been indicating columns to be marked near base on the North or West face without any problems. It has been my experience that this method or similar has been adopted by many companies. However, recently a Fabricator attempted to hold my drafting office financially accountable for the appearance of the marks on the steelwork after they were rejected by the superintendent. The Fabricator had proceeded to weld extremely bold marks onto the face of some 100 or so galvanized RHS columns that were exposed in a walkway. You can imagine his despair when they were rejected.

The Matter was discussed informally with the QISD committee and support was offered should it be required. Fortunately after some heated debate and threatening letters our drafting invoice was paid in full and the matter was put to rest. It occurred to me later that the Fabricator was probably just looking and hoping that my drafting office would accept some of the responsibility and cost to repair.

It remains my opinion that the responsibility of the method used in marking steelwork remains completely with the fabricator.

Tony Dwyer
TD Drafting Services.

News and Events....

Two QISD members, Paul McLeod and Kerry Lindemann attended this years North American Steel Convention held in Long Beach California. The Conference attracts more than 3000 delegates from all over the world associated with the steel industry. There are approximately 150 exhibitors booths, the most impressive ones being the NC equipment manufacturers who bring their machines along to the convention and have them running for the duration of the conference. The following photographs are just some of the impressive machinery that were on display at this years convention and should be of special interest to those members who use detailing software with CNC capabilities.



