



QISD Newsletter



Issue No. 1

October, 2001

ARE YOU A STEEL DETAILER? Then be a part of change and join the QISD.

What is the QISD?

QISD stands for "Queensland Institute of Steel Detailers". The institutes' vision statement is:

"To foster excellence in the steel detailing industry through communication and understanding"

Why was the QISD formed?

The institute was formed after several forum evenings facilitated by the AISC, which highlighted the deterioration of design documentation over the years.

This matter, while affecting several other disciplines within the construction industry, is recognized as a major issue for any Steel Detailer. It became clear that Steel Detailing needed a body to act on everyone's behalf in trying to address these and like matters.

On Wednesday, 21st February 2001, the AISC held a forum particularly focussed on impacts facing Steel Detailers and to gain interest in forming such a body.

A steering committee was formed to meet and further discuss the issues raised and to form a body to represent Steel Detailers.

The steering committee consisted of various detailers from all sectors of the industry. From the larger firms through to sole traders who are all facing the same problems be it at different scales.

How was the QISD formed?

There have been 5 formal steering committee meetings held since the 21st of February. The first of which was held on the 27th of March.

At this meeting Trevor Llewellyn was elected as Interim Chairman of the steering committee. It was also agreed that while the body would still have a close relationship with the AISC it must also have its own identity.

A second meeting was held on the 17th of May primarily to discuss and agree on a formal name and to start work on the processes required in forming a formal body.

A decision was made that our body should be an institute so as to maintain a link with our currently active Victorian counterparts (VISD). This would allow for a natural progression to a national body at some time in the future.

The name that transpired was:
'Queensland Institute of Steel Detailers' (QISD).

There were several meetings held during the following months to work through documentation necessary in applying for incorporation. All applications have since been submitted to the Office of Fair Trading and approved.

Interim Office holders:

President - Trevor Llewellyn

Treasurer – Kel Everson

Secretary – Clayton Roxborough

Committee members:

Darren Purnell

Bruce Cocking

Dave Stansfield

John Gardner (AISC)

Joe Biggs

Brad Backer

Darren Mandall

QISD Logo:

QISD

Queensland Institute of Steel Detailers

QISD Contact Details:

Address: QISD
PO Box 8250
Woolloongabba
Brisbane Qld, 4102

Email: qisd@powerup.com.au

QISD Activities

Gold Coast 'Detailers' Forum

During April 2001, Trevor Llewellyn represented the steering committee at a forum for Steel Detailers on the Gold Coast. At this forum the Gold Coast group was supportive of the proposed QISD.

The group has already been proactive in organizing several information evenings, inviting building supplier/service companies to participate.

Mark Rae is the driving force for the Gold Coast group and can be contacted on:

Ph: (07) 55 243 940 or

Email: reas@bigpond.com.au

IEAust forum on project documentation

On the 9th of August 2001 a forum was conducted by the Engineering Contracts and Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee of the IEAust on the topic of cost reduction and dispute minimisation through investment in project documentation.

The forum was called to discuss the problems arising from inadequacies in project documentation with special attention to the root causes, problems and possible solutions. The QISD was represented at this forum by Clayton Roxborough.

On the night, a panel of speakers representing the various contract perspectives of, the Client, the Designer, Head Contractor, Sub-contractor and Claims Consultant, gave their views on the current quality of contract documentation and its affect on project performance. All speakers acknowledged that the quality of project documentation in Australia was in decline and had been for some time.

Various points of view were aired during the course of discussions from the forum. The reduction in the quality & quantity of project documentation from the engineering fraternity was attributed mainly to the increasing pressure on design fees experienced by consultants. Historically, quality assurance procedures seem to have no impact on the problem so now it is seen primarily as a cost issue.

It seems that the way consultants are viewed by their client base has changed over the last decade from that of a pivotal and essential

player in project development to one of a service provider.

The widely held belief is that fast tracking of design development has been the undoing of the industry.

While the forum was proposed as a starting point from which to catalyse ongoing actions, it is encouraging to see that the engineering profession has recognised the issues surrounding documentation quality and its effect on overall project costs. It is important also that we as an industry player be involved in developing solutions to these problems.

AISC/QISD meeting with Bechtel

During late August, the QISD was invited by the AISC to participate in a meeting with Bechtel promoting New-technology based approaches to steel design, detailing and construction.

Brad Backer represented the QISD at this meeting, below is a summary:

There is a strong trend of late for changing roles and activities from that of the more traditional approaches. Whereas in the past, steel detailing was seen as an activity that fell under the fabrication scope, the use of 3D detailing software has now allowed our skills to incorporate areas of design.

Rupert Grayston from AISC, Western Australia presented methods and outcomes of using 3D software as well as the advantages of having detailing as part of the design phase. This concept is being actively marketed and supported by the AISC in the Western Australian region for upcoming large projects.

The basic concept involves the design and detailing teams working in conjunction with one another. This allows for greater efficiencies in regard to information flow and quicker resolve to problems encountered. It also allows detailers to actively foster better connection concepts at design stage, leading to clearer and more efficient connection details. This can also have a 'follow on' effect for fabricators, resulting in more streamline production processes.

The meeting was a success with the promotion of the importance of using local Detailing firms, many of which possess the necessary skills, ability and expertise to handle large projects that may be coming on line in the future.

AISC presentation and forum evening

On the 28th of August 2001, various engineering design firms were invited by the AISC to attend a forum and presentation evening focussing on “New-technology based approaches to steel design, detailing and construction”.

The QISD were again invited to attend represented by Clayton Roxborough, Kel Everson & Brad Backer.

The evening concluded with a period of open discussions covering various topics raised:

- *Detailing moving closer to design*
- *Processes involved with detailing in 3D*
- *Architectural projects using these concepts*

AISC/QISD meeting with ISO

In late September John Gardner (AISC) & Brad Backer (QISD) met with Alan Townson from the ISO (Industry Supply Office).

The ISO is an organization that assists in the procurement and management of projects with the focus on increasing the local content.

The essence of the meeting was to promote the technology and detailing skills available locally here in Queensland. The ISO were very happy to here about our industry and agreed that locally designed and detailed projects stand a much greater chance of being fabricated locally.

Through QISD involvement in such meetings, the institute strives not only to benefit steel detailing but the overall local fabrication industry..

What happens next ?

Now that the QISD has evolved and become a reality the next step is to tackle the issues steel detailers are facing in the industry. To do this, the institute needs to focus on two primary objectives.

Firstly, an agenda needs to be set by way of an open forum meeting where all people involved in the steel detailing industry are welcomed and encouraged to attend and participate. The more people attending this forum, the better the outcome will be for all concerned. It is time to get together and get serious about, not only addressing the industries concerns and problems, but defending our industry from the increasing encroachment of overseas drafting firms on the local market. Globalisation in the steel detailing

industry is happening now and taking drafting for Queensland projects overseas.

The second objective is that of membership. The QISD now needs to be represented by people and get the problems and issues on the table. A strong membership support base is required for the QISD to have a powerful lobbying voice. The ability and success to lobby designers, development companies, local councils and government bodies will depend on the number of members representing the institute. Your support and participation is paramount to the success of the QISD.

The QISD is your institute, it is your representative voice. If you care about what is happening in your industry and have an interest in protecting your livelihood we urge you to get involved and participate in the most exciting development in many years for the progression of steel detailers and the steel detailing industry

Upcoming events.

Over the course of the next week the QISD will be sending out membership application forms. 3 forms will be sent out that will detailing admission criteria, fee structures and the application form itself.

If you have any queries about the QISD you can call any of the committee members to discuss your particular issues or, even better, come along to the open forum meeting to be held in early November. Details of the forum will be sent out in approximately 2 weeks time. Please make every effort to attend this meeting to show your support and get involved with your institute.

Remember that the QISD has been brought about by Steel Detailers to act for and on behalf of Steel Detailers. There are many issues and problems to be addressed, some can be dealt with in the short term and others will need long term goals and strategies to overcome. With your input and support the QISD will go a long way to providing answers and solutions to the problems faced by our industry. Without it, we will be no better off tomorrow than we were yesterday, because no one else is going to tackle our industry-particular problems. Get involved and support **your** QISD.

Contact Details of QISD Committee Members

Position	Name	Company	Phone
President	Trevor Llewellyn	Tregar Engineering Services	(07) 3252 7104
Treasurer	Kel Everson	QEI	(07) 3891 6646
Secretary	Clayton Roxborough	Steelcad Drafting	(07) 3844 3955
	Darren Purnell	Nunya Drafting Services	(07)
	Bruce Cocking	G & D Drafting	(07) 3254 3510
	Dave Stansfield	Outback Drafting Services	(07) 5546 7441
	John Gardner	AISC	(07) 3853 5320
	Joe Biggs	Joe Biggs Designs	(07) 5478 9101
	Brad Backer	BDS Steel Detailers	(07) 3844 8093
	Darren Mandall	Online Drafting Services	(07) 3229 2890

Vision Statement

"To foster excellence in the steel detailing industry through communication and understanding."

Aims and Objectives

- ◆ To promote and safeguard the interests of all members.
- ◆ To develop and establish a code of ethics.
- ◆ To promote the responsibility that all disciplines have in producing correct and complete documentation.
- ◆ To establish and adopt a uniform "general conditions of contract" for steel detailers.
- ◆ To support the professional development of steel detailers.
- ◆ To improve professional recognition of steel detailers in industry.
- ◆ To work closely with the AISC.
- ◆ To enlighten the construction industry as to what is involved with the preparation of steel detail drawings, by the provision of technical talks, seminars and conferences.
- ◆ To offer advice to members on issues that may be affecting those members.
- ◆ To provide a forum by which members can freely exchange ideas and information.
- ◆ To educate and train steel detailers.
- ◆ To provide a system of accreditation for steel detailers.
- ◆ To print articles or publish newspaper reports, periodicals, books or leaflets that the QISD may deem desirable for the promotion of its objectives.
- ◆ To federate with, to affiliate with, or act in conjunction with similar associations in other states of Australia and abroad who pursue similar interests.