



\$90 million expansion underway for award-winning Common User Facility

The award winning Common User Facility (CUF) at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) continues to go from strength to strength, with the \$90 million expansion program set to lift its multi-user capabilities.

The expansion program will make the CUF an attractive venue for local contractors to use in their bid to win a greater share of future naval defence contracts, as well as further work emanating from the booming resources sector.

Key components of the \$90 million CUF upgrade – which is managed by LandCorp on behalf of the Western Australian (WA) Government – include:

- Extension to the eastern wharf to berth up to three naval vessels simultaneously (two frigates and one submarine).
- First stage of a floating dock to transfer submarines and other marine vessels to shore, capable of expansion to launch and retrieve the navy's future amphibious ships.
- Construction of a marine vessel rail transfer system.
- Dredging works.
- Upgrading the capacity of electricity to the facility.

In addition, work recently completed by LandCorp includes the installation of a 300 tonne crane at the southern services wharf and a new warehouse, which is currently leased to FMC Technologies.

Expressions of interest were called for the first stage of the floating dock in January 2006 with four companies shortlisted for the tender process. Tender documents were released on 31 May 2006 and submissions close on 31 July 2006. The contract is expected to be awarded in October 2006.

A number of other projects, including the dredging contract are progressing through the expression of interest and tender process.

The eastern wharf extension construction contract was announced on Friday 2 June 2006 by the Minister for Energy, Science and Innovation, Francis Logan, and representatives of John Holland Pty Ltd.

LandCorp Business Manager Dr John Yeates said the AMC was rapidly gaining an international reputation as the nation's leading industrial facility for marine-related industries.

"The CUF has emerged as a key factor in many companies within the AMC winning larger and more complex contracts," Dr Yeates said.

"The expansion will ensure that a larger slice of billions of dollars worth of defence, marine, petroleum and mining contracts come to Western Australia in the years ahead."

The success of the CUF was acknowledged when it won both the economic contribution and overall winner categories at the 2005 Premier's Awards.

The facility also won the Property Council of Australia (WA) 2005 Rider Hunt Award for excellence in buildings and property development.

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Artist impression. The multi-user capabilities of the Australian Marine Complex's Common User Facility will be significantly expanded as part of a \$90 million upgrade.



The Hon Francis Logan MLA
Minister for Energy, Science
and Innovation.

The Australian Marine Complex (AMC) has changed the way the world views Western Australia (WA) in terms of its capabilities in the oil, gas, marine and defence industries.

As part of the Western Australian Government's commitment to making the AMC a world leader in fabrication, manufacturing and servicing in these sectors we are always looking for ways of improving facilities and attracting new business.

As Minister for Energy, Science and Innovation and MLA member for Cockburn I plan to hold regular AMC stakeholder forums to discuss issues and developments and to promote opportunities to the business community.

These forums will also provide a good opportunity to network among your peer industry groups.

The first forum will be on **11 July from 4.30pm to 6.00pm** at the Ship and Dock Inn at the AMC.

With so much activity in the defence and shipbuilding areas it's appropriate to focus in that direction at the first forum.

John O'Hare, General Manager, Marine and Defence, AMC, from the Department of Industry and Resources will provide an overview of current and future Royal Australian Navy contracts and actions underway as part of the Western Australia The Logical Choice campaign.

I also plan to provide stakeholders with an overview of the key milestones achieved at the AMC over the past 12 months and will share the vision for the technology precinct and CUF expansion.

Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to raise any questions. I look forward to seeing you there.

**The Hon Francis Logan MLA,
Minister for Energy, Science and Innovation**

AMC to fight for Naval Shipbuilding contract

Western Australia (WA) is continuing to support bids to win a lucrative \$2 billion naval warship contract that has the potential to place the State at the top of the shipbuilding industry.

The contract, if awarded to a WA-based bid, would see two 27,000 tonne amphibious vessels integrated and consolidated at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) over the next 10 years and would create about 1500 jobs.

The Federal Government released its tender to build the two vessels in May 2006. The tender will close in September 2006 and a decision to start building is expected from Government by May 2007.

The contract has attracted widespread interest from industry in Australia and overseas.

Local industry has put a strong case forward for the warships to be built in Australia despite the Commonwealth Defence Department casting doubt on the wisdom of building such vessels locally, reportedly saying there was 'no strategic reason' for doing so.

A Senate Inquiry into naval shipbuilding is underway and the committee members have been visiting major marine and defence ports throughout Australia to determine if they have the required capability and skilled labour to build the warships.

The WA Government, local unions and businesses are fighting to have the naval warships built here.

In a detailed submission to the Senate in April 2006 WA Energy, Science and Innovation Minister Francis Logan emphasised the strategic and economic sense in building the vessels in Australia, integrating and consolidating them at the AMC.

"The AMC is a world-class marine and defence cluster," Minister Logan said.

"The State and Federal Governments have invested more than \$270 million to boost its capacity to construct, fabricate, repair and maintain such vessels and it is more than capable of taking on this large-scale project."

The AMC is already home to naval shipbuilding contractors and the Common User Facility enables businesses to lease facilities to complete projects without set-up costs.

Since opening in 2003 the complex has generated more than \$55 million for the State's economy and created about 800 full-time positions. ■

Joint Ministerial Defence Taskforce

In January this year Premier Alan Carpenter and Minister for Education Ljiljana Ravlich announced the formation of the Joint Ministerial Taskforce on Skilling Western Australia's Defence Industry.

Led by MLA Norm Marlborough the taskforce comprises representatives from the Department of Education and Training, the Department of Industry and Resources (DoIR), Challenger TAFE and the defence industry.

The taskforce is overseeing the examination of the training needs required to meet the future expansion of the defence industry in Western Australia (WA).

DoIR Defence Strategist Mike Deeks said the aim of the taskforce was to produce a comprehensive report detailing the training needs that can be implemented by government and institutions such as Challenger TAFE.

"The provision of an appropriately skilled workforce is one of the cornerstones of the Government's program to grow new industry sectors in WA," Mr Deeks said.

"The need for vocational training institutions to focus on delivering properly skilled people to industry is critical to the economic development and diversity of WA."

The taskforce will oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Skilling Western Australia's Defence Industry report (August 2005) with a budget of \$235,000 for 2006.

The taskforce will develop a comprehensive workforce development strategy in order to position the WA defence industry to deliver on the preferred maritime and military systems integration and electronics line items of the 2004 - 2014 Defence Capability Plan, as well as provide ongoing support through such commitments as:

1. Customisation and badging of education and training courses to meet the specific skill needs of the defence industry and provision of discrete education and training pathways directly into industry.
2. Establishment of a Defence Industry Centre of Specialisation, dedicated to servicing the skill needs of the defence industry in WA by acting as a training provider, developer and broker.



Austal Ships apprentices in front of one of the new Armidale class patrol boats built by Austal for the Royal Australian Navy.

3. Promotion of the defence industry as an attractive and rewarding career destination to youth in senior secondary school.
4. Exploration of the concept of a defence industry group-training scheme dedicated to assisting smaller employers to take on apprentices and trainees and to provide a mechanism for those in training to gain a wide range of defence industry experience.
5. Evaluation of strategies for encouraging increased uptake of engineering courses relevant to the State's defence industry. ■

Challenger TAFE working with industry

Earthworks are underway at the Australian Centre for Energy and Process Training (ACEPT) site at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC).

Located within the AMC, the \$20.4 million dollar facility will take shape during 2006, with buildings scheduled for completion late this year.

When completed, the centre is expected to house about 20 teaching and administrative staff from TAFE and the universities. It will cater for a maximum load of 350 students on-site and through remote web-based learning programs.

It is anticipated that the new campus will open for the 2007 academic year.

Managing Director of Challenger TAFE Robert Player said ACEPT was pivotal in adding to TAFEWA's capacity to deliver oil and gas related training.

"In addition to our existing operator training, we will be expanding into a range of well related training, in response to industry demand and the rapid growth of the oil and gas sector," Mr Player said.

"We are seeking potential suppliers for process plant equipment, as well as negotiating access to a full-scale drilling rig for training purposes."

The 25 member industry board, chaired by Keith Spence, Chief Operating Officer for Woodside Energy, will provide long-term, high-level strategic guidance to ACEPT about industry developments and technology, as well as its impacts on skills development.

"With support from our industry board, our aim is to provide a 'one-stop-shop' for the oil and gas industry's training needs," Mr Player said.

ACEPT is negotiating with organisations to ensure the centre has access to worlds best practice teaching and learning resources, with a focus on those areas that are particularly important to the local market such as liquefied natural gas training.

Another boon for the new centre has been the appointment of Woodside trainer Roger Gray to ACEPT's teaching staff.

Mr Gray has been with Woodside for 22 years and will focus his teaching activities on the development of a skills recognition framework for industry, as well as LNG health, safety and environment training.

He will play a vital role in passing on a lifetime's experience of skills and knowledge to new ACEPT trainees.

"I'm certainly looking forward to working with ACEPT and taking on a training role at the new site," Mr Gray said.

"After all, it's very enjoyable being part of a process which turns a budding trainee operator into a highly skilled professional." ■



Woodside trainer Roger Gray



Artist impression of the ACEPT facility to be located in the AMC Technology Precinct.

Common User Facility update

Since opening in 2003 the Common User Facility (CUF) has generated more than \$55 million in business and 800 new jobs from about 100 projects using the world-class wharf, lay-down and fabrication facilities.

Recent projects at the CUF include:

Pohokura jacket for New Zealand

The Ausclad Group of Companies used the large fabrication hall at the CUF to assemble a jacket structure for Shell Todd's Pohokura gas field in New Zealand. The jacket - approximately 56m long by 16m wide by 16m high - was manufactured from tubular steel sub sections. The sub sections were constructed at AGC's Kwinana workshop and transported by road to the CUF. The 150 tonne heavy lift gantry crane was crucial to the overall operation. The Pohokura - Australia's first ever export oil and gas jacket - was successfully loaded on the MV Annegret bound for New Zealand in early February 2006. ■



AGC builds mobile biodiesel plant

The AGC is also using the fabrication hall at the CUF to construct a mobile biodiesel plant for Natural Fuel Australia's \$45 million biodiesel facility in Darwin.

The 420 tonne module is scheduled to be shipped to Darwin in mid July.

The plant is expected to be operational by October 2006. At full production, it will manufacture approximately 105,000 tonnes of biodiesel a year - a fuel derived from natural vegetable oil which can be used to replace mineral diesel fuel. ■



Alinta and Nomad make use of lay down area

Alinta is making full use of the CUF's large lay-down area to store more than 38km of steel pipe to be used for part of the \$430 million Dampier to Bunbury natural gas pipeline expansion project.

Each length of pipe is about 17m in length with a 26-inch diameter, weighing about three tonnes. The total weight of pipe stored at the CUF is 6000 tonnes.

Due to the increase in orders generated by WA's resources boom, Nomad Consolidated is also using the CUF's lay-down area.

Nomad builds demountable living quarters and offices for remote mine sites and uses the CUF to assemble and store more than 100 demountables. The company builds an average 200 floors a month and delivers products to sites throughout the State including Hope Downs, Mt Keith and Ravensthorpe. ■



Hanseatic Marine constructs ocean-going vessels

Hanseatic Marine, which has a long-term agreement to lease Building 9 at the CUF, is currently constructing a series of 70 plus metre SOLAS vessels at the facility.

Part of the construction process includes testing 3D models before the first metal is cut. This ensures production efficiency and a ship's longevity of service and straight forward operational use. ■



Royal Australian Navy - upgrades and modifications to frigate fleet

Tenix moved into the CUF as part of the \$500 million ANZAC Alliance contract with Saab Systems and the Commonwealth Defence Materiel Organisation to upgrade weapons systems aboard the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) ANZAC frigate fleet.

An estimated \$150 million in work will be carried out in Western Australia as part of the contract. HMAS Arunta and HMAS ANZAC were the first of the frigates to dock at the CUF's 3,000 tonne eastern load-out wharf as part of the project.

The CUF has been home to the Delos merchant tanker since February 2005 when Tenix won a \$60 million contract to modify the ship as a 'replenishment at sea' vessel for the RAN to replace the aging HMAS Westralia. About 150 workers are involved with the project. ■





Artist Impression of the future Technology Precinct at the AMC

Central support facilities at Technology Precinct underway

The Technology Precinct at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) is an exciting maritime activity cluster in the Asia-Pacific region that will deliver value-added opportunities for international clients and investors.

The precinct is located immediately east of Australia's leading shipbuilding, defence and associated marine engineering and services support sector at the AMC.

It is available to private and education sectors for the establishment of innovative and technology-based activities.

Strategic economic infrastructure and central support facilities will consolidate the AMC as a world centre of advanced marine, defence, oil and gas activities.

The central support facility will provide meeting and social amenities for technology-based organisations within the precinct and the wider business community. Such facilities include:

- A function and conference centre
- A business and technology centre
- A tavern
- A cafe
- Retail outlets
- Recreational facilities

The precinct will also host a new training facility - the Australian Centre for Energy and Process Training (ACEPT). The centre is a joint venture between government and industry, hosted by the Department of Education and Training and Challenger TAFE on behalf of its TAFEWA partners. (See article on page 4).

ACEPT will underpin the skills, training and local content component of the State's investment strategy in the oil and gas industry.

The ACEPT building will be located adjacent to the central support facility and first enrolments are due in 2007.

With plans forging ahead, construction for the central support facility will start in September 2006 and is due for completion in January 2008.

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AMC – Land & Tennant News

Specialised Tank Cleaning Services

Specialised Tank Cleaning Services - an industrial and marine tank cleaning company - has constructed a new \$1 million facility at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC). The facility features an 1112sqm workshop, office facilities, a 12-tank wastewater holding farm, pallet storage and a 32sqm shed.

Manager Stephen Briggs said the company had recently commissioned a new Liquid Waste Treatment Facility for disposal of waste generated by their own operations and also from other local industries.

"We are ideally placed to accept waste from the new Australian Marine Complex's Common User Facility, the Kwinana industrial strip, the Rockingham industrial areas and Fremantle industrial areas and docks," Mr Briggs said.

"We have storage capacity for 800,000 litres of liquid waste and are licensed to dispose of 10,000,000 litres per annum."

Specialized Tank Cleaning Services
24 Stuart Drv Henderson WA 6166
Phone: 9437 9300 ■

Akso Nobel

Akso Nobel, a manufacturer of marine and protective coatings, is now located at the AMC.



The business has been involved with a number of major projects in recent months including:

- Hamersley Iron Dampier Port Upgrade
- Dampier Salt North Shore Extension
- Woodside LNG Train 4
- Telfer Gold Mine
- Woolworths Warehouse
- Perth Convention Centre

Tony Keegan, Akso Nobel's Business Manager for Australasia, is delighted at the move to the AMC saying: "It is an endorsement to the AMC and WA for its ability to attract vessels from not only within Australia but some of the finest commercial vessels and super yachts from around the world."

Akzo Nobel
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Beurteaux opens new facility in Support Precinct

Beurteaux, suppliers of marine seating solutions for the fast ferry industry throughout the world, opened a new factory within the support precinct at the AMC in 2004.



Rod Beurteaux and Jim Howe outside the Beurteaux facility at the Australian Marine Complex.

Managing director Rod Beurteaux said the building was the natural next step for Beurteaux, which was established in the family garage in Bicton in 1954.

"We had been located in the Australian Marine Complex for 17 years but had outgrown our facilities in Egmont Road where we were spread over eight different sites," Mr Beurteaux said.

"It was important that we stay in the Australian Marine Complex, as this is where our Western Australian customers are based and it is easily accessed by our national and international clients as well."

Beurteaux exports 80 per cent of the 15,000 seats the company produces each year, with the majority going to fast ferry builders in America, Europe and Asia. Beurteaux seats have been fitted to more than 500 vessels throughout the world.

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Growth in property values adds to local economy

The growth in property values at the AMC has not surprised the Eastcourt Property Group, which owns four sites there.

In recent months, Eastcourt has been successful in negotiating a new lease with Link Weld Engineering for its Diamantina Way property and will soon start construction of a large office and workshop facility in Stuart Drive, which has been pre-leased to Weir Services Australia.

Managing Director Michael Oosterhof said the AMC was perfectly placed to suit engineering and fabrication businesses, especially during the current WA resources boom.

"The Common User Facility extends the size of projects that can be undertaken here, making the complex even more attractive," Mr Oosterhof said.

"Eastcourt Properties has a long track record in designing, constructing and leasing high quality industrial premises and we are looking to develop further significant sites at the Australian Marine Complex for a number of companies."

The higher land prices being achieved are not isolated to the AMC.

City of Cockburn Chief Executive Stephen Cain said the success of the AMC has had an impact on all sections of the local economy.

"The economic benefits created by the Australian Marine Complex have seen a real increase in property prices in our city," Mr Cain said.

"The AMC has attracted highly skilled workers to the city who are demanding better standards of housing. We now have a more buoyant local economy, and greater employment opportunities for residents."

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New land update

New land in the Support Precinct is scheduled to be available towards the end of 2006. Lots of around 3000sqm are to be made available for marine, defence and resource related industries.

For further information about the new land release, please contact:
Rocco Demaio, Associate Director - Industrial and Leasing, NSC Corporate on (08) 9325 4477, 0411 227 703 or at rocco.demaio@nsc.com.au,

or

Matthew Lyford, Industrial and General Real Estate Agents, (08) 9478-5777, 0419 934 904 or at matthew@iandg.net

AMC Company Profile

Evolution Yachts and Superyacht Interiors – builders and outfitters of quality Yachts

Superyacht Interiors was formed in 2001 by two master tradesmen, Ken Weston and Kevin Altera, who had been in the superyacht construction business for a combined 35 years.

Ken is a master shipwright and learned his trade building mostly wooden boats and commercial craft before becoming supervisor of the fitout department at Oceanfast in WA.

Kevin had learned the skills of paint and lacquer in the automotive industry. It was only when he came to Western Australia in 1986 to see the Americas Cup that he saw the 46 metre Oceanfast vessel, Parts VI, and knew he wanted to move here.

It wasn't long before he took up a position at Oceanfast where he became supervisor for furniture paint finish and external fairing and finishing.

The two were at Oceanfast for many years where the expectation and capability of excellence grew higher. As each design conundrum was overcome, new capabilities were established and new levels attained. The standards of workmanship, both in construction and finish, were among the best in the world.

Although Superyacht Interiors was formed in 2001, it wasn't until 2003 when the late Pete King joined the pair that Evolution Yachts was formed. To better handle their expanding businesses they moved to premises at the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) in Cockburn Sound.

The first yacht they built was the 110 foot motor yacht Salacia, launched in the middle of 2006. This was followed by the 80

Common User Facility Expansion

Continued from Page 1

More than \$270 million of funding has been or is being invested in the AMC, including in excess of \$190 million from the State Government and \$80 million from the Federal Government.

Private industry has committed more than \$25 million to the latest expansion, in addition to the hundreds of millions already invested as part of the wider business operations at the AMC.

The expansion is on track for completion by early 2008.

Further information about the Australian Marine Complex can be found at www.australianmarinecomplex.com.au ■



Evolution's latest yacht "Crystal Blue" undertaking sea trials off the WA coast.

foot Sports Yacht Crystal Blue, launched in April 2006 on the Tenix Shiplift and moored in the northern harbour of the AMC for commissioning.

New projects for Superyacht Interiors include a 95 foot Dubois sailing yacht under construction at the AMC. Evolution Yachts has a 53 metre motor yacht planned for commencement within the next few months.

Evolution invited the Minister for Energy; Science and Innovation, Francis Logan, onboard Crystal Blue in May and had discussions with him about the facilities in the Shipbuilding Precinct and what is required for the white boat industry to grow.

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PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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. Each issue we try to profile different companies within the Shipbuilding, Fabrication, Technology and Support precincts as well as activities in the Common User Facility.

So if you have some news or a story to tell about what your company is up to at the AMC contact:

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