

Case Study

Comalco Alumina Refinery Gladstone, Queensland

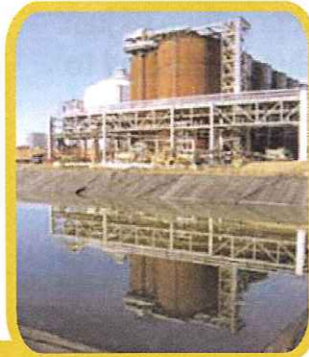
Construction of the first greenfield alumina refinery in the western world for the past 20 years posed many challenges for Comalco. Throughout the project, Comalco made concise decisions to utilise the local Australian industry and expertise, resulting in construction being completed on schedule and within budget.

The construction of the refinery has provided significant benefits, both nationally and locally, with 86% of the \$1.5 billion capital cost spent in Australia.

One of the keys to the success of this project was the input of industry at the design and development stage. At the important design stage, OneSteel Market Mills collaborated closely with Bechtel design engineers to develop a series of efficient connection designs for the project. Together they worked to optimise the steel design to Australian standards.

Utilising the local supply chain also meant that the project remained on schedule. Time efficient methods including offsite fabrication were incorporated and as the project progressed, a total of 14 steel fabricators were involved to ensure the 20,000 tonnes of structural steel and plate met the critical project targets.

The commitment and involvement of the local industry also aided in Comalco achieving impressive safety standards during the construction phase. BlueScope Steel took a leading role in supporting high safety standards by running presentations detailing the chain of responsibility legislation on road transport. This shared learning, in partnership with Comalco and Bechtel strategies, contributed to improved practices and a safer workplace. The safety record for this project set a new benchmark for a project of this size.



Responsive Reliable Capable



Benefits of utilising local industry

Responsive

- Australian steel industry can respond to late project design changes
- Australian steel industry can respond to changes in delivery schedule

Reliable

- Australian steel industry produces content to comply with AS4100
- Australian steel industry has a proven history in meeting and excelling safety standards

Capable

- Australian steel industry workforce operates within a nationally recognised training framework
- Australian steel industry has a proven history in supplying large engineering projects, (projects in excess of \$1 Billion) with substantial quantities of structural steel on schedule and to budget

Australian Steel Construction Industry

Capabilities Snapshot

The Australian Steel Construction Industry has a successful track record of being able to form into integrated networks or consortiums to be able to deliver successfully and competitively, on large infrastructure projects.

The local Australian industry is currently capacity capable and utilising this capacity provides numerous benefits to Project Managers including:

- ➔ competitive "whole of life" project outcomes
- ➔ overall project reliability, saving time and improving safety
- ➔ assurance of quality of workmanship



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