

CONTRACTOR Construction

Business

Growth in road construction costs will ease once the general construction sector weakens from 2009/10 onwards. Page 12



Earthmoving Equipment & Attachments

Small hammers make an impact; ECH acquires Hughes; Free offers plant hire. Page 13



HRIA Magazine

The official quarterly of the Hire and Rental Industry Association. Centre-spread liftout

AUSTRALIA'S PREMIER CONSTRUCTION MAGAZINE BY MARKET SHARE

Crane sits atop Centre

A POTAIN MD 2200, believed to be the largest tower crane ever erected in Australia, is helping construct the new Melbourne Convention Centre. The MD 2200 is the largest of six cranes on the project, all working for main contractor Multiplex. The crane is owned by Daniel Smith Industries and leased and managed through tower crane rental company Verticon Group.

Daniel Smith, owner of Daniel Smith Industries and general manager of Verticon New Zealand, says the record-breaking crane is impressing on the jobsite. "We believe this is the largest hammerhead crane ever put up in Australia," he says. Crane selection for this project centered on more than just lifting capacity.

"This crane was chosen first for the obvious advantage it has in lifting large structural elements – but there were also programming and layout advantages," he explains. "By using the MD 2200, Multiplex was able to open up the site and make more efficient use of the space. Since it has been on the job it has been working non-stop. It's going six days a week, 10 hours a day."

The crane is working at 75m height with an 80m jib. It is lifting large steel trusses and precast concrete elements with the largest loads ranging from 55t to 64t, utilising the full lifting capabilities of the crane. The MD 2200 can operate at free-standing heights of up to 85m and can lift 23t at its maximum jib length of 80m.

The Melbourne Convention Centre will cover 66,000m² and will include a convention



The largest tower crane ever erected in Australia is helping construct the new Melbourne Convention Centre.

center and 12 storey hotel. It will be integrated into the existing Melbourne Exhibition Centre. Construction should complete at the end of 2008, with the first function taking place at the start of 2009. The crane will remain on site until March 2008 and will dismantle a number of the other smaller tower cranes on site when construction completes.

Adelaide firm raises bar

A SOUTH Australian company is leading the way the state's construction industry is recycling building waste materials. Candetti Constructions has been applauded for the exceptional amount of waste building material it has recycled during the construction of the \$6 million Maritime Skills Centre (MSC), being established by the SA Government at Techport Australia in Osborne.

Candetti recently completed another month of "high scores", saving about 95 per cent of material normally earmarked for landfill – a rate it has maintained throughout the entire seven month construction phase. The Green Star ESD building rating system sets a target recycling rate between 60 and 80 per cent. Key best practice environmental initiatives achieved by Candetti at the MSC site include:

- extensive waste recovery and recycling of construction materials, including reusing concrete as road base/rubble;
- innovative sediment controls to eliminate soil drag



John McCulloch (L) and Greg Lomax of Candetti Constructions. The company has achieved recycling rates virtually unheard of in the building and construction industry.

out to adjacent roads, and; extensive waste separation onsite including concrete, steel, and glass, as well as bottles, cans, and plastic bags to prevent them being blown into the nearby Port River.

Construction of the MSC has been part of the Clean Site program – a KESAB (Keep South Australia Beautiful) initiative aimed at driving local building industry commitment to best environmental practices. The MSC project is being promoted as a model construction site.

The HRIA Convention 2008

May 4 – 7

Hire Fever – It's Contagious



HRIA Magazine

The official hire and rental industry association magazine. Published every February, May, August.