



Congratulations all round for this recycling feat

Adelaide-based Candetti Constructions marked 2007 with a significant achievement at the \$6m Maritime Skills Centre in Osborne (SA). To date, Candetti has saved 95% of construction waste material normally earmarked for landfill.

THE RATE has been maintained each month throughout the 10-month construction phase so far. The green-star ecologically sustainable development (ESD) rating system sets a target of between 60% and 80%.

The skills centre, due for completion in early 2008, is the first building under construction at Techport Australia, a naval/civil shipbuilding industry hub being developed 15km north of the Adelaide CBD (Earthmover, October 2007).

Representatives of site owner Defence SA, KESAB, Zero Waste SA and the Environmental Protection Authority met Candetti Constructions' gm Greg Lomax and site manager John McCulloch at the site on December 4 to offer congratulations.

The privately owned commercial construction company was formed in 1958 and employs about 65 people. Head office is in Keswick south of the Adelaide CBD and there are branches in Victoria and Queensland.

Construction of the skills centre is part of a KESAB Clean Site program aimed at driving local industry commitment to best environmental practices. "The recycling rates achieved by Candetti are virtually unheard of in the building and construction industry," says program coordinator Dick Olesinski.

what can be achieved on building sites with commonsense environmental practices." Lomax says another three Candetti projects are using the same environmental initiatives "and we'll expand it to others".

The first initiative was to provide waste bins, clearly marked for particular materials. There were five each of 6m³ capacity for concrete & masonry, metal, plastics, timber & cardboard, and putrescibles respectively. Processing was done through several recycling agents.

"Things like timber and cardboard are actually used to fire the kilns at Adelaide Brighton Cement. A scrap metal dealer recycles the metal, and the concrete and masonry goes to a hard-waste recycler where it is crushed and graded and reused in concrete and road base materials."

Explaining other initiatives Lomax says: "Stormwater retention is done on site in special pits. Captured water is then used for dust suppression. We provide a hardstand area that is predominantly heavy gravel so trucks are not sinking into natural soil or clay and dragging that on to the road.

"There is only one entry/exit point and the hardstand runs right out to the footpath. The internal roadways are to control traffic. They are lined with rubble that is sometimes

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"They have raised the bar in terms of



Candetti Constructions' John McCulloch (left) and Greg Lomax with an on-site waste-recycling bin.

(above) Artist's impression of the Maritime Skills Centre. Image courtesy Defence SA.



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recycled material whether brick or concrete such that it is dust-free and minimises adhesion to truck tyres."

KESAB conducted several onsite toolbox meetings with tradespeople and these education programs were "very well received. Dick Olesinski was absolutely

delighted. I think he was expecting to find some sort of disinterest, but (it was) quite the opposite."

Lomax adds: "We are doing this because it is the right thing to do and it is building

a green culture within our organisation. There are a lot of young people in our business who have grown up thinking this way, which is quite wonderful. We have

set ourselves a target of 95% of materials to be recycled by weight. We are achieving 95% and greater." □

[Lomax has since resigned as gm.]

ASC p/l, holder of the air warfare destroyer build contract and Collins Class submarine fleet through-life support contract, will use the skills centre and run the training courses specifically for its employees and contractors. For more information tel. (08) 8463 7140.