

STEEL FUTURES



Latest Industry & SCNZ News

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[THE YEAR AHEAD: CONTINUED GROWTH AND 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS](#)

After yet another busy year for SCNZ and our industry, filled with great strides forward, challenges and achievements, I'm sure we are all looking forward to the festive break. But before we all down tools and head off to recharge our batteries, it's well worth reminding ourselves of the highlights of 2015 and setting the scene for the year ahead.



2015 in review

Demand for structural steel has continued to grow, with the construction industry experiencing the biggest building boom in 40 years, meaning a strong year for all our members as we successfully respond to the burgeoning demand.

One of the highlights of our year was the SCNZ stream within Metals Week 2015. The well-received Steel Agenda offered valuable industry insights, whilst the second Steel Innovations conference welcomed over 150 structural engineers, steel industry representatives, academics and students. Presented in front of over 400 industry professionals, the biennial Excellence in Steel Awards celebrated the achievement of excellence in our sector, with seven outstanding projects recognised for their best practice, outstanding teamwork, application of sustainability principles, innovation and great safety management.

Looking ahead to 2016



2016 looks set to be an exciting year for SCNZ with the organisation celebrating its 10th year as an incorporated society. Structural steel construction in New Zealand has undergone a renaissance in the past three decades following the fallout from the industrial action that plagued the construction of the BNZ building in Wellington. These days structural steel enjoys over 50% market share in multi-level construction in New Zealand; 80% in Christchurch. Along with HERA, SCNZ and its predecessors (the Steel Structures Analysis Service and Steel Construction Industry New Zealand) have played a significant role in this renaissance with a strong focus on market development activities such as the preliminary design service.

Celebrating SCNZ's journey

This journey, which began in 1994 with the advent of the Steel Structures Analysis Service, will be celebrated in a short history prepared to mark the event that will capture the milestones and the personalities that have shaped the organisation.

Celebrating our 10th anniversary in Queenstown

Members will have already received a programme and registration form for our forthcoming Queenstown Members' Forum & Social. This event, which will be held on 1st April 2016, presents a great opportunity to combine valuable business experience with a fun and exciting weekend away. Many thanks to our sponsors Dimond, OneSteel and Steltech for their generous support.

Confirmed speakers include (more announcements to come):

- **Sir John Anderson (founder of Contiki)**
A revered and humorous speaker with a remarkable story. As a successful business owner John has faced many challenges and will inspire you to move forwards and succeed
- **David Moore (Grayson Engineering) & Stuart Oliver (Holmes Consulting)**
Case Study: an insight into Christchurch anchor project, The Justice & Emergency Services Precinct
- **Worksafe NZ**
Practical guidance to help you understand and meet your new obligations under the H&S Reform Bill
- **Dean Pouwhare (D&H Steel Construction)**
Update on Rigger Qualifications.

As well as a great programme and opportunities to network and enjoy dinner with your industry peers, the event will give you the opportunity to enjoy the unforgettable Queenstown jet boating experience. The KJet skims just above the deep crystal blue waters of Lake Wakatipu, followed by the Kawarau River then Shotover River, interjected with the fun 360 degree spins that the boats are specifically designed for.



To help further strengthen your business connections, we are also opening up the event to your key industry clients – please feel free to extend the invite and bring along clients as your guests.

Interest in this event has already been high but you can guarantee yourself a place and potentially save money on flights and accommodation by booking early. The electronic registration form is now available on our [website](#) and we also have a great Early Bird Draw. So if you are interested, don't delay!

Please note the SCNZ office will close Wednesday December 23rd and will reopen on Monday January 11th.

Thanks for your support in 2015; we look forward to being of service in the next busy year. Until then, on behalf of the entire SCNZ team, I wish you all a very safe and happy festive season.



Alistair Fussell
SCNZ Manager

CHRISTMAS 2015 ALREADY...! WE'RE CELEBRATING WITH A NEW LOOK

Welcome to our brand new email newsletter. You'll have noticed that we've been busy redesigning the "look and feel" of our newsletter to bring you consistently great content in a format that is more accessible and easy to read, moving away from the previous pdf format.

We see this new SCNZ bimonthly e-newsletter as a vehicle to share our high quality news and updates more succinctly; and chose a design that will help you to scan it quickly and select items that are interesting and relevant to you. More in-depth analysis and information can then be accessed thanks to the available links.

This is the first part of a series of changes to help us communicate more effectively. The coming year will bring more published case studies and entry into the social media sphere to connect with a broader audience. Last but certainly not least we will be completing an ambitious revamp of our website including a complete refresh of all the design and content.

We are confident that this approach will be more user-friendly both for our members and our wider network. Communicating our fantastic work effectively is very important to striving towards our goals of growing the demand for structural steel in New Zealand, meeting the challenge of imported steel and developing world-class fabricators.

Your comments, suggestions and ideas are welcomed: please email [Rebecca Symonds](#).

Don't miss out! To make sure you receive our e-newsletters and can see all our content, please add

“A strong voice to advance the interests of New Zealand’s structural steel industry.”

AIRPORT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS RISK OF CHOOSING IMPORTED STEELWORK

Leading the news in Fiji recently has been progress on the FJ\$105 million works at Nadi International Airport. The airport, which handles 30 international flights daily, is being upgraded to create state-of-the-art facilities, services and shopping for passengers.

Notably, the project highlights the risk and uncertainty procurers face when structural steelwork is sourced from overseas, particularly from low-cost economies.

Work on the airport upgrade began in July 2014 and was originally scheduled to be completed in October this year, but the project suffered a significant setback. Head contractor Hawkins Infrastructure awarded the steel fabrication contract to a supplier in China – unfortunately, the steel failed to be delivered. As a result, Hawkins was forced to go to a second, more reputable supplier. The upshot was that steel procurement and delivery to the site was delayed by a staggering 182 days. More, this serious glitch in the steel’s procurement has held the baseline programme back at least eight months.

SCNZ is developing a case study on the project – watch out for it on our [website](#).

Take outs

- Prefabricated steel ordered from supplier in China failed to arrive
- Head contractor forced to go to another, more reputable steel supplier
- Structural steel procurement and delivery to site was delayed 182 days
- The use of imported prefabricated structural steel led to substantial programme delays, ergo, cost overrun.



CASE STUDY: STEEL ON DISPLAY

SCNZ has published a new case study illustrating the integral role that structural steel is playing at the heart of the Christchurch rebuild; creating a distinctive landscape which will stand the test of time.

The PwC Centre in central Christchurch, situated between the city and the Christchurch Botanical Gardens, inhabits a pivotal 'gateway'. The building is defined by the banks of the Avon River and its relationship with the Bridge of Remembrance. Its distinctive printed façade creates a striking landmark for Christchurch, both day and night.

The building is an importance level 3 building, which means it has been designed to 130 percent of the building code to create a safe working environment for tenants and visitors. The \$30 million, five-storey office building is primarily a steel structure with a composite flooring system. The resilient, lightweight and economic building offers enhanced seismic performance with the use of buckling restrained brace (BRB) technology.

The project was highly collaborative – structural engineer Beca, architect Warren and Mahoney, builder Armitage Williams and structural steel fabricator Pegasus Engineering worked in close consultation with one another to create the signature building on the corner of Cashel Street and Cambridge Terrace.

Read the full case study [here](#).



[NEW SCNZ COUNCILLOR ELECTED](#)

A warm welcome to Nigel Bradley (Steel Producer) who was elected to replace Paul Thomsen mid-term on the 2015-16 SCNZ Executive Council at the September Council meeting.

Nigel has been with NZ Steel since 1992 and was made National Sales Manager for Distribution and Manufacturing in June 2015. Prior to that he was Key Account Manager with responsibility for several of the major distributors in New Zealand. He has also held various production roles within the company.

More information about our other Councillors is available [here](#).



[HELP US IMPROVE STEEL CONNECT](#)

SCNZ is looking for constructive feedback to help us improve Steel Connect and ensure it reflects current technical requirements, material availability and fabrication practice (including whether other types of connections should be included).

Widely used within the entire New Zealand structural steelwork industry, Steel Connect provides structural engineers with a rapid and cost-effective way to specify the majority of structural steelwork connections, in accordance with accepted fabrication industry norms. Specification of these also facilitates the development of reliable cost estimates by designers, fabricators, consulting quality surveyors and constructors.

Steel Connect is published in two parts. Part 1 includes detailed design procedures for the connections. Part 2 includes tables of pre-engineered connections developed using the procedures described in Part 1. An online version of the pre-engineered connections is also available on our [website](#).

If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please email [Kevin Cowie](#), Senior Structural Engineer (Technical) or phone: 09 262 6685.

STEEL CONNECT



INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT SUPPORTS PREDICTIONS OF INDUSTRY GROWTH

Many thanks to all our members who supported our recent request for employment data.

Every piece of information is important as it is imperative that we are able to provide a sense of the scale and economic significance of the structural steel sector when lobbying government. The data also enables us to identify skill shortages and develop strategies to address areas for recruitment, as well as promote industry by encouraging school children and their influencers to see our industry as a major employer with a variety of career opportunities.



Information we have collated from industry clearly demonstrates that currently the majority of the workforce is employed in steel making (approx. 1000), steel distribution (approx. 1600) and various roles within the structural steel fabrication sub-sector (approx. 2035).

Further analysis of just the structural steel fabrication sub-sector data reveals:

- The majority (70–75%) of that workforce are employed in fabrication and erection
- Most current (83%) openings are also in welding/fabrication and erection
- The numbers of workers in other areas are far smaller. Steel detailers form the next largest portion of our industry, with the role accounting for just 5% of the current workforce
- Women form approximately 5% of the overall workforce and only 1% of those women hold technical roles (e.g. fabricator, erector, estimator, project manager, etc)

The data clearly demonstrates that we need to provide more encouragement for women to pursue, establish and sustain successful careers in our industry. As part of our SteelCon Careers initiative, we will be

investigating how SCNZ can help to support women entering and working in our industry.

Our figures support the overall trend of growth in the industry, with vacancy levels indicating that there is scope for our industry to increase in size by 5% (based on current vacancies) and a further 5% (based on future vacancies) during 2016.

A full breakdown of the data will be made available on our [website](#).

UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF STEEL

SCNZ is making good progress on this important initiative, which aims to ensure that all parties can price steelwork reliably in the face of increased demand and competition.

Assessment of data collated from our member fabricators gave us valuable insight into industry averages and where the market currently lies. Based on this information Chris Burns, Senior Structural Engineer (Industry), developed a strategy to best support both professional quantity surveyors and our own industry members in estimating structural steelwork.

As part of that strategy, estimating tools are now being stress tested in the open market prior to further assessment of their usefulness and relevance for both fabricators and quantity surveyors.

An independent report which details how fabricators calculate their chargeout rates is currently being assessed by the project working group. Expect further updates and announcements at the Members' Forum in Queenstown on 1st April 2016.

If you are interested in making sure your pricing is accurate and efficient, please email [Chris Burns](#) or phone: 09 262 6684, to find out more.

SCNZ RECOGNISES ACHIEVEMENTS OF STEEL DESIGN STUDENT

SCNZ was delighted to recognize the achievements of a budding structural steel designer at the University of Auckland, Civil and Environmental Engineering School end of year prize giving ceremony in November.

The \$1000 prize for the top steel design student in the final year Civil Engineering Design class was awarded to Oliver Lumb, who was described by his lecturer, Colin Nicholas, as "an exceptional student".

Congratulations to Oliver, we wish him all the best in his future career.



INVITATION TO ATTEND JANUARY SFC MEETING

All SCNZ members are very welcome to attend the Steel Fabricator Certification Scheme (SFC) working group meeting on Tuesday 26th January 2016. This will be followed by the second meeting of the HERA Certification Ltd Board of Directors, which everyone is welcome to stay on for.



Any fabrication company interested in finding out more about the SFC scheme is encouraged to attend.

The programme for the day is as follows:

8:30 - 09.00	Arrive / Tea & Coffee
9:00 - 10.00	SFC Group meeting - work in progress update
10:00 – 10.30	HERA Certification Ltd Board of Directors Meeting (non-board members are welcome to stay)
10:30 – 10.45	Morning tea
10:45 – 13.00	HERA Certification Board Meeting (continued)
13:00 – 13.30	Meeting wrap-up and lunch

The venue for the SFC working group meeting is HERA House, 17-19 Gladding Place, Manukau, Auckland.

Please confirm attendance at the meeting to [Chris Burns](#), Senior Structural Engineer (Industry), or phone: 09 262 6684.

STARTING A SUCCESSFUL CAREERS JOURNEY

SCNZ is a key sponsor of The Careers Coach, a state-of-the-art bus boasting 26 touch screen units packed

with careers information, which showcase the wide range of options and career pathways available to school leavers.

The Coach was a major attraction at the Big Boys Toys events in Auckland and Palmerston North in October/November. It was also on display at the recent CATE (Careers and Transition Education Association) Conference in Palmerston North, where tertiary providers, careers teachers and transitional educators were in attendance.

Schools across New Zealand are continuing to book visits from the Coach in 2016; and a number of community organisations who see the Coach as important to the wider public are now on board as financial and promotional contributors. The Coach is set to start a six week roadshow on 30 January in Kaikohe, after which it will travel around visiting Northland schools and festivals. The complete programme is available to view [here](#).



In mid-November, Dawn Headley, who is leading our SteelCon Careers initiative, attended the three day CATE Conference to network with key influencers; and to investigate how careers advisors operate and how young people make important decisions about their education and career options. The findings, along with information gleaned from the recent Staffing Questionnaire will be fed into SCNZ's overall careers strategy and used to prioritise key areas to focus our efforts in 2016.

If you would like more information about The Careers Coach and how you can get involved (arrange a visit, make a presentation to people visiting the Coach, be part of promotional materials, etc), please email [Dawn Headley](#) or phone: 027 435 8922.

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