



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE

2021-2022

A YEAR IN REVIEW

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19,901

CONTACTS IN THE
BROADER ASI COMMUNITY

5,644

CONTACTS IN THE ASI'S
MEMBERSHIP BASE

522

CORPORATE
ASI MEMBERS

671

ATTENDEES AT
ASI EVENTS & SEMINARS

112

COMPANIES CERTIFIED
TO AS/NZS 5131
& NSSCS

70

ASI ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER
MEMBER COMPANIES

2021-2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

THE AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE (ASI) IS AUSTRALIA'S PEAK STEEL INDUSTRY BODY. OUR GOAL IS TO REPRESENT THE ENTIRE SUPPLY CHAIN, FROM THE MANUFACTURING MILLS RIGHT THROUGH TO END USERS IN BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION, HEAVY ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING. WE ARE DEDICATED TO EQUIPPING THE STEEL INDUSTRY WITH THE TOOLS NEEDED TO MAXIMISE THE OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED BY THE CHANGING GLOBAL MARKETS. OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS, WE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES FOR AUSTRALIAN STEEL.

During 2021-2022, ASI continued to make progress in growing steel intensity and creating opportunities for local participation. We continued our advocacy work across both the state and federal government jurisdictions, on issues such as banning the export of unprocessed scrap steel, skills shortages, renewable energy, structural steelwork compliance and local content.

We continued our work to promote AS/NZS 5131 *Structural Steelwork – Fabrication and erection* and the National Structural Steelwork Compliance Scheme (NSSCS) as the quality benchmark for steelwork. As a result, certification by Steelwork Compliance Australia (SCA) of fabricators to the Standard has increased by 35% to 112 fabricators. Importantly, AS/NZS 5131 is set to become law under the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022 revision.

The Environmental Sustainability Charter (ESC) remained a focus, with 70 companies now certified. ASI continued to advance steel's position in the sustainability space, undertaking an in-depth revision of the ESC. The ESC will be transitioned to Steel Sustainability Australia (SSA) in 2022. The SSA program will meet the current and future expectations of environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects of sustainability and support our members with an accreditation program.

ASI increased offerings for vocational training, improving skilled labour availability and promoting career prospects within the supply chain. We helped devise and pilot a Certificate II in Engineering - Roll-Forming, as well as the new Shed Builder Training Course.

All this was achieved in conjunction with a variety of other projects, from a range of webcast seminars, the launch of a brand new website and new courses on our eLearning platform, publication of two important documents (*Global Steel Market Dynamics – Part 1 and Part 2*), and more.



ADVOCACY ACHIEVEMENTS

THE ASI IS THE STEEL INDUSTRY'S VOICE, CHAMPIONING ITS MANY ATTRIBUTES AND ASSISTING IN DRIVING THE PROSPERITY OF THE INDUSTRY. AS THE PEAK BODY FOR THE BUSINESSES ENGAGED IN STEEL MANUFACTURE, FABRICATION, DISTRIBUTION AND ERECTION, THE ASI ADVOCATES FOR BETTER AND FAIRER CONDITIONS ACROSS THE STEEL SECTOR AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL.

COVID-19

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, ASI disseminated information to key stakeholders, including federal and state governments on behalf of the Australian steel industry, focused on ensuring the steel supply chain was secure.

The ASI briefed various Government bodies and Ministers. We also met with Federal Commissions, including several members of the National COVID-19 Coordination Commission, as well as Michael Brennan (Chair, Productivity Commission).

GROWING STEEL INTENSITY

During 2021-2022, ASI continued its work promoting the use of steel and growing steel intensity throughout Australia. With many major projects going to steel, this work is adding thousands of tonnes of steel to the order books of the local supply chain and changing building habits permanently in favour of steel.

NATIONAL ADVOCACY

Senate Economics References Committee Inquiry into Australian Manufacturing

ASI lodged a submission to the Senate Economics References Committee Inquiry into the Australian Manufacturing Industry to advocate strongly for a local steel industry. Contrary to many other submissions, the ASI specifically recommended to the Inquiry 'that every effort needs to be made to ensure that all of the remaining manufacturing capabilities of the Australian steel supply chain capability and capacity are retained'.

Unprocessed Scrap Steel

ASI is leading a federal government advocacy project on banning the export of unprocessed scrap steel. With the Australian steel industry currently importing scrap to meet demand, this project will assist with the security of scrap supply and, therefore, steel products. It will also help to reduce emissions.

National Skills Commission

ASI provided a response on behalf of the steel industry to the National Skills Commission six-monthly survey on skills shortages.

Energy Industrial Hubs

The ASI met with the federal government's Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. The barriers and opportunities to support the development of new energy industrial hubs in regional Australia were discussed.

Structural Steelwork Compliance

ASI undertook a national advocacy campaign to help engineers and certifiers correctly assess the compliance of structural steelwork. This campaign included: facilitating several webinars, including one for Engineers Australia members; publication of ASI Technical Note 15 *Ascertaining the Compliance of Structural Steel* and an associated brochure that was distributed to approximately 500 building certifiers; and the publication of several articles in industry magazines.

STATE-BASED ADVOCACY

NEW SOUTH WALES

- Significant involvement in the creation and development of the New South Wales (NSW) Renewable Energy Plan, focused on local industry participation.
- Lodged submissions to Transport for NSW – Sydney Metro regarding local industry capacity, capability, and sustainability credentials.
- Responded to multiple inquiries from Infrastructure NSW, NSW Treasury, and Investment NSW in regard to steel demand, availability, and market outlook.
- Lodged a submission to the NSW Energy Efficiency Regulations Consultation on Sustainability in Residential Buildings.
- Lodge a submission to the NSW Government on their R&D Roadmap, recommending areas of focus to support the steel industry.
- Acted as a member of the NSW Centre for WHS Industry Advisory Group, and the SafeWork NSW Manufacturing Safety Group.
- Engaged with the NSW Institute of Applied Technology for Construction to provide ASI member feedback and input.
- Engaged with the TAFE NSW Specialist Advanced Training Centre to facilitate ASI member feedback and input.
- Facilitated an expression of interest on behalf of a consortium of ASI Hunter region based members to the NSW Government Clean Manufacturing Precinct initiative. This was subsequently accepted and the consortium invited to submit a tender.

QUEENSLAND

- Worked with the Department of Energy and Public Works to examine the need for an appropriate certification scheme for fabricators.
- Met with the Department of Energy and Public Works, Department of Transport and Main Roads, and the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water to discuss future steel industry participation in Queensland renewable energy projects.
- At the request of the Department of Energy

and Public Works, ASI met with PWC who are developing policy recommendations for the Queensland Energy Plan.

- Fostered collaboration with various industry associations including the National Association of Steel Framed Housing, Australian Construction Modellers Association, Engineers Australia, Master Builders, Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Queensland, Australian Institute of Building Surveyors, and the Australian Industry Group.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- Worked closely with the Office of Industry Advocate on major project communication needs to enhance opportunities for the steel industry, including a renewable energy project.

VICTORIA

- Undertook advocacy work to strengthen the Local Jobs First Policy and Act, including targets for steel in major government projects.
- Worked with the Industry Capability Network on improved measurement systems for local content outcomes.
- Worked closely with the Local Jobs First Commissioner to ensure our steel supply members are delivering major projects.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- Worked closely with the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Innovation and Science, including the Iron Ore Wagons Taskforce; Local Industry Participation in Wind Farm Supply Action; and the Jobs Taskforce.
- Fostered ASI's relationship with key industry organisations including the AMWU, Engineers Australia, Materials Australia, Curtin University and TAFE WA.
- Consulted with the Department of Mines Industry Regulation and Safety on harmonised workplace safety laws and the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022.
- Met with Senator Louise Pratt, Shadow Assistant Minister for Manufacturing and Employment Services.



INDUSTRY FOCUS AREAS



SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental Sustainability Charter

The Environmental Sustainability Charter (ESC) remained a key focus, with 70 companies now members. More and more, new building proponents, developers and state governments are specifying environmental certification as a key criteria in project tenders.

The ESC is undergoing an in-depth revision and will be transitioned to the revised certification program Steel Sustainability Australia (SSA) in 2022. The SSA program will meet the current and future expectations of environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects of sustainability across the broader steel supply chain and support our members with an accreditation program.

ASI worked to advance steel's position in the sustainability space, holding industry sustainability webinars for members, appointing a Sustainability Manager, and presenting to major industry bodies such as the Green Building Council Australia Transform Conference, World Steel and Engineers Australia.

INNOVATION

Steel Research Hub

ASI continued to support the Steel Research Hub. The Hub is focused on transitioning Australia's steel manufacturing industry to a more sustainable, competitive and resilient position based on the creation of new, higher value-added products and more advanced manufacturing processes. David Varcoe (NSW and ACT State Manager, ASI) was appointed as the Chair of the Steel Research Hub's Advisory Committee.

Steel Innovation Portal

ASI facilitated connections between industry and Australian research institutions through the Steel Innovation Portal (<https://innovate.steel.org.au>). As the collection point for a significant body of world-class steel-related research, the Portal is promoting innovation, collaboration and communication. Over 25 universities are registered.

QUALITY AND SAFETY

Steelwork Compliance Australia

Steelwork Compliance Australia (SCA) certified fabricators now total 112 and is now further expanding its services due to another 50 companies undergoing auditing to AS/NZS 5131. This increased uptake demonstrates the growing demand for certification, particularly with governments taking a greater focus on compliant outcomes and the benefits of local content engagement.

SCA is on the final leg of the journey for JAS-ANZ accreditation, which will satisfy several state government requirements, thereby opening further opportunities for consistent, aligned specifications.

National Construction Code

ASI championed the revision of AS 4100 and AS/NZS 5131 *Structural steelwork – Fabrication and erection*. As a result, AS/NZS 5131 is set to become law, with the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022 revision due out this year. The ASI made multiple submissions to the Australian Building Codes Board's various NCC working groups. Areas of review and comment included management of condensation, energy efficiency, and weather proofing. It is expected that the revised 2022 version of the NCC will be published mid-year.

ShedSafe®

The ASI continued to support and promote ShedSafe® members at all levels of government as superior quality, reliable and safe suppliers across all markets.

COLLABORATION

World Steel Association Participation

An active member of worldsteel (one of the largest and most dynamic industry associations in the world), the ASI attended this year's Special General Meeting that covered topics such as safety, sustainability and economics. ASI regularly participates in worldsteel activities and provides input as required.



INDUSTRY FOCUS AREAS

ASI ADDS VALUE BY ACTING AS A BIPARTISAN FORUM FOR LIKE-MINDED INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES TO COME TOGETHER TO ADDRESS INDUSTRY ISSUES AND CONCERNS. OUR COMMITTEES AND TECHNICAL GROUPS ARE A KEY MECHANISM THROUGH WHICH THIS COLLABORATION IS ACHIEVED.

STEEL PRODUCT MANUFACTURERS FORUM

In response to requests from members, the Steel Product Manufacturer Forum commenced in mid 2020 with approximately a dozen businesses participating.

NATIONAL ROLL FORMER COMMITTEE

This technical sub-committee met many times during year, with a focus on improving the overall industry regulation landscape. The group submitted a proposal to Australian Standards to improve the workability and design guidance for valley gutters and roof drainage. Extensive effort went

into providing submissions and reviewing draft provisions associated with the NCC 2022 process, particularly weather proofing, condensation and management of moisture, and energy efficiency.

FABRICATION GROUPS

The ASI brought together South Australian, Queensland, New South Wales, Victorian and West Australian Fabricators for group meetings to discuss major industry issues and opportunities, and visit various business operations. As a result of working closely with the members of the South Australia Group, ASI participated at its first steel industry careers expo in Adelaide.

CONSTRUCTION AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

In Victoria and Queensland, the Construction and Technical Committees continued with regular meetings to enhance supply chain communications on technical developments.

EDUCATION & EVENTS

WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONTINUING TO HINDER OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACE-TO-FACE EVENTS, THE ASI TURNED ITS ATTENTION TO ONLINE PLATFORMS TO DELIVER A SERIES OF SUCCESSFUL MEMBER EVENTS. SEVERAL INDUSTRY-LED TRAINING INITIATIVES WERE ALSO DEVELOPED TO IMPROVE SKILLED LABOUR AND PROMOTE STEEL INDUSTRY CAREER PROSPECTS.

eLEARNING PLATFORM

ASI's eLearning platform brings together—in one easy-to-access repository—highly relevant, superior quality learning material for all steel industry stakeholders. Over 500 course seats have been sold to date. This uptake has been bolstered by subscription models with both a major Australian university (which is using the eLearning portal to support their masters coursework), and a large international consulting engineering firm. With over 40 courses already on offer, we are continually expanding our offering. For further information, visit: <https://learn.steel.org.au>.

WEBCAST SEMINARS

The ASI facilitated several webcast seminars throughout the year, including:

- Design of Hybrid Sheds from Hot Rolled and Cold-Formed Steel Sections
- Design and Installation of Insulated Sandwich Panels
- Optimising the Design of Structural Steel

Hollow Sections and Reducing the Risk of Failure

- Use of AS 4324.1 - *Mobile equipment for continuous handling of bulk materials – general requirements for the design of steel structures*
- Performance Solutions and the National Construction Code
- Structural Bolting eCourse
- Updated Australian Wind Codes and their Impact on Steel Structures

INDUSTRY-LED TRAINING INITIATIVES

In response to feedback from members, the ASI developed and facilitated a number of industry-led training and certification programs. These training initiatives are designed to much-needed skills and expertise in steel manufacturing, assembly and installation.

Cert II in Engineering - Roll Forming

The newly developed Certificate II in Engineering - Roll-Forming (MEM 20105) was developed, and the first pilot classes were delivered in Victoria and New South Wales. Pilots have also commenced in South Australia and Queensland.

Shed Builder Training Course

Developed by ShedSafe® in conjunction with the ASI, a shed builder training course was released in New South Wales in December 2021. On completion of the course, shed builders gain accredited skills and a recognised qualification. The program will soon be rolled out nationally.



ASI participated in the ACE (Aboriginal Career Exploration) Careers Expo this year. ACE is a partnership between The Workabout Centre and SAASTA, targeted at year 10 students from across the state.

OTHER PROJECTS

SUPPORT OUR INDUSTRY CAMPAIGN

As part of the 'Support our Australian Steel Industry Campaign', the ASI launched two new videos:

- Steel Usage in Australia:
<https://youtu.be/sQ6DPQPNg6Y>
- Jobs in the Steel Industry:
<https://youtu.be/3MXBI2vymZQ>

The intention for these campaigns was to demonstrate the breadth and depth of the industry, with a particular focus on the varied career pathways available.

NEW WEBSITE

The ASI designed, developed and launched a modern website. Offering improved functionality and streamlined usability for members, the website will enable us to better tailor our services to member needs. For further information, visit: <https://www.steel.org.au>.

ASI MEMBER PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS

Corporate Partners

The ASI continues to provide members access to experts who can help you conduct your business more effectively, efficiently and with ease. Our Corporate Partners now include: Australian Super, Banjo, Epicor, Eftsure, and NCI.

Exclusive ASI Member Offers

The ASI announced a new Exclusive Member Offers program, commencing with a 'motoring package'. Whether you're looking to purchase a

luxury Lexus, fill up your tank through Motorpass, or hire a Europcar vehicle, the ASI's motoring package has got you covered.

PUBLICATIONS

Global Steel Market Dynamics

In response to enquiries from members wanting to better understand the market conditions, ASI published two important documents: *Global Steel Market Dynamics – Part 1* and *Part 2*. These documents provide an overview of current demand levels for steel globally, as well as the factors driving this demand.

Ascertaining the Compliance of Structural Steel

ASI published *Technical Note 15: Ascertaining the Compliance of Structural Steel* this year. The Technical Note provides a risk-based fit-for-purpose actionable approach to ascertaining the compliance of structural steel to meet the performance intent mandated by the NCC and Australian Standards.

eBooks

In 2020, the ASI launched its first eBook. Since then, our eBook suite has rapidly expanded to include over 30 titles. The eBook platform was also improved this year, with multi-user subscriptions made available to employees of corporate members.

Library

The ASI Library continued to provide assistance and technical resources to members throughout the year, responding to over 650 requests for information.



2022-2023: THE YEAR AHEAD



2022-2023 IS ALREADY SHAPING UP TO BE AN EXCITING AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE ASI AND ITS MEMBERS. A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE ASI'S STRATEGY WILL BE UNDERTAKEN, WITH EXISTING INITIATIVES REAFFIRMED, AND NEW PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS COMMENCED.

ADVOCACY

The ASI will continue to advocate to all levels of Government on behalf of members for:

- A well-managed economy that drives growth and investment
- Local content procurement
- Investment in nation-building infrastructure
- Quality, productivity and safety
- Anti-dumping
- Skills and vocational training
- Sustainability and the environment
- Reliable, affordable power supply

QUALITY AND SAFETY

AS/NZS 5131 and National Structural Steelwork Compliance Scheme

Our work to promote AS/NZS 5131 and the National Structural Steelwork Compliance Scheme as the quality benchmark for structural steelwork is vital in the lead up to the upcoming revision of the NCC 2022. Steelwork Compliance Australia (SCA) is expecting to achieve accreditation by JAS-ANZ, providing an even stronger message to promote awareness to State and Federal Governments, builders and engineers on achieving compliant outcomes.

ShedSafe®

The ASI will continue to support and promote ShedSafe® at all levels of Government and throughout the private sector to differentiate ShedSafe® members as superior quality, reliable and safe suppliers.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Environmental Sustainability Charter (ESC) will be transitioned to Steel Sustainability Australia (SSA) in 2022. The SSA program will meet the current and future expectations of environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects of sustainability across the broader steel supply chain and support our members with an accreditation program. ASI will promote SSA to help ensure that a greater proportion of infrastructure and Government projects require accreditation.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EVENTS

Steel Industry Induction Course

The ASI eLearning team is working on a Steel Industry Induction Course, which will be relevant to all steel supply chain members who need to train new staff. Comprising eight modules, the course will be released in the coming months.

Seminars and Local Events

With travel bans and social distancing measures lifting, the ASI will continue to host events online and expand its program of face-to-face events.

eLearning Platform

With over 40 courses already on offer, the ASI is continually expanding its eLearning offering. It is expected that new courses will be added regularly over the 12 months ahead.

2022 Australian Steel Convention

Planning is underway for the 2022 Australian Steel Convention. With the theme of *Vital and Adaptive*, the Convention will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney from 9 to 11 October.

2022 Steel Excellence Awards

The ASI Steel Excellence Awards will be held this year, with a new award category being introduced—Cold Formed Precision Buildings—in recognition of enormous expansion in that space.



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE

ASI Members: Are You Taking Advantage of Your Member Benefits?

1

Advocacy at the local, state and federal levels to advance the cause of Australian steel

5

Member discounts on ASI bookshop publications and eLearning packages

2

Member discounts on technical presentations, seminars, networking events and conventions

6

Superior technical advisory services, delivered by experienced industry experts

3

Regular industry news & steelAustralia magazine and Steel Construction Journal

7

Opportunities to participate in specialist committees and groups to address steel industry issues

4

For corporate members, promotion in the ASI Directory and use of the ASI logo

8

Countless other benefits from joining and networking with a community of like-minded companies & people