

ON THE BEAM

Each quarter, the Australian Steel Institute brings you news and views from around the steel industry in our regular column: On the Beam. From projects won and completed, through to new product launches and award wins, you can find it all here.

NEW ZEALAND STEEL PARTNERS WITH NZ GOVERNMENT TO SHRINK CARBON FOOTPRINT

New Zealand Steel has partnered with the New Zealand government in a \$300 million co-investment to shrink the carbon footprint of the Glenbrook steel mill, located 40km south of Auckland. New Zealand Steel will build a new electric arc furnace (EAF) at its steelworks, as part of the move to lower-carbon production.

New Zealand Steel's chief executive Robin Davies said the significant investment will reduce Glenbrook's carbon footprint by 800,000 tonnes from day one – the same as taking approximately 300,000 cars off the road permanently.

"That's a reduction of over 45% in New Zealand Steel's emissions – or a total of 1% of New Zealand's total annual emissions. It also sets the platform for further carbon reductions and is a significant step towards our goal of net zero by 2050. These reductions will come from replacing Glenbrook's existing oxygen steelmaking furnace and two of the four coal fuelled kilns."

"An electric arc furnace makes sense when there's enough affordable renewable energy and scrap steel available, a way to get that scrap steel to site, and the right policy settings. We'll firm up the details of the different aspects of the project over the coming months but crucially, New Zealand has all these essential enablers in place."

The NZ government will contribute up to \$140 million through the Government Investment in Decarbonising Industry fund. New Zealand Steel will commit the additional \$160 million.

"From our perspective, this is a necessary step to secure steelmaking in New Zealand for many years to come. I'm delighted to say this is a great example of business and government working together to meet the country's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050," Davies said.

The managing director and CEO of New Zealand Steel's parent company, BlueScope, Mark Vassella attended the announcement with the Prime Minister. Vassella said the co-investment is a landmark deal that showed the power of well-constructed public-private partnerships or investments.

"New Zealand Steel and the government should be very proud of their initiative and the hard work that has led to today's announcement," Vassella said.

UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS PRAISE THE BUSHMASTER'S "SUPERIOR ARMOUR"

For over two decades, BISALLOY® Armour and Structural Steel have been vital in protecting occupants of the Bushmaster. Now, the armoured vehicle protects Ukrainian soldiers after the Australian Government donated 90 Bushmasters to Ukraine.

Bisalloy has been immensely proud to work alongside Bendigo defence manufacturer Thales Australia to see the Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicle come to fruition, with research and development initially starting in 1996.

Designed to be used by Australian armed forces, the armoured vehicles have specified various grades of BISALLOY® Armour and Structural Steel for vital components of the Bushmaster. Components such as the outer panels, doors, bonnet and hull.

In an undisclosed location in Ukraine, troops recently gave the Australian-made Bushmaster praise to ABC News while the armoured vehicles were getting put through their paces. Ukrainian soldier Rustam, who is running a training session involving the Bushmaster that the ABC was granted access to, says the Australian vehicle has superior armour to other troop carriers. "Bushmasters work perfectly. They can withstand RPG shots, run into mines, and tame enemy machine guns," he said.

Ukrainian driver of the Bushmaster vehicle, Oleksandr, also told ABC about the vehicle and how they are to play a "huge role" in the Ukrainian counteroffensive against Russia. "It's fantastic," he explained when asked about the Bushmaster manufactured in Bendigo. "Words cannot express it. It's such a powerful vehicle. It is much easier to drive than our equipment," he said.

The Australian Government recently announced a \$160 million contract for Bendigo defence manufacturer Thales Australia to build another order of Bushmasters for the Australian army, which utilises Australian-made, military-grade steel from Bisalloy. The contract for manufacturing 78 new Bushmasters over the next 18 months was signed at Thales Australia's Bendigo facility in May.

"More than 1,200 Bushmasters have already been manufactured at our Bendigo facility," Thales Australia chief executive Jeff Connolly said. "As well as proving to be a life-saving vehicle for the Australian Army, they have been exported to eight nations including the Netherlands, UK, Fiji, Jamaica, New Zealand, and Indonesia."