

AUSTRALASIAN DESIGN AND
CONSTRUCTION FACILITIES

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Membrane structures have long since proved themselves as a viable alternative to conventional construction. Their favourable energy cycle costs, impressive appearance and the improving durability of fabric materials make them an ideal solution to many built environments.

Over the past decade membrane structures in Australasia have experienced a rapid growth period. With the number of fabric structures steadily increasing public awareness has led to the acceptance of membrane structures by the community.

Running parallel to this increasing awareness is the continuing development and experience gained by a relatively small number of various groups of designers and constructors. These groups have developed design and construction techniques in keeping with current world standards.

The MSAA has been in the forefront of these developments, and the purpose of this paper is to identify current MSAA members and their specialised fields as a service to potential users of membrane structures.

Tabulations have been produced relating four general areas of operations with association members. For the purposes of this paper, the following general definitions have been adopted:

'Designers' refers to groups or individuals who are involved with concept, engineering design, detailing or testing of membrane, materials and structures.

'Fabric Suppliers' include both locally manufactured and/or imported fabrics.

'Fabric Convertors' are Contractors who cut and weld the final membrane shape.

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(cont'd)

'Constructors' are those groups who are associated with hardware construction (footings, poles, arches, cables, etc.) and/or erection of the membranes.

Table 1 identifies designers, fabric suppliers, fabric convertors and constructors who have been intimately involved in medium to large size engineered fabric structures on a relatively continuing basis.

Table 2 shows groups and individuals who have had a lesser involvement in large structures but who can supply services connected with the fabric industry. In this table have been included the many special interest parties such as Government, Education and other professional groups which add to the breadth of knowledge and services with MSAA.

It is hoped that this paper will form the basis of a more formal document which will extend information on Members, their project history and detailed capabilities, etc. Much of this data has already been collected and it is anticipated that the complete document will be ready in time for the LSA'86 Conference in Sydney.

As a final note, it should be appreciated that there exists in this part of the World design and construction facilities capable of producing any structure of international standard. With structures increasing in number and scale this will place a challenge on us all, but the MSAA and its members are well prepared for the challenge.

TABLE 1

NAME	DESIGNERS	FABRIC SUPPLIERS	FABRIC CONVERTORS	CONSTRUCTORS
B.W. Bilsborough & Sons P/L			X	X
Birkmyre Canvas P/L		X		
Bradmill Textiles		X		
Brella Pty. Ltd.		X		
George Clark & Assoc.	X X			
Covertex Pty. Ltd.			X	
Geodome Space Frames P/L	X			X
Hoechst Aust. Ltd.		X		
Hood New Zealand	X		X	X
Humes Ltd.				X
P. Kneen	X X			
McWilliam & Partners P/L	X X			
Nylex Corporation		X		
Geo. Pickers (Bris) P/L	X		X	X
Tensile Structures P/L	X		X	X
V. Sedlak	X			
Vesl Membrane Systems	X X	X	X	X
Vipac & Partners	X X			

X X Indicates Consulting Engineers

TABLE 2

NAME	DESIGNERS	CONVERTERS	CONSTRUCTORS	OTHER
A & B Leather & Canvas Manuf'g		X	X	
All-Covers Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
Barrier Consolidated Industries P/L		X	X	
Bornhorst & Ward Pty. Ltd.	X			
Carpet Courts Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
Tah Wen Chu				X
Derlas Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
David Beauchamp Associates P/L	X			
Ross Dunkley				X
Fairweather Canvas Co. Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
Serge Fijac				X
Footscray Institute of Technology				X
Goodearl & Bailey Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
Gwiltite Plaswelds Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
W.L. Meinhardt & Partners	X			
J.L. Mullen & Partners	X			X
O.D.C. Incorporated				X
Pickers Canvas & Plastics (Tas)		X	X	
Rankine & Hill Pty. Ltd.	X			
G. Rowl				X
Royal Melbourne Institute of Tech.				X
J.E. Sanders				X
Shadewell Awning Systems P/L		X	X	
Shelter Engineering Ltd.		X	X	X
Suenderman Douglas & McFall P/L	X			
H. Shultz				X
S.W.R. Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
Sunweave Pty. Ltd.		X	X	
R. White	X			
J.A.F. Williams	X			
Ian P. Conry				X
L. Semenetz				X
Kersten Donaldson				X