

Recently some States have overhauled existing legislation to again tighten fencing requirements around the pool, placing further challenges on designers and builders to create a fence that not only ensures it meets these new standards but also satisfies their client's wishes.

This is especially challenging in an era of the "outdoor room" which emphasises seamless transitions between the house and environment. Australian TV landscaper star Jamie Durie, said recently of the outdoor room trend: "Now, more than ever, Australians are living, cooking, entertaining and relaxing with family and friends in their outdoor spaces – and they want that to reflect their interiors."

This desire is plainly at odds with pool safety codes with necessary but limiting regulations.

But designers are rising to the challenge with new innovations, resulting in even more spectacular – and safer – pool environments.

Gary Kilworth, director of the award winning Out From the Blue, Melbourne, says: "The pool fence has to comply with the code – but melt into the background."

The Changes

In his SPLASH! 2010 Trade Show Seminar, Jake Brandish flagged that the Australian standards AS 1926.1-2007: Design, Construction, Performance; and AS1926.2-2007 – Location of the Barrier, are under review.

The revised standards may include: changing the Non Climbable Zone (NCZ) from 1200mm to 900mm; increasing the boundary height to 1800mm; declaring the minimum height for balconies above pools to be reduced from 2400mm to 1800mm; any retaining wall height will also be reduced from 2400mm to 1800m and that standards might refer to 'barrier' rather than 'fencing'.

For the time being: "Pool fencing must be a minimum height of 1.2 metres above ground level and boundary fences which form part of

the pool safety fence constructed or modified after September 2008 must be 1.8 metres," says Mike Cass of design-it landscapes, Sydney. "Gaps under and within fences/gates must not be greater than 100mm. There should be no obstructions around the pool fence which could be used as a foothold for a child to climb the pool fence. Swimming pools and safety fencing should not be installed without prior consent from council – this can often be quite an involved process."

The most important part of any fence is the gate. According to the Royal Life Saving Society, drowning tragedies have often occurred because the fence gate is simply left open.

"In brief, pool gates must open outwards from the pool area and are required to be self-closing and self-latching," says Cass. "The pool latch mechanism must be 1.5 metres above ground level or have a shield if the mechanism is lower." The Royal Life Saving Society emphasises that the gate must swing shut immediately.

Frameless toughened safety glass is often the best option for fencing a pool, although it is more expensive (ATC).

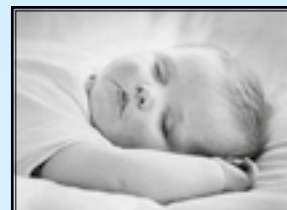




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The new State-specific changes apply on top of Australian Standards. From December 2009, the Queensland Government introduced regulation of temporary fencing for pools, including reducing the time compliant temporary fences will be permitted to a maximum period of three months during the construction of a pool. There must be a sign advising a new pool is under construction and there must be a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) sign for all pools constructed on or after October 1, 2003. The Queensland Government also introduced mandatory final inspections.

Stage two – proposed to take effect in December 2010 – will mostly affect existing Queensland swimming pools, and licensed pool safety inspections triggered by the sale and lease of properties. It includes: the replacement of a number of different pool safety standards with just one pool safety standard for all pools (both new and existing pools must be upgraded to comply with the standard within five years unless sold or leased first); a five-year phase out of child-resistant doors (self-closing and self-latching doors) used as pool barriers for existing pools, unless sold or leased first; a sale and lease compliance system requiring pool safety certificates to be obtained from a licensed pool safety inspector; wider application of State laws to include indoor pools and pools associated with hotels, motels, caretaker residences and caravan parks; the requirement for all swimming pools to be included in the pool register managed by the State government; fencing for all portable pools and spas deeper than 300mm and mandatory inspections of pools by local government.

Building certifiers will be required to undertake a mandatory follow-up inspection within six months to two years after giving a building approval for a swimming pool. On July 5, 2010, the majority of the provisions of the Building and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2010 (BOLA 1) also commenced. BOLA 1 established the pool safety inspector licensing system and the state-managed pool register. An independent body, the Pool Safety Council (PSC), administers the licensing system.

The final legislative component of pool safety reforms, the Building and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No 2) 2010, was introduced into the Queensland Parliament on 18 August 2010 and has yet to be debated.

"These are appropriate new regulations," says David Close, of SPASA Queensland, who was on the committee to review the legislation. Penalties of up to \$16,500 and on-the-spot fines of up to \$700 can be imposed



Even splash pools can benefit from the use of glass fencing (ATC).

“The pool fence has to comply with the code – but melt into the background.”

on pool owners if their pool fence does not comply with the law in Queensland.

It is worth noting that a recent coronial inquest into the drowning deaths of children (in NSW) called for criminal penalties for anyone found to be negligent in constructing or maintaining a pool's safety barriers.

Infinity and beyond

Moving to toughen up pool safety, NSW has also recently revoked all previous exemptions to pools. According to NSW SPASA chief, Spiros Dassakis: "All new pools must be separated by a complying barrier from the house and adjoining properties. The general requirement for child-resistant bar-

riers on residential properties is for the pool to be separated by a complying barrier from the house, adjoining properties and public spaces at all times.

"Direct access from the house to the pool area is not permitted unless an exemption has been applied for and approved."

Dassakis clarifies that an infinity pool's wall that forms the drop of the pool edge may be regarded as part of a natural barrier as long as that drop is at least 1.2m. However, there are many variations and circumstances which must be taken into account if it is to comply with Australian standards.

Pool designer and landscape architect firm, Peter Glass and Associates (PGA), often positions the pool in this way so the drop becomes part of the "fence".

PGA landscape designer, Connie Kollmann, says that depending on the topography of the property, sculpting the levels of the landscape can allow for opportunities to use the pool walls as the fencing.



Glass fencing is safe, while also allowing the pool to remain a feature when viewed from inside the home. This pool features fixed channel frameless glass fencing by Glass FX.

“A recent coronial inquest called for criminal penalties for anyone found to be negligent in constructing or maintaining a pool’s safety barriers.”

“A window must not be able to be opened more than 100mm,” says Kilworth. “The new regulations are a challenge but we are onside because it is about safety.”

He adds that gates are incorporated into the design of the fence. “The code is strict. It must be a hinged, self-closing gate. So most of the gates are similar material to whatever the fence is made of so it is seamless.”

And in South Australia, from October 1, 2008, a person wishing to sell a property that has a swimming pool or spa pool needs to ensure that the child-safety barriers comply with the requirements that apply to pools built on or after July 1, 1993. But in South Australia, you can still use any combination of fences, walls or buildings to form the safety barrier around a swimming pool, including a child-resistant door that is part of a building – as opposed to a separate fence needing to be constructed as other States now require for all new pools.

Showing how regulations vary from State to State with spas, in the Top End, a December 2009 water safety release from the Northern Territory Government reminded that in the Territory: “All new pools and spas that are capable of holding more than 30cm of water at their deepest part must

“Raising the level of the pool to allow for a pool wall that meets the fencing requirements allows for the pool area to appear open and boundless whilst still providing fully compliant enclosure of the pool area,” she says. “The exposed wall opens the opportunity for a feature spill-over edge and balance tank, or a glass edge allowing for views to be kept above or below the water.”

Victoria has also toughened up. From May 1, 2010, changes to the Building Code of Australia (BCA) meant that all new outdoor

swimming pools and spas in Victoria require a separate four-sided barrier. This means that direct access (i.e. through a doorway) from a building to an outdoor pool or spa area is not permitted.

However, building walls, retaining walls and child-resistant windows or screens can still be used as part of the safety barrier. Kilworth and colleagues won, Victorian Pool of the Year by incorporating a solid home wall with a viewing glass panel into the pool that acted as one side of the barrier.



Hinges are important – these stainless steel hinges are on a Glass FX fence.

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be fenced. The fence must meet minimum safety standards and be certified by the Water Safety Branch before the pool or spa is filled with water.”

WA also requires spa pools to be fenced, and Queensland is also coming into line here.

In NSW, a spa pool is not required to be surrounded by a child resistant barrier so long as access to the spa pool is restricted as per the Swimming Pools Regulation 2008, which states that spa pools must be covered and secured by a lockable child-safe structure such as a door, lid, grill or mesh.

Dassakis is not convinced these latest overhauls (especially follow-up inspections) will assist in reducing the drowning statistics.

“[Inspections] are unlikely to happen in NSW in the short to medium term as it requires significant funding and resources – none of which are currently being addressed by State and Local Governments. A fence is only as good as the day it was inspected and Council in some localities could take in excess of 10 years to inspect the current pool numbers let alone what is being built.”

While he emphasises that one child drowning is one too many, SPASA NSW



Glass FX spigot glass pool fence.

Photo Courtesy Stevens Glass Melbourne

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has consistently lobbied for subsidised swimming lessons and supervision through ongoing community awareness programs, believing fencing is only one aspect of a multi-pronged approach to better protect children.

"Government is constantly looking for quick fixes," he says. "Fencing is important. I'm currently investing in the production of a

DVD with the Sydney Children's Hospital in relation to pool fencing which will ultimately provided the public with better education when it comes to swimming pool and spa safety. But when was the last time you saw an ongoing water safety initiative on TV?

"It will get to the point where we start put a fence over the top of a pool!" he says.

Dassakis also considers last year's statis-

tics which show fencing isn't foolproof: "Of the 19 child drowning in backyard swimming pools last year, approximately 80 per cent occurred in a fenced pool."

It's elemental

Once safety regulations are met, the fence becomes an aesthetic consideration. A glass fence offers an unblocked view of the pool; is contemporary, and protects against wind.

Rob Palmer of Palmers Glass says that glass balustrade fencing is rapidly becoming the first choice of all builders and home owners needing an unobtrusive space divider.

Palmer says that balustrade is made of toughened safety glass, which is four- to five-times stronger than normal glass of the same thickness.

"It can be both semi-framed, with posts between the panels, and frameless, in which the glass is bedded into a channel, slotted into spigots or standoff fixed, to provide an obstruction-free wall of glass."

"Glass is convenient and there's a broad spectrum available, but it must be toughened glass panels," says Kilworth.



12mm glass fence set into an aluminium channel, by Glass FX.

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"There are some imposters (of toughened glass around). You can tell the difference by listening to the sound of a gate closing and opening."

Glass offers warmth as well. "In hilly or coastal areas, consideration of wind protection is important," says Kilworth. "A high glass fence buffers the wind as well as improving sun in the cooler months." It can also reduce wind-borne evaporation, making it more environment-friendly.

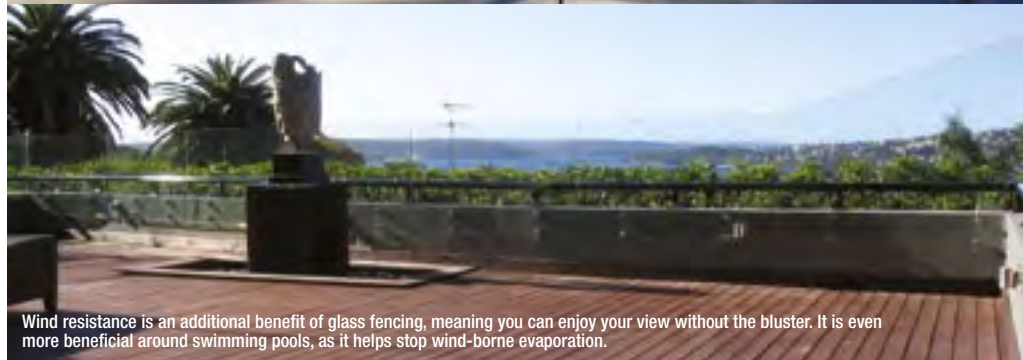
Most of all, Kollmann suggests that glass is also the best for safety. "With its obvious absence of horizontal members, it can be amongst the safest of all fencing styles with regard to keeping children and pets out of the pool enclosure."

The downside is the cost compared to other materials. Glass is more expensive than aluminium, and the cost varies dramatically within glass options. Cass cautions that the cost of frameless glass is usually around double the cost of semi-frameless glass.

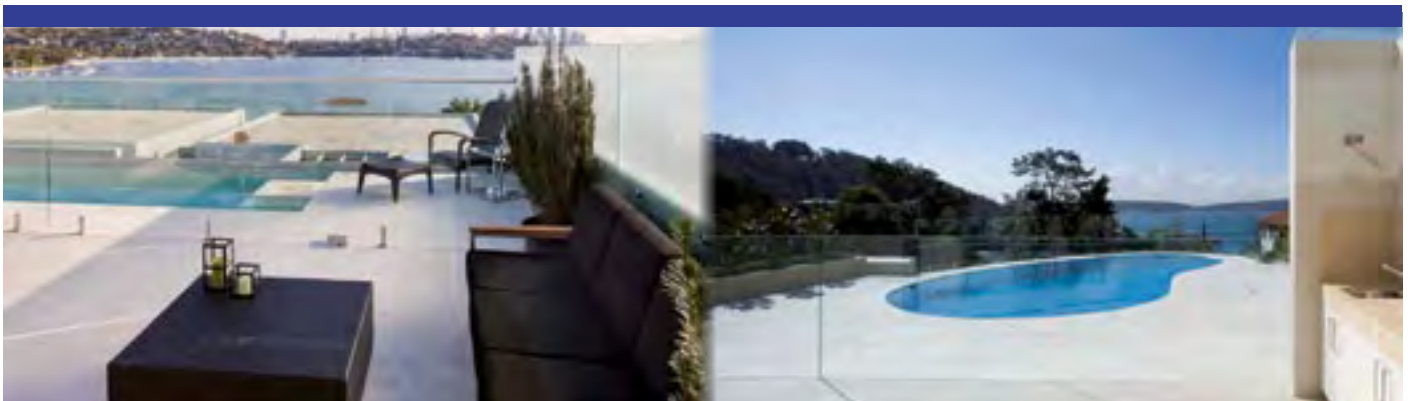
"People only go for aluminium when they can't afford glass," says Bev Hamann of Pride Pools, Sydney.



Glass FX's spigot standoff style glass pool fence.



Wind resistance is an additional benefit of glass fencing, meaning you can enjoy your view without the bluster. It is even more beneficial around swimming pools, as it helps stop wind-borne evaporation.



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If aluminium is chosen, the look changes to a classical style, with budget benefits.

"Powder-coated aluminium is another material used for pool fencing and is an extremely cost-effective means of safely securing a new pool," Mike Cass suggests. "Colour and style choices are important here. Contrary to what most people think, the darker colours are best, as they will hide the fence better. Stark whites or similar will only stand out against the surrounding landscape."

Kilworth observes that sometimes glass will jar with the surrounding environment. "For a Tuscan inspired property with wrought iron, glass may not be the best option." He advises designers to choose what will best fit the environment to promote seamlessness between the indoor and outdoor rooms.

Privacy or transparency?

The biggest drawback of glass is also its greatest strength – transparency. When privacy is a concern for clients, transparency is not what you're after.

While timber can seem dated, Jennifer Snyders from the House of Bamboo, Sydney, believes bamboo – a renewable resource – is becoming popular due to its tropical appeal and sustainability.



Palmers glass channel spigot balustrade.

Bamboo has been traditionally been used in a finer diameter, known as Natureed, to clad an existing Colorbond fence. However, Snyders explains that bamboo has recently come into its own.

"Bamboo fence material is made from carbonised bamboo, which is also used for decking," she says. "It's a new product that gives a nice feel, especially when combined with bamboo decking that flows into the fence with a beautiful line. New bamboo fencing is really hard and great for Australia's weather."

Kilworth suggests that the longevity of any natural product must be looked at because the pool fence must be maintained to stand-ard. "Certainly brush fencing doesn't last forever and needs maintenance," he says.

However, the big issue with bamboo and brush is safety, and particularly, if a child can climb it – which after all, is the reason for putting up the fence in the first place, and the legal requirement.

This may be overcome by having a two-layer fence – for example, Colorbond on the outside layer, and reed, bamboo or brush on the inside layer, where climbing is not an issue.

These types of fences are also very good for privacy screens which might be put in place in addition to the safety fence.

"With cladding, the fencing requirements are becoming so regimented, what (inspectors) consider to be climbable is up to interpretation," says Kilworth. "So it can be difficult to work with some products.

"Stacked stone has so many nooks and crannies it can be deemed climbable. You can be fine tuning a wall with a chisel to make sure it can't be climbed."

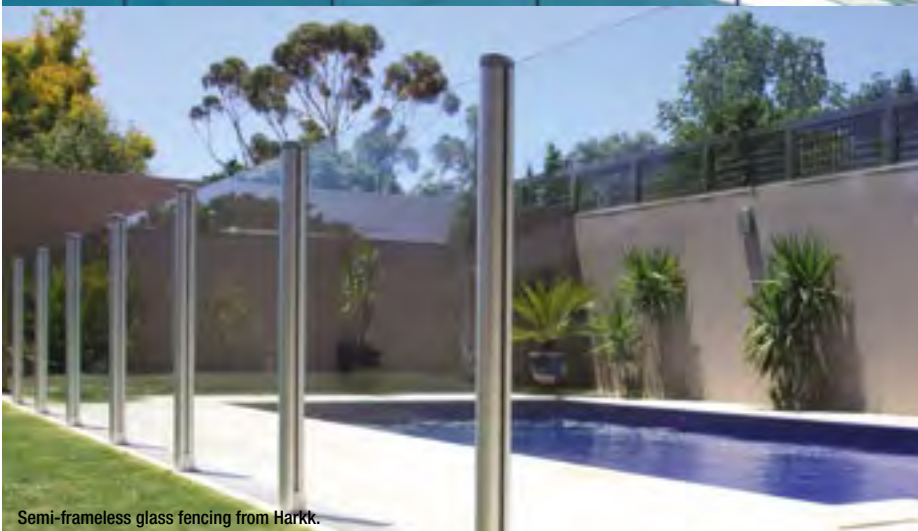
"While fencing is important there is no substitute for supervision," stresses Dassakis. Indeed, Kilworth has personal experience in how fallible the most carefully thought out fence can be when determined children are at play.

"Supervision and education are necessary," Kilworth says. "When my sons were six and four, one put a chair against the gate to reach the latch and the other one held the gate open when it swung back against the chair. They worked together – kids are very clever."

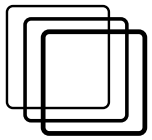
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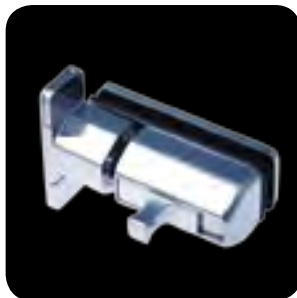
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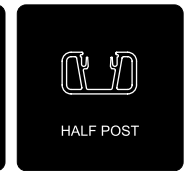
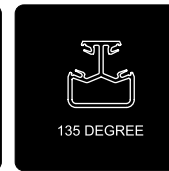
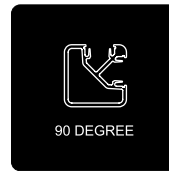
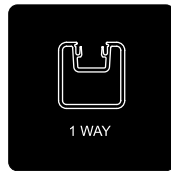
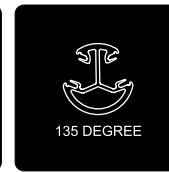
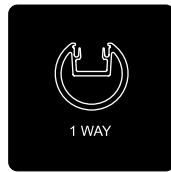
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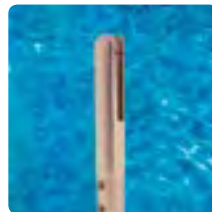
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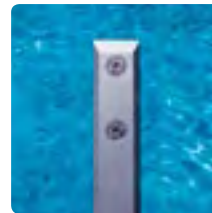
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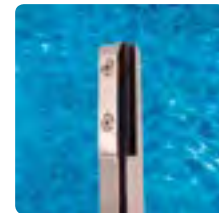
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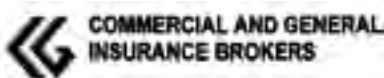
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Majestic won the Geometric \$35k-\$75k award



- Traditional or Geometric Concrete Pool over \$130,000: Majestic Pools & Landscapes
- Traditional or Geometric Composite Fibreglass Pool under \$35,000: Compass Pool Centre – Northside
- Traditional or Geometric Composite Fibreglass Pool \$35,001 to \$75,000: Pool World
- Technical/Engineering Commercial: Majestic Pools & Landscapes
- Technical/Engineering Domestic: Pool Fab Swimming Pools
- Pool Shop: Sundollar Pools
- President's Award: Norfolk Pools
- Pool Technician of the Year: Julie Bowdery – Positive Pool Services
- Industry Trade Representative of the Year: John Hills – Poolrite Equipment (he also received the Life Membership Award)
- Construction Supervisor of the Year: Jim Vansleve – Norfolk Pools
- Sales Consultant of the Year: Ross Burke – Narellan Pools Queensland
- Special Award: John Reed
- Composite Fibreglass Pool Builder of the Year: Compass Pool Centre – Northside
- Concrete Pool Builder of the Year: Queensland Family Pools

Pool Fab won the Domestic Technical/Engineering Award



Terms of trade



Sue Hirst of CFO On-Call offers some advice on establishing clear terms of trade with your customers.

A recent report from Dun & Bradstreet noted that 80,000 Australian firms had their risk profile downgraded in the first quarter of 2010.

What does this mean to you, if you run a small business? It means some of your clients/customers could be on this list and you may struggle to get paid if these firms get into financial difficulty.

When a firm gets into financial difficulty they look for loopholes and reasons to justify delaying payment, or not paying at all.

When a sale is made it's great to celebrate, but we all know things don't always turn out 'rosy' down the track. One of the best ways to protect yourself and ensure you get paid is to have well prepared, clear and concise Terms of Trade between your business and those you transact with. Verbal and hand-shake agreements may be appropriate in some circumstances, but when things don't go to plan you want to have something solid in writing to back you up.

I spoke with RP Emery & Associates, who are providers of contract templates for business. They told me why smart businesses need good Terms of Trade.

Manufacturing agreements

A manufacturer and purchaser worked well together for a year, but then a dispute arose over an overdue account. The manufacturer claimed substantial interest and late payment fees.

The case ended up in court, because it was unclear whose terms of trade applied, as there had been express agreement on who made and supplied the goods, but not as to the terms of payment. In this case the court held that by going ahead and fulfilling the purchaser's orders, the manufacture had effectively accepted the purchaser's terms.

The expense and aggravation of having such a dispute resolved by a court is always stressful (and a distraction), so when you enter into an agreement, just make sure that your terms of trade are also signed by the other party.

Licensing and distribution agreements

Similarly, when it comes to licensing and distribution agreements, it is important to make sure that there is a clear understanding between the parties as to what the intellectual property component really means. It is commonly thought that one can get around design, copyright or a patent merely by changing the product by x%, but that folklore is incorrect.

Just this year, Solitaire Homes won a landmark case in which an architect made what he thought were adequate changes to a Solitaire project home design. Once it was established that the architect had in fact based his drawings on the Solitaire design, he was guilty of copyright and trademark violation. So acknowledgement of your copyright and other IP in your terms of trade is critical.

Addressing matters such as these in your terms of trade will keep you out of court. Even the judge commented in the Solitaire case that after five years, the legal costs exceeded the cost of construction of the house (let alone the damages awarded)!

When thinking about terms of trade it is also wise to consider the Sale of Goods Act. For example, the recent Conrad Medical Systems case involved a dispute about the delivery of software, which the plaintiff claimed was not of merchantable quality, or not fit for the purpose. The provisions of the Act did not apply to digital products, and as a result the plaintiff (Gammasonics) was required to pay \$58,000 in damages. The government is apparently looking at amendments to the act to cover software.

Personal guarantees

Another very important issue is the question of personal guarantees. There was a case in which a company delivered industrial design services and did not get paid by the purchasing company. A magistrate held that, because a Director of the purchaser used the word "I" in a letter (rather than "the company"), there was an implied personal guarantee, and awarded judgement against the Director.

“When you enter into an agreement, just make sure that your terms of trade are also signed by the other party.”

Now, the fact that this decision was clearly wrong at law is irrelevant – the Director had to appeal to the Supreme Court on a matter of law, and it was cheaper to pay the bill rather than incur the costs of a SC appeal.

The lesson to be taken from that case is that the terms of trade did not exclude Directors’ guarantees.

Other items to be considered in your terms of trade are:

- How will the goods be ordered?
- How will the orders be confirmed?
- Will buyer/seller be entitled to cancel orders?
- How is the price to be paid?
- Are there handling/admin fees?
- Are there penalties for late delivery/late payment?
- Can either party offset amounts owing against an order?
- How are credit facilities to be assessed/granted?
- What defines delivery/collection?
- Can orders be cancelled if not delivered by a certain date?
- Must seller notify purchaser of delivery date changes?
- Can goods/services be delivered in instalments?
- What are the consequences if purchaser fails to accept delivery?
- Can seller retain title until paid?
- Does retention of title outlive termination of agreement?
- Is confidential information being imparted, and how is it protected?
- Are there any privacy issues?
- Should either party have the right to terminate without cause?
- What are the consequences of termination?
- Have warranty and liability issues been adequately addressed?
- Are there guarantors, and are the guarantee terms clear?
- The laws of which State apply?

As you can see there is a lot involved in the delivery of a service or product. It just might save you a lot of money to have a clear understanding by all parties from the beginning, rather than having to go to court and incur a lot of unnecessary legal fees to sort out a problem later.

RP Emery & Associates, in association with CFO On-Call, have made a special offer to SPLASH!

readers of a standard template Terms of Trade Kit containing a set of agreements, user’s manual and checklists for \$50 inc GST.

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Water, the liquid of life



A huge cargo area and a beefy two-tonne carrying capacity make the new Fiat Ducato a worthy contender in the large van segment. PAUL MATTHEI reports.



A block of flats ON WHEELS

It might look like a loaf of bread, but it manoeuvres like a piece of cake

While the majority of new Fiat Ducato cab/chassis units in this country are pressed into service as mobile homes for tourists and grey nomads, the cavernous panel van versions are a different proposition altogether, designed wholly and solely for businesses and tradies needing to efficiently transport copious quantities of goods.

It's so cavernous, in fact, that a "block of flats on wheels" was the first impression when I took delivery of the van from Ateco's impressive new showroom in Sydney's inner south. This possibly explains why Ateco's Edward Rowe insisted on "showing me the ropes" while guiding the vehicle from the underground carpark – through a workshop full of Ferraris of various vintages – before allowing me behind the wheel.

Not that this Ducato is difficult to drive. On the contrary, it comes standard with a robotised (automated) six-speed transmission that makes manoeuvring a piece of cake and allows the driver's full attention to be focused on keeping those generously proportioned extremities out of harm's way.

Power comes from a transverse mounted 3.0 litre diesel which develops 115 kW (155 hp) at 3600 rpm and a healthy 400 Nm (295 lb ft) of torque at a usefully low 1700 rpm. These outputs are delivered to the front

wheels via a transaxle arrangement incorporating the aforementioned automated box.

Inside the spacious cab, ample accommodation for two passengers is provided by the optional bench seat which is effectively two buckets joined at the hip with the centre position also including a lap/sash belt. This means the only compromise for the middle occupant is slightly less room for the right knee.

Standard safety features include driver and outboard passenger airbags while A-pillar and curtain (side) airbags are optional. Also standard are anti-lock (ABS) disc brakes, traction control and electronic stability program (ESP), as well as an integral steel bulkhead complete with sliding window which comprehensively divides cargo from cockpit.

Concrete carting

It's the sign of a vast van when a full 1.7 tonne pallet load of bagged cement only takes up roughly one quarter of the available space while leaving capacity for a further 300 kg of payload. Riding on a wheelbase of 3450 mm, this particular Ducato has overall length, width and height dimensions of 5413mm, 2050mm and 2524 mm respectively, with similarly respective cargohold measurements of 3120mm, 1870mm (1422 mm between wheel arches) and 1930 mm.



Well positioned controls including dash mounted gear selector are complemented by outstanding all-round vision



van tastic



A full 1.7 tonne pallet load of bagged cement only takes up roughly one quarter of the available space



The Ducato has a substantial front overhang

Having payload and gross vehicle masses of 2009kg and 4005kg respectively, along with maximum combined front and rear wheel load ratings of 2100kg and 2400kg respectively, two one-tonne pallets can be comfortably carried with the forward unit easily forked into position through the standard left side sliding door. The load can be suitably secured using robust lashing points, all eight of them well positioned throughout the cargo bay. Towing capacity with a braked trailer is 2500kg.

With a load onboard, driving dynamics changed little, remaining highly impressive. Engine and braking performances were strong while the automated transmission deftly adapted to the extra weight, delivering smooth, timely shifts that made optimum use of the engine's prodigious low down torque.

Also worthy of mention is good all-round vision thanks to a clear view over the steeply raked bonnet and a rear view through amply proportioned wing mirrors – each incorporating a separate "spotter". However, the substantial front overhang means it's wise to take a cautious approach for those new to the van. For regular work in tight conditions, front parking sensors would be a handy addition.

Yet such is Fiat's faith in the model, Ducato is covered by a three year/ 200,000km conditional warranty that includes 24 hour road-side assistance.

Overall, the Ducato is a highly competent and comfortable van for applications where a two-tonne carrying capacity and/or large load volume are required. Indeed, with attributes like these it's easy to see why the vehicle is so popular in motor home circles.

But why should the oldies have all the fun? ☺



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SPLASH!

Commercial

In **SPLASH! Commercial** we focus on big and small commercial swimming pools including water parks, resort pools, competition pools and municipal projects. We examine issues of importance to commercial pool builders, designers, management and staff, while taking a look at some of the latest aquatic happenings around the region and the world.

Image shows the winning pool in the Commercial Lap Pool category of the SPASA Qld Awards of Excellence, built by L&V Project Pools

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Sydney gets wet and wild



\$80M WATER PARK FOR WESTERN SYDNEY

WET'N'WILD is coming to Sydney for the summer of 2013.

Village Roadshow announced it will build and operate the water park near Blacktown and Prospect in the heart of Sydney's west. It will be adjacent to the M4 motorway, and 2km from the M7.

The 25 hectare site is closer to the city than Australia's Wonderland, which closed in 2004 after ten years of operation. The site is only 35 minutes from the Sydney CBD and 10 minutes from Homebush.

Village Roadshow says there are approximately 1.2 million residents within 20km radius of the site; and 3.3 million residing within 40km. They hope to attract just under one million visitors per year.

The new park will include world-first action slides and Australia's biggest man-made beach and wave-pool. It will aim to be the biggest, newest and best attraction of its kind in Australia.

Village Roadshow plans to invest \$80 million into the project including \$5.2 million towards the upgrading of road infrastructure in the vicinity of the park. These works will be the subject of a NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) study, funded by Village Roadshow, and would be completed prior to the opening of the park.

The proposal provides for international best practice water conservation technology, extensive water recycling, preserving local biodiversity and minimising impact on the local environment.

If approved, Village Roadshow expects construction to start next year, and for the theme park to open in time for the summer of 2013.

An independent economic impact assessment, commissioned by Village Roadshow, concluded that the theme park would:

- Support more than 300 local full-time jobs during construction;
- Support more than 278 jobs once operational;
- Bring more than \$340 million in tourism expenditure to Sydney during the first 10 years of operations;
- Contribute more than \$500 million to the NSW economy during the first 10 years of operations; and
- Attract 900,000 people every year – including 175,000 international and interstate visitors.



Village Roadshow Theme Parks Chief Executive Tim Fisher says that Wet'n'Wild Sydney would be a magnet for tourists and investment.

"Wet'n'Wild would bring world class theme park thrills and excitement to Sydney for the first time, and would be a landmark destination for all ages," he says.

"Wet 'n' Wild Sydney would be likely become one of the world's top ten water parks in the first few years of operation."

Wet 'n' Wild Sydney is likely to include:

- Australia's largest wave pool
- Duelling water coasters
- A variety of both teen and family oriented water slides
- Adventure river
- Toddler pool and interactive water play zone

The Australia-based company owns Gold Coast theme parks including Wet'n' Wild, Sea World and Warner Bros Movie World as well as Sydney tourist attractions such as Sydney Wildlife World, Sydney Aquarium, Sydney Tower and Oceanworld Manly.

Minister for Western Sydney, David Borger, says the project would be great for jobs and great for the economy.



“This project would deliver an injection of jobs, economic investment and fun into Sydney,” he says. “More than four million people live within 50 minutes drive of the site, and this new attraction would draw people to Western Sydney for years to come.”

The project will be considered as a Major Project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, because the proposed location for the park is within Western Sydney Parklands. (The NSW Government is the consent authority under the Western Sydney Parklands SEPP for developments valued at more than \$30 million). The proposal will be put on public exhibition for comment as part of the merit-based assessment process.

Village Roadshow plans to fund preliminary development through existing cash reserves and undrawn debt facilities, and will seek new finance to fund the final construction cost.

SGL to tackle Sugarworld

SUGARWORLD, the Cairns waterpark forced to close in April due to structural issues with its waterslides, is having a feasibility study undertaken by Simply Great Leisure (SGL).

SGL is a specialist aquatic and leisure facilities planning company operating throughout Australia and New Zealand. The company has completed more than 450 aquatic facility feasibility and development projects for government and commercial sectors.

Cairns Deputy Mayor Margaret Cochrane said the restoration of Sugarworld waterslides has become a priority, as part of an effort to arrest the downturn in the local tourism industry. Council has allocated \$4 million to the project.

In April 2010, Sugarworld Waterpark was closed by Cairns Regional Council in the interests of public safety due to an investigation into the structural integrity of the water slides.



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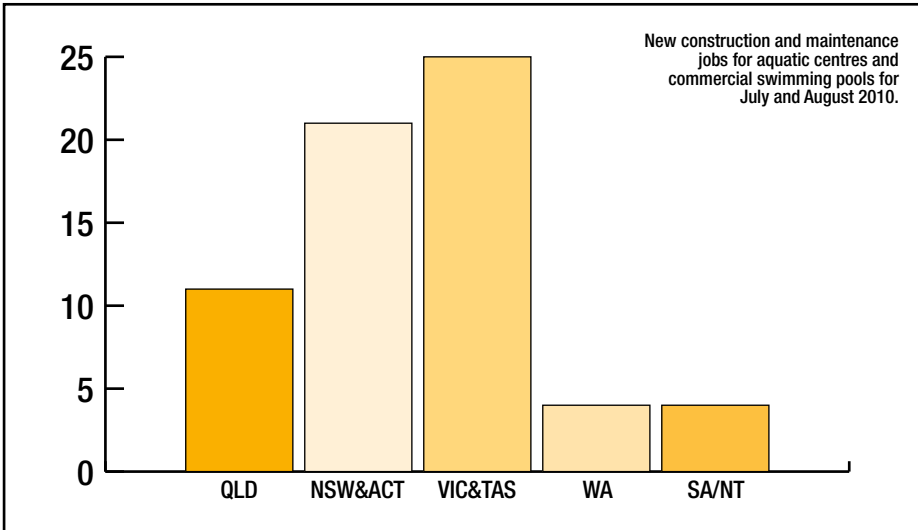
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Latest commercial tenders

CORDELL Information has released data showing new tenders for public swimming pools and aquatic centres for July and August, 2010.

The figures show both construction and maintenance jobs for aquatic centres and commercial swimming pools. Only new business opportunities have been included, not jobs that have been previously advertised.

The figures show tender numbers at 65 in total compared with 63 for the previous period. Victoria (25) and New South Wales (21) had the most tenders, followed by Queensland with 11.



Tenders of the month

PROJECT: Construction of Major Building Elements and Civil Works
LOCATION: Broken Hill City Council
CLOSE DATE: 8 October 2010, 3pm (CST)
TENDER NO: Expression of Interest E2/10
DESCRIPTION: The work consists of the construction of major building elements and civil works:

1. Structural Engineering Certification for roof and walls
2. Excavation for footings
3. Laying of drains, water supply and power conduits
4. Placing of steel reinforcement and concrete
5. Supplying and installing of steel structure framework
6. Supplying and the laying of bricks
7. Supplying and installing of roofing systems
8. Supplying and installing all doors and windows
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10. Supplying and installing all services (eg; electrical, communications)
11. Supplying and installing all wall and ceiling insulations
12. Finishing the structure in accordance with the drawings, contract and specifications
13. Construction of pool structures
14. Laying of wall and floor tiles
15. Laying of concrete and brick paving
16. Fire Services installation

PROJECT:

Subcontractors pricing projects

LOCATION: Monash SDS Aquatic Centre

CLOSE DATE: 13 October, 2010

TENDER TO (Tendering Body):

FIMMA Constructions Pty Ltd

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CLOSES:

Wednesday 13th October 2010

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ph 03 9544 5755

For more information on Cordell Information's commercial tender reports, call 1800 674 120.

Studies show more Aussies getting active

HALF OF US EXERCISE THREE TIMES A WEEK

THE latest Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS) Annual Report shows that almost 50 per cent of Australians aged 15+ participated in regular physical activity (at least three times a week) in 2009.

This equates to an estimated 8.2 million people who are involved in regular physical activity.

Since 2001 regular participation has jumped 11 percentage points, from 37 per cent of the population aged over 15 in 2001 to 48 per cent in 2009.

The survey also confirms that Australians are involved in a wide range of exercise options.

About 40 per cent of Australians aged 15+ participated at least three times per week in non-organised physical activity, 12.3 per cent participated in organised

physical activity and 6.4 per cent in club-based physical activity.

In 2009, as with previous years, women were more likely than men to be regular participants (51 per cent and 45 per cent respectively) except for those aged 15 to 24 year olds where male participation was higher.

Men were more likely to be active for longer periods per session.

Walking, aerobics, swimming, cycling and running remain the top five non-organised activities for Australians.

The top 10 organised physical activities in 2009, in terms of total participation rate, were aerobics/fitness, outdoor football (soccer), netball, golf, tennis, basketball, Australian Rules football, outdoor cricket, lawn bowls and touch football.

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New youth coach and strategy manager

VINCE Raleigh will take on the position of Swimming Australia National Youth Coach from November this year, a position previously held by now Head Coach Leigh Nugent.

Raleigh, who coached Brenton Rickard to a world record gold in the 100m breaststroke at last year's World Championships in Rome and made his first trip with an Australian team in 1993, will work alongside Nugent in developing the future stars of the sport.

"Vince was an outstanding candidate and is the ideal person for the job," says Nugent.

"He has a strong background in working with coaches and athletes at the high performance level, but also back to his days coaching swimming teachers and working with the likes of Lawrie Lawrence and Bill Sweetenham.

"He has been heavily involved with



different parts of the program for a long time now and I can really see him taking the youth program to a new level."

A coach on the national team at the Beijing Olympics where six of his swimmers took home eight medals between them, and a senior coach at the AIS for the last six years, Raleigh says he's looking forward to

the new role.

"It will be good to look at our junior development from a strategic point of view and ways at which we can get smarter in developing our future talent," says Raleigh.

"I started out in a club program at Brothers where the likes of Emily Seebohm and Stephanie Rice were just promising junior swimmers, so and I know what it's like to run and manage a club program."


A former high school teacher at

Nudgee College in Brisbane, Raleigh will work with Nugent to continue to educate coaches and athletes all over Australia, with success in Rio in 2016 the ultimate goal.

"The swimmers and coaches that we'll be working with now, will form the nucleus of our team for Brazil in 2016. In 2001 we started a breaststroke camp for men and in 2008 we had two world record holders in the discipline. These things take time to come to fruition, and continuing the work that has already begun is what I'm really looking forward to."

Meanwhile Swimming Australia has also announced that Graeme Stephenson has been employed as the new General Manager for Aquatic Strategy.

Stephenson, who has worked in local government for more than 20 years, will work with swim clubs, centres and local councils to improve access to lane space for budding stars and coaches in programs around Australia.



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Best medal haul since Sydney Paralympic Games

ON the final night of competition at the IPC Swimming World Championships, Eindhoven, the men's team took out the 4 x 100m medley relay, bringing the Australian team's final gold medal count to 12. The gold medal count makes the meet the most successful for the team since the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games.

Head Coach Brendan Keogh is extremely happy with the final result. "This is the first time we've won the freestyle and medley relay double, which we've been trying to get for a very long time," he says. "I'm extremely proud of our team. The team has done an exceptional job at this meet, and that's reflected in the fact that we've had our best gold medal haul since Sydney 2000."

The relay wasn't the only highlight of the night. AIS-based Matthew Cowdrey and Peter Leek both broke world records, taking home gold medals. Cowdrey obliterated the world record in

the men's 100m backstroke (S9) after his turn on the 50m pushed him into a lead that he extended over the last 25m. His time of 1:01.85 smashed the previous world record of 1:03.32.

Cowdrey says the final night of competition was the pinnacle of this event for him, saying "To be able to go out on the last night of the meet and win the 4 x 100m medley as well as break a world record is just amazing."

Not to be outdone, Cowdrey's training partner, Peter Leek broke his second world record to win gold in the men's 100m freestyle (S8). Leek powered down the pool for the entire race, slamming into the wall in 57.62.

Leek took home six gold medals and one silver, from five individual and two relay races at this event.

In the women's 100m freestyle (S8) Jacqueline Freney (who is coached by her father, Michael) stayed with the gold



Andrew Pasterfield, Peter Leek, Matt Levy and Matt Cowdrey (l-r)

medal winner, USA's Jessica Long, to win a silver with a time of 1:09.08.

Sydney-sider Sean Russo took out silver in the men's 100m backstroke (S13).

Nineteen-year-old tyro Daniel Fox fought for his silver in the men's 200m freestyle (S14).

In her first race at an IPC event, 17-year-old Kara Leo drove hard for the entire women's 200m freestyle (S14) taking home a well-earned silver medal, touching the wall in 2:16.55.

Matt Levy from Sydney added to his medal collection tonight after winning bronze in the men's 50m butterfly (S7). Levy's medal came down to a fingernail touch at the end, taking third in 32.36.

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SPLASH! readers will remember the Nessie water organ from August last year. Now, California's Legoland has adapted the idea into the Lego-themed AquaTune, a playful musical instrument where kids can try their hand at composing the next big hit. They simply cover the arching water jets with their fingers to create a gentle organ sound.

Sports without Borders grants open

THE third round of Sports without Borders (SWB) grants are open between October 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010.

SWB was formed in 2006 in response to the key findings of the Australian Bureau of Statistics report on sport participation that found people from non English speaking backgrounds were two thirds less likely to participate in organised sport.

SWB's direct grants model overcomes identified barriers to participation and opens up participation pathways by providing accessible, multilingual resources and services, training/mentorship programs, sponsorship contacts direct financial support for equipment, registration fees, hire of training venues, specialist coaching and participation in sports tours and clinics.

The aim of the foundation is to assist young people from newly arrived refugee and first and second generation migrant backgrounds to integrate into



**SPORTS
WITHOUT BORDERS**

their local communities by facilitating their participation in sport. Sport has played a vital role in multicultural Australia, empowering many newly-arrived Australians to develop an identity and sense of active belonging.

Several barriers sometimes prevent young people from newly arrived migrant and refugee families from participating in community sport and recreation activities. These barriers include cost, cultural appropriateness, transport, language, and simply lack of familiarity with the rules.

Interested recreation and sport managers can contact: Dolores.singh@sports-withoutborders.org.



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Swimming dogs to the rescue

IN a twist on the old St Bernard in the snow scenario, the Italian Coast Guard is training lifesaver dogs.

Once the dog has finished its three-year training, it is fitted with a harness or attached to a buoy and despatched out of a helicopter in the direction of distressed bathers.

Italy's beaches are very crowded in summer, and it's been estimated more than 3000 people need rescuing each year.

There are up to 300 of these dogs in service, which have been described as "intelligent life-buoys". They can help the troubled swimmer until a boat or lifesaver can come to the rescue.



Most breeds can be trained, but they must be more than 30kg in weight. Good swimming breeds such as Labradors and golden retrievers have achieved the best results.

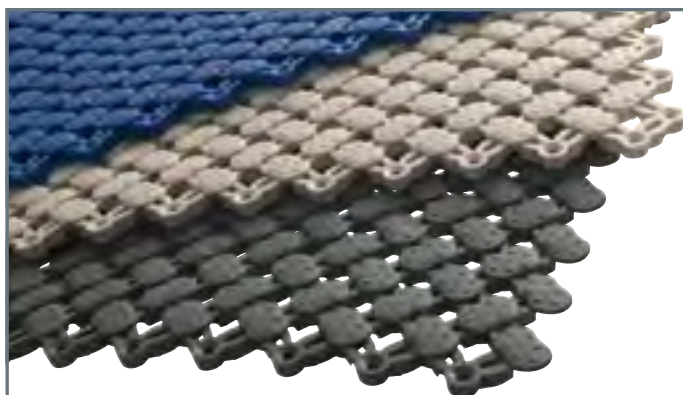
Swim meet shifted after Christchurch earthquake

SWIMMING New Zealand (SNZ) has shifted the national age group short course championships to Wellington, following the Christchurch earthquake.

The event was expected to attract up to 1000 swimmers, coaches, officials and supporters at the QEII Leisure Centre in Christchurch. But the complex is unlikely to open by that time, following the damaging earthquakes.

They considered cancelling or postponing the championships, and moving to another venue before deciding to relocate the championships to Wellington on the same dates.

Meanwhile, a second Olympic swimming pool is planned for the Millennium Institute of Sport & Health facility on Auckland's North Shore to fulfil demand for club swimmers, LTS and casual public users.



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Spain's big mover

ASTRALPOOL'S parent company has built the largest pool in Spain with a moving bottom and wall.

The pool, built for the Swimming Club of Sabadell, cost 5.8 million euros and features a 25m long and 12m wide platform submerged on the pool bottom.

The platform moves upwards, changing the depth of the pool. This means it is able to go from 2m to zero depth.

This mobility makes the pool highly versatile, enabling all kinds of activities which require the participants to stand in the water.

It also has a moving wall, so the pool can be divided in two. This wall is supported by rails so it can automatically move to the right or to the left, allowing several activities can be carried out at the same time.



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Left: The wave pool can accommodate approximately 4000 Above: Wildman Jack looks a bit familiar

Canada's biggest water park opens

VALCARTIER Vacation Village Group has built Canada's biggest theme waterpark. The Calypso Theme Waterpark has opened in the Ontario town of Limoges, positioned between Montreal and Ottawa.

Calypso covers 40 hectares with more than 35 water slides, 100 water games, and a giant wave pool. The new park cost more than \$CAD45 million.

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Coroner raises inflatable concerns



Call for Code of Practice

Inflatables are a great attraction for public swimming pools and aquatic centres. They can turn a simple rectangular pool into a fun park, can bring in lots of young patrons (and their parents) and can generate a considerable buzz.

And as they become more affordable, they are also becoming more prevalent.

But there is a general ambiguity about operational safety relating to these devices – not just in Australia, but also overseas. This was highlighted in the previous issue of SPLASH!, following German company Wibit's move into the American market, and their discovery that there was no national standard, and the guidelines that did exist were weak compared to Europe.

In Australia, the Australian Standards AS3533.1 and AS3533.2 and the Standard regarding water amusement devices (water slides and on-ground jumping castles) have no provision relating to in-pool obstacles or inflatables.

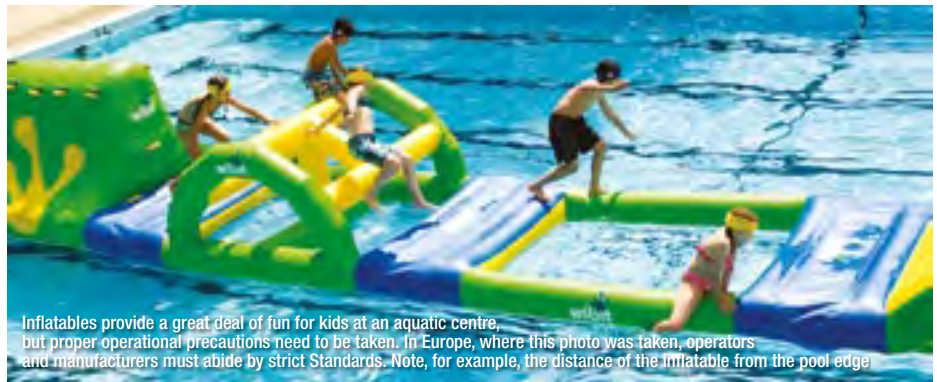
However, Royal Lifesaving (RLS) has published Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations (GSPO) which makes mention of inflatables. But there is no specific instructions such as the European Standard (EN 15649) which specifies that inflatables not be set up closer than 3m from the edge of the pool, for example.

Instead, it is left to manufacturers to provide instructions relating to the specific use of the inflatables. One problem with this approach is that – for one reason or another – not all operators have the manufacturers' guides.

The GSPO contains recommendations that all aquatic facilities that use in-pool inflatable equipment should conduct a detailed risk management assessment (RMA) on the use of the inflatable equipment.

This RMA should include (but not be limited to):

- Manufacturer's instructions;
- Depth of water in which the inflatable is operated;
- Likelihood of the person falling:
 - off the inflatable,



- onto the inflatable,
- into the water,
- onto the pool edges;
- Design of the pool;
- Design of the inflatable;
- Physical size of the patrons;
- Number of patrons using the inflatable or in its environs;
- Physical ability of the patrons;
- Operating procedure;
- Supervision:
 - of the inflatable,
 - of the general area (including line of sight issues);
- Previous incidents in relations to the inflatable – either recorded or anecdotal. Additionally, it states that:
- The equipment should carry a pre-determined load;
- The maximum number of people at any one time should be marked on the equipment and visible from at least one point on the pool deck.

Rockhampton incident

In Australia, there have been a number of incidents that have brought into question the correct operation of inflatables.

One incident is the death of a nine-year-old boy at the Rockhampton's Rock Pool Water Park in January 2007, after he fell from an inflatable device called the Rocket.

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland conducted an investigation and found that while there was one employee supervising the Rocket's use, the employee did not have formal lifesaving or swimming certification.

It was also found that the positioning of the Rocket over the pool blocked visibility below it. With the supervisor standing at the side of the pool, a blind spot restricted the view below the Rocket. While the product manufacturer supplied a manual at sale and electronic information was available on the web for the safe use of the inflatable toy, the company claimed it was not aware of either.

In August 2008, Rockhampton Industrial Magistrates Court fined the operator Fun Pty Ltd \$25,000. No conviction was recorded.

In June, 2010, Coroner Annette Hennessy brought down her findings into the death.

Coroners findings and recommendations

The Coroner found that contributing factors in the boy's drowning death were inadequate supervision of the child by the adults responsible for him, inadequate supervision of the inflatable device he was using, inadequate identification of the risks and hazards associated with the use of the inflatable device by the pool operator, and the child's lack of swimming competency and to a lesser extent his ability to comply with instructions.

The Coroner found that since the incident, the pool operator has taken significant steps to address the safety issues which arose as a result of this tragic incident. Those steps include but are not limited to undertaking a risk assessment in relation to the use of the inflatables, reallocation of positioning of lifeguards around the inflatables (one on the starting block and one on the side of the pool to ensure line of sight for the area surrounding

the inflatable), and improvements to signage.

The Coroner handed down a series of 16 recommendations.

Recommendation 1

That when items such as inflatable devices are in use in commercial or public pools, pool operators are to conduct a risk assessment on the use of the inflatable before commissioning it. The risk assessment should be conducted in accordance with RLSSA guidelines and take into account all information regarding the inflatable provided by the manufacturer.

Following the risk assessment, the pool operator should develop staff training on the issues raised in and procedures developed from the risk assessment and assess staff competency in the procedures. Those procedures should include scenario training relevant to the inflatable device in use. The Division of Workplace Health and Safety is to supervise the implementation of this recommendation.

Recommendation 2

That Aflex Technology Ltd, the manufacturer of the inflatable device in this matter, ensure that the user manual for each device more fully and prominently explain the risks associated with the use of the inflatable device, especially the risk of users drowning, and ensure the manual is provided to the purchaser with the product.

Recommendation 3

That the Division of Workplace Health and Safety consult with industry and RLSSA and give consideration to establishing a Pool Industry Code of Practice as a Standard under the Workplace Health and Safety Act to provide a guide for commercial and public pool owners and operators on issues including risk management and which includes provision for effective monitoring and enforcement of the guideline.

Recommendation 4

That Royal Lifesaving Society of Australia (RLSSA) conduct a review and produce guidelines, to be incorporated into the RLSSA Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation relating specifically to:

(i) the appropriate level of qualification and accreditation of lifeguards, and the required number of lifeguards providing supervision at public pools and "pay for entry" pools;

(ii) that specific reference be made to pools where obstructions including inflatable devices are used as part of the pool business of undertaking.

Recommendation 5

That the Committee responsible for review of Australian Standards AS3533.1 and AS3533.2 review these and other appropriate standards with regard to inclusion of issues around the use of in-water inflatable amusement devices not currently addressed in the standards.

Recommendation 6

That the Department of Health, Local Government Association and RLSSA consider conducting a public awareness campaign, reinforcing the need for continued supervision of children swimming at public pools, by parents, carers, guardians, or responsible adults.

Recommendation 7

That the Department of Health and RLSSA develop a program to promote and encourage parents and guardians to enrol children and other non-swimmers in learn-to-swim instruction including skills to survive a sudden immersion event.

Recommendation 8

That RLSSA review the "Keep Watch" program with a view to tying the recommendations for supervision not only to age but also to swimming ability levels and require significant enforcement of recommendations by pool staff/owners.

Recommendation 9

That WPHS consider legislating a requirement for all operators of public pools in Queensland to hold membership of RLSSA to ensure operator compliance with safety guidelines offered by RLSSA and to promote greater safety awareness in the industry.

Recommendation 10

That the Queensland Government reconvene a Queensland Water Safety Council including representation from Division of Workplace Health and Safety, Local Government Association, RLSSA, Qld Injury Surveillance Unit and other interested parties, perhaps under the auspices of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, in order to monitor issues and advise government on issues connected with public water safety.

Recommendation 11

That the Local Government Association of Qld and WPHSQ provide access to data involving public pools to RLSSA and approved researchers.

Recommendation 12

That the State Coroner improve the availability of appropriate information regarding drownings to approved researchers at an early stage of the coronial investigation, allowing a more timely review of the event by experts and the development of prevention strategies. It is noted that section 53(2) Coroners Act makes provision for the supply of information in certain circumstances. Timing is the thrust of this recommendation.

Recommendation 13

That WPHS improve the efficiency of the system for the issuing of Safety Alerts or other safety information to industry within a short period of time after an incident in order to protect public safety.

Recommendation 14

That WPHS and QPS:

(i) develop a protocol for QPS officers to contact WPHS inspectors out of office hours in relation to incidents;

(ii) clarify the QPS Memorandum of Understanding with WPHS regarding the investigation of coronial matters and consider modification of the Operations Procedure Manual provisions which prohibit disclosure of information to external bodies without the authority of the Commissioner of Police in this regard;

(iii) Improve communication between WPHS inspectors and investigating Police when investigating a coronial incident.

Recommendation 15

That WPHS ensure that there is continuity of knowledge within the organisation when an Inspector responsible for an investigation leaves before it is complete, so that a report prepared by a subsequent investigator represents the entire details of the incident, and issues such as safety alerts or the dissemination of other safety information are advanced in a timely fashion.

Recommendation 16

That WPHS develop, in conjunction with the State Coroner a more instructive and complete template or instructions to investigators to assist in preparation of coronial reports (reference might be had to the current QPS practice).

Royal Lifesaving is in the process of drafting a statement to address the concerns raised in the recommendations. SPLASH! will update further when more is known. 📞

New products

The latest ideas to make residential and commercial pools, spas and landscapes more stylish, efficient and easier to maintain, including luxurious accessories, technological advances and new concepts from Australasian and international manufacturers, suppliers and service providers.

Better barbecue covers

THE Kiwi-designed bbqcanvas has now become available in Australia.

It's a new, attractive style of designer barbecue cover. It is highly durable and protects the barbecue throughout all seasons. It gives the pride and joy of many an Australian cook – the barbie – a much-needed makeover while complementing the outdoor dining area.

The range features four twin-toned contemporary designs: Tuscan Olive, Shady Elm, Mad Snapper and Sheep.

For more information go to www.bbqcanvas.com.au.



ULTIMATE LUXURY

WHAT could be better than lounging by the pool under the total comfort of an Italian Roda Oasis gazebo?

This gorgeous accessory brings style, luxury and comfort to outdoor spaces. It can be a place to recline and enjoy a meal together, or simply a place to snooze away a summer afternoon in a romantic setting.

Roda gazebos are available through Domo collections.

For more go to www.domo.com.au

Double day beds from Satara

ANOTHER way to recline in style is with custom-designed Bukawu double day-beds by Satara.

Satara was recently chosen by the design team of the edgy new Crown Metropol Hotel in Melbourne to design the day-beds to enhance the luxurious Level 27 pool and recreational area.

Using a combination of synthetic weave, teak and stainless steel, Satara is European designed and hand woven in Indonesia from the best quality materials. You can choose from 12 different weather-proof weaves and fabric coverings. Natural tones such as Banana Leaf and Java Brown are designed to link interior and exterior spaces and complement the Australian landscape.

Satara also has the ability to custom design furniture to a designer or client's requirements.

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NEW FROM BIOGUARD

BIOGUARD WATER

POOL and spa water treatment specialist BioGuard has launched a new generation water management system in Australia and New Zealand.



BioGuard Water replaces the company's Alex system and will be instrumental in providing BioGuard store retailers and customers with a much better understanding of the condition of their pool water.

BioGuard Water was launched at the recent BioGuard conference, and the company has been providing system training to its retailers through a series of events in Australia and New Zealand.



POOL ACID AND POWDERED STABILISER

BioGuard has launched its own brand of Pool Acid in Australia. The product comes in 4 x 5 litre packs and is the first to be packaged with the new BioGuard graphics.

And following a successful trial, BioGuard has decided to produce a stabiliser in a powdered form because of its fast dissolving qualities. Current granular stabiliser stocks will be run out before being replaced with the powdered form.

The new powdered form will be easily identifiable as it will be marked with a "New Fast Dissolving" sticker.

POOL POPPITS

BioGuard has been appointed Australian distributor for the Poppits brand of spa chemicals. Customers looking for support with Poppits products should call their local BioGuard Business Development Manager.





Portable pumpability

THIS pump could be useful when you're stuck without electricity.

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The engine is a 33.5cc four stroke petrol unit so there is no need to mix fuels and it has a 0.6 litre capacity moulded tank within the engine and the convenient carry frame. The engine will give up to 70 minutes of operating time on a tank fill at maximum revolutions or at idle will run for close to three hours.

The engine has electronic ignition, a single element air filter and uses a manual recoil rope start. It achieves a maximum power of 0.9kW (or 1.21 hp) at 6500 rpm. The pump is a direct coupled centrifugal impeller type casting with a total head of 25 metres and a suction lift of 3 metres.

It is fitted with 25mm or one-inch BSP threaded inlet and outlets. With an all up weight of only 8kg the unit is supplied with a suction strainer and two hose connections.

For more information on the Selecta Power Portable Pump call 1300 745 826 or email info@silvan.com.au.



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The Opal XL cartridge filter housing is designed with an innovative dome shaped lid to accommodate extra large cartridges up to 270sqft (25.1m²) of filter surface area, with the capacity to filter a 180,000 litre pool.

The extra large surface area maximises the filter's dirt-holding capacity and minimises its maintenance, leading to significant water savings.

Combined with a MultiCyclone centrifugal pre-filter, Opal XL cartridge filters may only require a seasonal clean for an average sized domestic swimming pool.

Constructed from high impact polypropylene and designed for easy maintenance, the filter's low profile and ergonomic lid handles allows quick and easy access to the filter cartridge.

For more information go to www.waterco.com.au



NEW FROM ZODIAC BARACUDA IS BACK

ZODIAC has launched its new Baracuda T5 Duo suction cleaner.

Diving back into Australian pools just in time for summer, the Baracuda T5 Duo has gone "back to basics" with its user friendly ergonomic design, providing pool owners with an even easier pool cleaning solution.

Everything about the new T5 Duo is engineered to offer pool owners effortless poolside maintenance and operation. Able to be fully assembled in just a few simple steps, it features only one moving part and operates using Zodiac pioneered Dual Disc Technology.

It is equipped with a new patented twist lock hose which provides a stronger connection between each length of hose and improves water flow.

Zodiac is offering a \$75 cash-back from October 1, 2010 to January 31, 2011.

POLARIS 9300 SPORT

Zodiac has also launched a new premium robotic pool cleaner – the Polaris 9300 Sport. Zodiac says it features unrivalled performance, faster navigation and enhanced agility.

This cleaner is already making waves in the US. As it doesn't rely on a connection to the pool skimmer box, pool owners retain 100 per cent skimming on the surface of the pool.

And because the Polaris 9300 Sport is not connected to the pool pump, it is extremely energy efficient to operate, running off only 150 watts.

It features the new patented Vortex Vacuum Technology, which Zodiac says enables revolutionary vacuum flow for unparalleled debris consumption, including the ability to capture more than four times the debris load of other robotic cleaners.

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The King Cobra

POLIN Waterparks and Pool Systems has launched the King Cobra.

Polin says the waterslide offers one of the most “intense” riding experiences of the industry while having great visual impact and spectator appeal.

With its unique design configuration, fibreglass theming, colouring and its unique riding path, it will surely be a lively attraction at water parks.

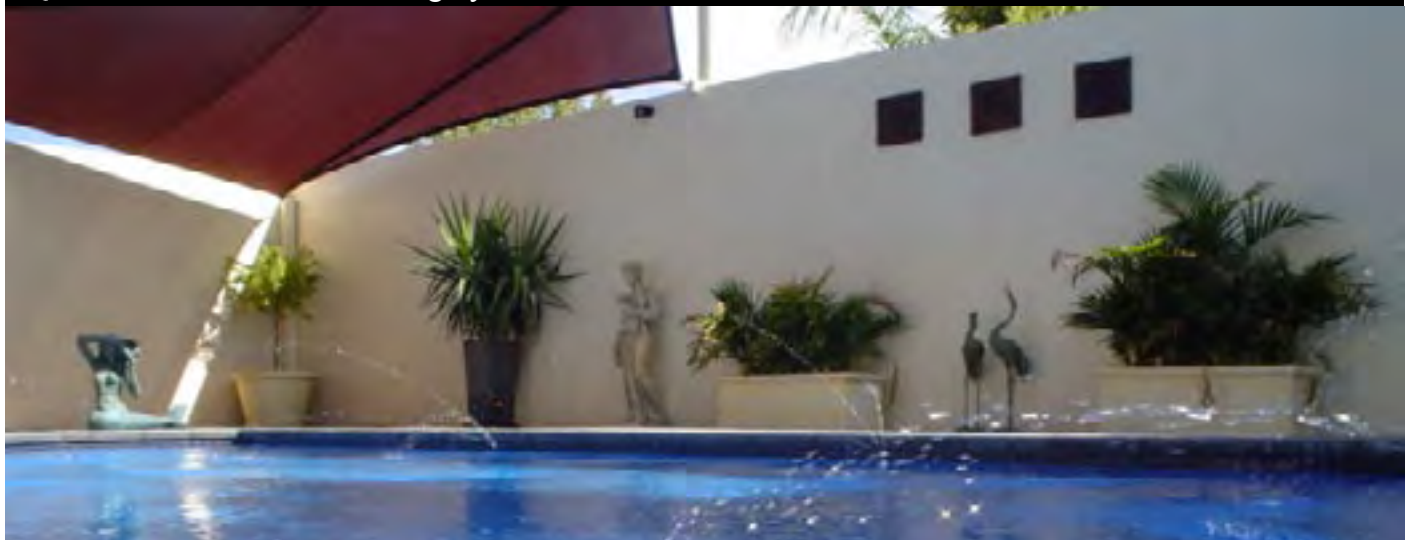
Its main feature is the configuration which enables riders in two double-tubes to race through a circular path with twists and turns, followed by a darkened section and an unexpected eight metre drop at a 50-degree angle. They then enter the valley section at the same time, still racing each other.

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PALINTEST has developed two new Pooltest Portable Photometers for swimming pool water monitoring. The

Pooltest 3 and Pooltest 6 photometers use narrow band filters with a wavelength tolerance of ± 2 nm. The instruments also offer increased path length for measurement, enabling greater resolution at low concentrations, and therefore better precision.

A four-button interface also makes the instruments very easy to use, with a clear LCD screen for the menu and results, and a universal symbol set that spans all language barriers.

The Pooltest 3 is designed to be ideal for routine pool monitoring, and can test for Chlorine levels, pH and Cyanuric Acid, with the option of an extended range Chlorine test for when a 0-10 mg/l range is desired.

The Pooltest 6 tests those same basic parameters, and can also measure Alkalinity, Bromine and Calcium Hardness levels for a more in-depth analysis of the water quality.

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Kids will have a blast – literally – with blaster board. It's a water blaster, kickboard and shield – all in one. The kickboard doubles as a shield which protects them from water fights. Pull back on the kickboard's lever to fill with water and watch as water blasts up to nine metres in the air.

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TPV soft surfaces now available in Australia

THERMOPLASTIC vulcanised rubber (TPV) by Rosehill Polymers is the next generation of colour-consistent rubber wetpour for use indoor and outdoor in the sports and play industry.

TPV by is manufactured in the United Kingdom and is now available through Surface Designs in Australia.

This product is produced from a high quality virgin polymer which has been specifically designed with the end user in mind. It currently comes in a range of up to 16 colours and offers both architects and installers endless possibilities for creative design when planning a wetpour surface.

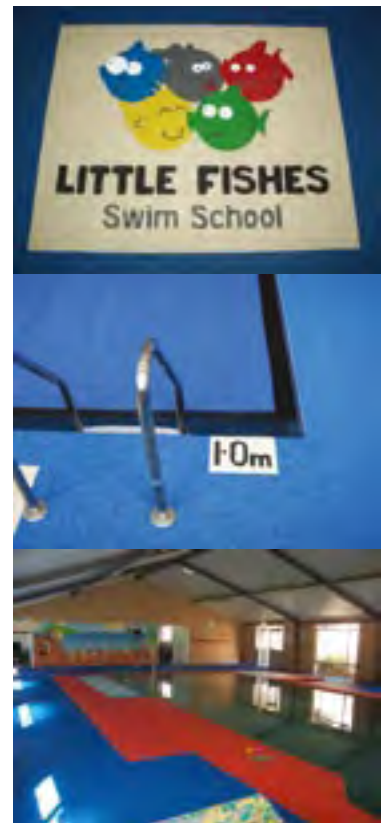
The advantages of TPV over EPDM include that it has superior UV stability compared to any other rubber granule in the market, and as such is more appropriate to the Australian climate. It will not go white or bleed like EPDM.

It has better colour consistency throughout, and TPV is compatible with EPDM if you do want to mix up the colours. It will also seam up to EPDM.

It does not leach black carbon, does not contain heavy metals and requires less polyurethane binder than EPDM. It is non toxic and non allergenic.

Made from a high quality virgin polymer, it has a high elastic recovery. It contains no moisture and is not porous like some EPDMs.

For sales or technical enquiries call Kellie Doust on (02) 9962 8522 or visit www surfacedesigns.com.au.



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New external display indicator

HYDRAMET has launched a new external display indicator (EDI) designed to allow pool operators to determine the atmospheric chlorine level prior to entering a potentially affected area.

The unit receives a signal from the existing Hydramet or similar chlorine leak detector and displays the concentration of chlorine in the atmosphere of the chlorine storage or plant room.

A 100mm LED display is available that can be mounted externally on the chlorine building and viewed up to 50m away. The smaller 20mm unit can be mounted in an office or workshop area.

The Hydramet or similar leak detector detects a chlorine gas leak and initiates an audible alarm. The plant or pool operator is not recommended to enter the area.

If the chlorine atmospheric level exceeds 1ppm, a SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) and chlorine awareness trained operator must attend with SCBA to isolate the container valve. A "standby person" with SCBA & chlorine awareness training is also required in this situation.

At most sites, the Hydramet leak detector or similar receiver module is located within the plant room or drum room and can't be easily viewed from a distance to determine the concentration.

With the Hydramet External Display Indicator the plant or pool operator can decide on what course of action to take using the information from the indicator at a safe distance.

For further information visit www.hydramet.com.au or call (08) 8374 7800.



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MICRO 8 PHOTOMETER



THE recent success of eXact's Micro 7+ has driven Industrial Test Systems (ITS) to develop an all new hand-held photometer for testing even more water quality parameters using its proven eXact technology.

The robust eXact Micro 8 Advanced Photometer tests for Iron (Fe+2/Fe+3), pH, Ammonia, Phosphate, Sulfide and Cyanide in water. The eXact Micro 8 also offers a transmission mode that can be used to test an additional 11 parameters including Hardness, Chloride/Salt, Biguanide, Alkalinity and more.

With an inbuilt cell and the patented eXact Strip reagent delivery system, the waterproof (IP-76) eXact Micro 8 is easy to operate and provides rapid, accurate results. It comes with a two-year warranty, automatic inbuilt timer for streamlined testing, and 140-test memory.

For more information go to www.sensafe.com.



JET SCOOTER FOR POOLS

SEADOO has launched the first ever jet-propelled toy scooter for use in swimming pools.

The Seadoo Seascooter Jetglide allows its young driver to glide through the water easily, thanks to its advanced propulsion system which includes an impeller system in place of propellers. It delivers a strong water jet allowing the vehicle to travel up to 3.2kmh – fast enough for fun, but slow enough for safety. The scooter can also be accessorised with a top-mounted water cannon for extra enjoyment.

For more information visit www.seadooscooter.com or email service@stallionsport.com.

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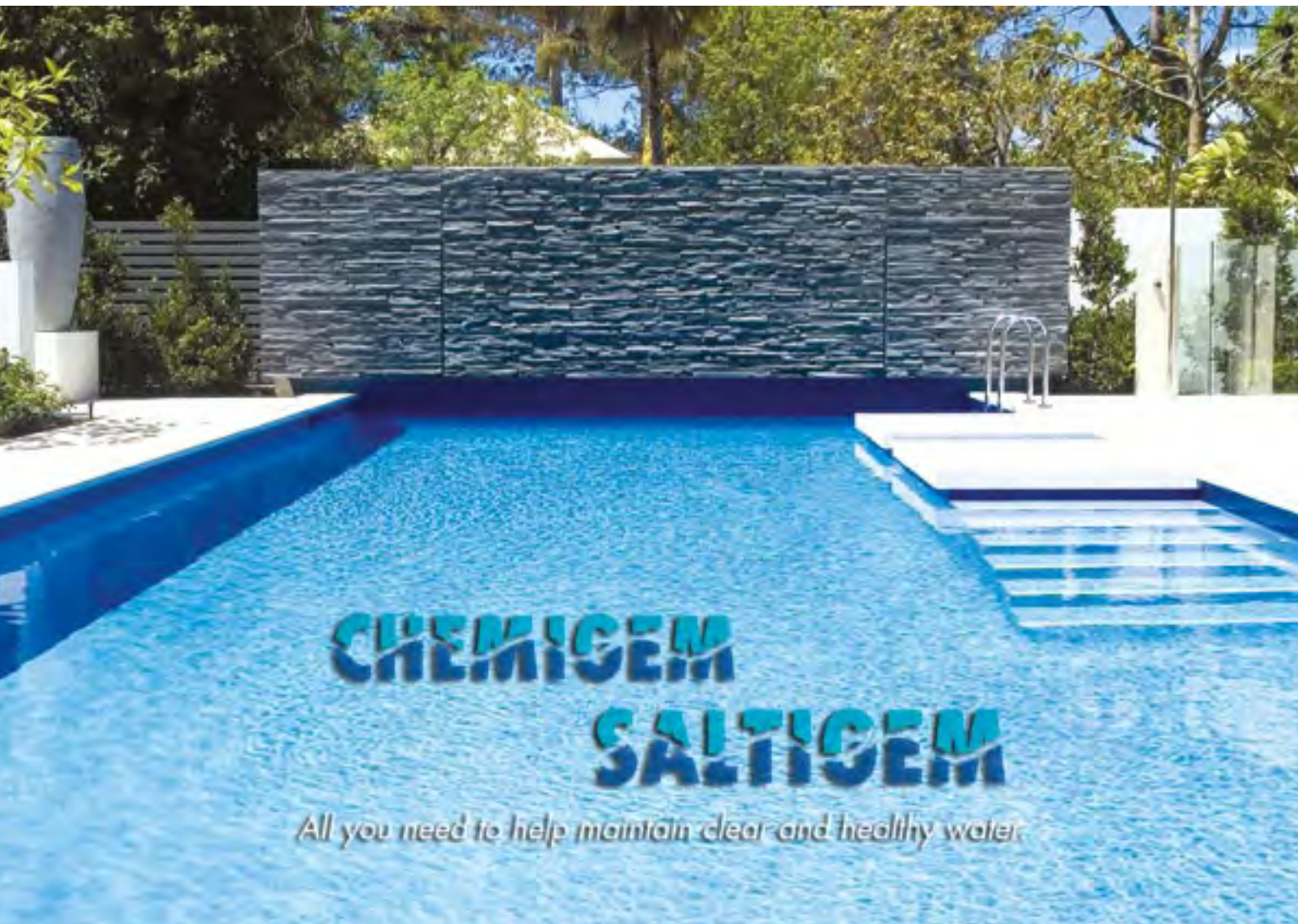
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