

SPLASH! 2010 Wins Best Show

SPLASH! 2010 achieved record exhibitor and attendance numbers and was recognised as an invaluable contribution to the pool and spa market. The Exhibition & Event Association of Australia (EEAA) awarded SPLASH! Pool & Spa Trade Show 2010 the award for Best Trade Show Under 10,000sqm as well as the Best Australian Show (trade or consumer). It was an overwhelming success for Interpoint and the pool and spa industry at large. We couldn't have done this without the support of sponsors, exhibitors, attendees and all the suppliers.



Site Visit: Paradise Resort Thursday 26th July



Join the team at Paradise Resort to see how they have created a water park and kids play area in Surfers Paradise. We will be leaving Jupiters at 7.30am, enjoy breakfast poolside before a site inspection with Paradise Resorts Engineer, who will answer any questions you have about the venue. Head back to SPLASH! by 10am for the second day of education, networking and visiting the exhibition. Spaces are limited and registrations are a MUST. \$40 + GST per person includes transfers and breakfast. This is perfect for hotel managers, engineers, councils responsible for play areas.



Looking for accommodation?

Special room rates are available at Jupiters Hotel & Casino. The venue has 594 superbly appointed guest rooms, including 29 suites and two penthouses. The rooms feature sweeping views across the Pacific to the east and rugged hinterland to the west.

Delegates who wish to utilise Jupiters rates for SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show 2012 should contact reservations direct on 1800 074 344 and mention that they are attending "SPLASH! 2012" or download a booking form from www.splashexpo.com and fax/email back to the hotel.



Welcome Reception

Join SPLASH! at the Welcome Reception. Wednesday 25 July 2012 from 5pm at the Jupiters swimming pool – its free for delegates and exhibitors to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.



SPLASH! Andrew Simons Memorial Golf Day

Lakelands Golf Club, 27 July 2012



Join the Lo-Chlor and SPLASH! teams at the Lakelands Golf Course on Friday, 27th July 2012. A great way to relax after a big week. Designed by one of the greatest golf players of all time Jack Nicklaus, Lakelands is a 18 hole (par 72) international standard

championship golf course. Immaculately spruced, the Windsor Green couch fairways are neat and well groomed, while the hardy Bermuda-strain tifdwarf greens are firm and roll honestly. The Clubhouse, with expansive views of the golf course and the Gold Coast skyline, is where post golf celebrations including lunch and prize giving will take place. \$145.00 + GST per person. **Register at www.splashexpo.com.au**

SPLASH!

online

The screenshot shows the homepage of the SPLASH! online magazine. At the top left is the SPLASH! logo. To its right is a banner for Pentair Water with the text 'Tune into POOL FYI right now [CLICK HERE](#)'. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links: HOME, RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AQUATICS, HOT PRODUCTS, EXPOS, INDUSTRY NEWS, and ARCHIVED MAGAZINES. A secondary menu includes ABOUT, BLUE PAGES, E-NEWS REGISTRATION, QUICKLINKS, EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING, INDUSTRY LINKS, ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, and EVENTS. The main content area features several articles and advertisements. A large article titled 'Pool turns into theatre to wow cruise passengers' includes an image of a pool with a stage. Below it are smaller images and a 'HOT PRODUCTS' section with an advertisement for a Dolphin Robot Cleaner. To the right of the Dolphin ad is a 'TRADE DIRECTORY Blue Pages' box. Below the Dolphin ad is a 'Click for more info' button. Further down is an 'INDUSTRY NEWS' section with an article titled 'SPASA Queensland selling office to keep warranty scheme afloat'. To the right of this is an advertisement for 'LANDSCAPE AUSTRALIA EXPO' at the Royal Hall of Industries, Sydney. Below the SPASA article is an advertisement for 'VVIRO' and another for 'Save money, time, water and energy with Natzare's MicroFlo vacuum sand filters'. On the far right, there is an advertisement for 'HAYWARD' with the tagline 'The world's most innovative pool products'.

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SPLASH!

Commercial

In **SPLASH! Commercial** we focus on big and small commercial swimming pools including resort pools and spas, water parks, 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.

Waterplay San Fernando, Spain

COMMERCIAL NEWS AND FEATURES

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Inflatable manufacturer drafts standards

NEW ZEALAND BASED MANUFACTURER AFLEX HAS DEVELOPED A DRAFT STANDARD FOR INFLATABLES IN AN ATTEMPT TO FILL THE CURRENT AUSTRALASIAN VOID.

IN Europe, the use of inflatable slides and other inflatable devices at public pools is covered by strict standards. That is not the case in Australia or New Zealand, a situation that has been highlighted in SPLASH! on a number of occasions following a series of incidents relating to inflatables, including the drowning death of a young boy in 2007.

Now, Aflex Technologies is developing standards for water inflatables which encompasses all facets of their products from basic operating procedures, setup, rules of play, maintenance and importantly safety considerations. They are working with Royal Life Saving Australia and other interested organisations to promote a worldwide standard to ensure the safety of all large scale commercial inflatables.

The company is interested in feedback on the draft standards, which are available on their facebook page, highlighted below.

Also, Martin Stratford, Managing Director of Aflex Technology is one of a committee working group providing input for Standards Australia.

“The first draft of the standard for Water Borne Inflatables will be released for comment and public submission

sometime in the next few months.

There are a lot of issues to cover which are quite complex and time consuming,” he says.

“It will be good when the first draft has been released for the industry to provide feedback, as experienced aquatic operators and managers’ input is invaluable and required I feel to get a standard that is a workable document, and meets the needs of the aquatic industry.”

In Australia, the issue of lack of standards gained particular attention following a Coroner’s report into the death of a nine-year-old boy at the Rockhampton’s Rock Pool Water Park in January 2007, after he fell from an Aflex inflatable called the Rocket. While the manufacturer had supplied a manual at sale and electronic information was available on the web for the safe use of the inflatable toy, the water park management claimed it was not aware of either, and did not adhere to correct safety procedures.

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland conducted an investigation and found that while there was one employee supervising the inflatable, the employee did not have formal lifesaving or swimming certification. It was also found

that the positioning of the inflatable over the pool blocked visibility below it.

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, the child’s lack of swimming competency and to a lesser extent his ability to comply with instructions.

The Coroner handed down a series of 16 recommendations, including that: Workplace Health and Safety consult with industry and RLSSA and establish a Pool Industry Code of Practice as a Standard under the Workplace Health and Safety Act; RLSSA conduct a review and produce guidelines relating specifically to the number and qualification of lifeguards around inflatables and the issue of obstructions including inflatable devices; the AS3533.1 and AS3533.2 Australian Standards Committee include inflatable amusement devices not currently addressed in the standards.

Go online at splashmagazine.com.au for a Quicklink to the relevant Aflex webpage.



Upcoming conferences

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF UPCOMING EVENTS WORTH KEEPING AN EYE ON.

What: The 2012 Australian Water Safety Conference "From Strategy to Action"

When: Monday 4 June to Tuesday 5 June

Where: Novotel Hotel, Brighton Beach, Sydney

What is it: The conference provides a forum for those working in water safety and drowning prevention to share valuable water safety information, best practice and research.

What: National Austswim Aquatic Education Conference

When: Friday July 13 to Sunday July 15

Where: Radisson Resort, Gold Coast

What is it: The conference offers more than 35 sessions by leading industry experts, covering a wide range of topics, from infant learn to swim to competitive strokes, catering for beginner teachers to swim centre managers and owners.

What: ALFA Queensland State Conference

When: Tuesday July 24, 2012

Where: Jupiters Gold Coast

What is it: Held in conjunction with SPLASH! Gold Coast.

What: Hydraulic Workshop

When: Tuesday July 24, 2012

Where: Jupiters Gold Coast

What is it: Held in conjunction with SPLASH! Gold Coast. Cal Stanley and Hugh Smith have designed an advanced training course in pool hydraulics. You will learn about flow, water velocity and head loss; about sizing your pipes and pumps for the most efficient transfer of water.

What: SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show and Seminars

When: Wednesday July 25 to Thursday July 26

Where: Jupiters Gold Coast

What is it: The only national swimming pool, spa and aquatics trade show in Australasia – the place where the whole industry comes together every two years. Won the "Best Australian Show" from Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia. Includes the SPLASH! Environmental Awards Gala Dinner on the evening of Thursday July 26.



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Norwegian swimmer dies from heart attack

The health of elite athletes has come under scrutiny again after world champion breaststroker, 26-year old Dale Oen from Norway, died unexpectedly from cardiac arrest in his bathroom at an altitude training camp in Arizona, USA.

His teammates became worried when he didn't come out of the bathroom, and after breaking into the room found him slumped across the bath. The team doctor attempted to revive him, but he was pronounced dead later that evening.

As well as winning the 100 breaststroke in the 2011 world championships in Shanghai, he also picked up silver at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. He was one of Norway's biggest summer games hopes for London.

His Shanghai win came just days after Anders Breivik murdered 77 people in a horrific shooting spree, and Oen was seen as giving the country something positive at a time of mourning. He dedicated his win to the massacre victims and cried when he received his medal.

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Geelong water sculpture wins award



The Sea Dragon, a wind-driven, sculptural sea monster, has netted a design award for JOH Architects. The design draws inspiration from Geelong's history as a port city connected to farming and industry, as well as from a vision for a sustainable, independent future for the Victorian city.

The iconic sculpture consists of seven masts designed to make the most of the

available wind energy. Turbines on top of the masts transfer their energy through a simple gearing system that rotates a barrel, which acts as an elongated corkscrew. The barrel makes contact with the water on each rotation, drawing the water up and over it in a wave-like motion along the full length of the 75m sculpture.

The speed at which the barrel turns

depends on the speed of the wind driving the turbines. The sculpture sits on a floating pontoon that is connected to the existing breakwater, meaning it doesn't take up valuable waterfront land.

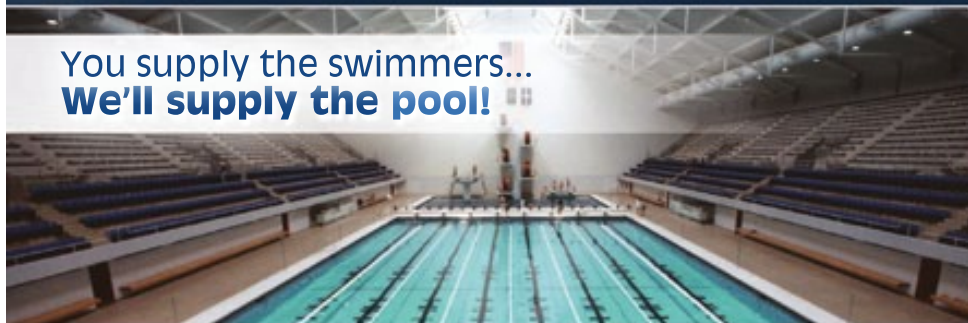
The competition aimed to create an icon for Geelong to represent the city. The brief asked for a pragmatic art installation that stimulates and challenges the mind.



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Rockdale residents keen on Bexley pool

A display of redevelopment plans for Bexley pool has been viewed favourably by the constituents, with 96 per cent of the submissions reportedly being in favour of the development.

The proposal involves a two-storey complex with a 50-metre outdoor pool,



a 25-metre indoor pool, a program pool and a leisure pool, gymnasium, amenities, creche and kiosk.

The current Bexley Swimming Centre contains an outdoor Olympic Pool (50

metre x 8 lanes), a teaching pool (17 metres) and toddler's pool. There is some basic gym equipment and facilities for the administration of the pool on the site as well. Bexley Pool is the only



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council-owned aquatic facility in the City of Rockdale.

However, the current 50 metre pool at the Bexley site needs replacement; this is considered both necessary and a priority. The existing 50 metre outdoor pool was constructed in 1974 on unstable fill

material. The pool leaks and filtration equipment contravenes current NSW Health Guidelines.

The council is facing continually increasing cost related its maintenance and must either redevelop or shut down the existing facility.

Previous discussions with the community informed the council that the favoured option a swimming and leisure centre situated at the current Bexley site, comprising new indoor swimming and leisure opportunities while retaining the outdoor 50m pool.

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Polin forms alliance with Creek Surfing

URNS SNOWBOARDING INTO SURFING.

THE Hungarian company behind creek surfing, itself called Creek-Surfing, has joined forces with Turkish waterpark designer and manufacturer Polin Waterparks and Pool Systems.

Polin is now a global distributor for Creek-Surfing and the two companies will act in cooperation to introduce this unique, innovative product.

The greatest potential is the cooler European climate where winter sports are popular, as Creek-Surfing offers a solution to the seasonality of skiing and snowboarding. Creek-Surfing can be integrated into waterparks and/or amusement parks or can be a stand-alone attraction. It can also be used as a passive ride on two-seater inflatables.

The concept of creek surfing is based on a micro-terraced system. Several plastic bands are placed horizontally on a base plate, thus forming micro-terraces side by side. The water is first pumped up to the top of the creek, and then it fills the micro-terraces from top to bottom, forming micro basins. That shallow water enables people to brake and change direction – just like on snow-covered downhill courses.

For more information go to www.creeksurfing.hu.



Pump efficiency meter

ONE of the world's leading engineering, architecture and environmental consulting companies, GHD, has developed innovative technology to continuously monitor water pump efficiency in real-time.

The GHD Pump Efficiency Meter System has been developed through a team from GHD's Cazenovia operations, with support from the company's Innovation Program. It is designed to integrate with existing pump control systems to optimise the use of a water facility's pumps and can notify operators when a pump's performance has deteriorated and requires maintenance.

It is primarily intended for water facilities but may also have application for large aquatic facilities.

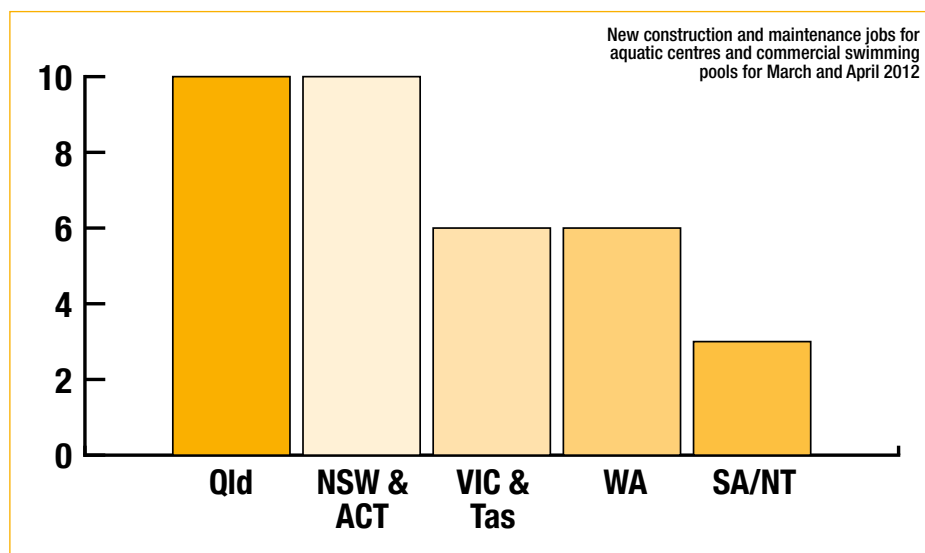
GHD is one of the world's leading engineering, architecture and environmental consulting companies. Established in 1928, GHD employs more than 6500 people across five continents.

Latest commercial tenders

CORDELL Information has released data showing new tenders for public swimming pools and aquatic centres for March and April, 2012.

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 35 in total compared with 28 for the previous period. New South Wales (10) and Queensland (10) had the most tenders.



Tender of the month

Civilcon Constructions

Request for Quotation: Newman - Design/Construction of Caravan Park including swimming pool (27-12)

Tender Closes: June 6, 2012

Civilcon Constructions has requested a quote for the design and construction of a proposed caravan park, tavern, roadhouse and manager's residence.

The project also includes construction of swimming pool facilities and children's play equipment/area.

Tender closes on the 6th of June 2012 – the tender documents are available from their eTendering portal at www.tendersonline.com.au/civilcon.

If you are having issues downloading tender documents please call 1800 233 996. For more information on Cordell Information's commercial tender reports, call 1800 674 120.

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When we put our heads under water, we really start to appreciate air. Life without air is measured in seconds and a large part of learning to swim is controlling the rhythm of breathing without causing stress to our system.

More air enters the body and the bloodstream than any other substance. On average, most adults breathe roughly 16kg of air per day through about 20,000 breaths.

Children take almost twice as many breaths because they're smaller and still developing their respiratory systems.

Pure air is mainly nitrogen with about one-fifth oxygen and small amounts of water vapour, argon, carbon dioxide, neon, helium and hydrogen. We mostly take it for granted because it's free, it's invisible and breathing requires no mental stimulus.

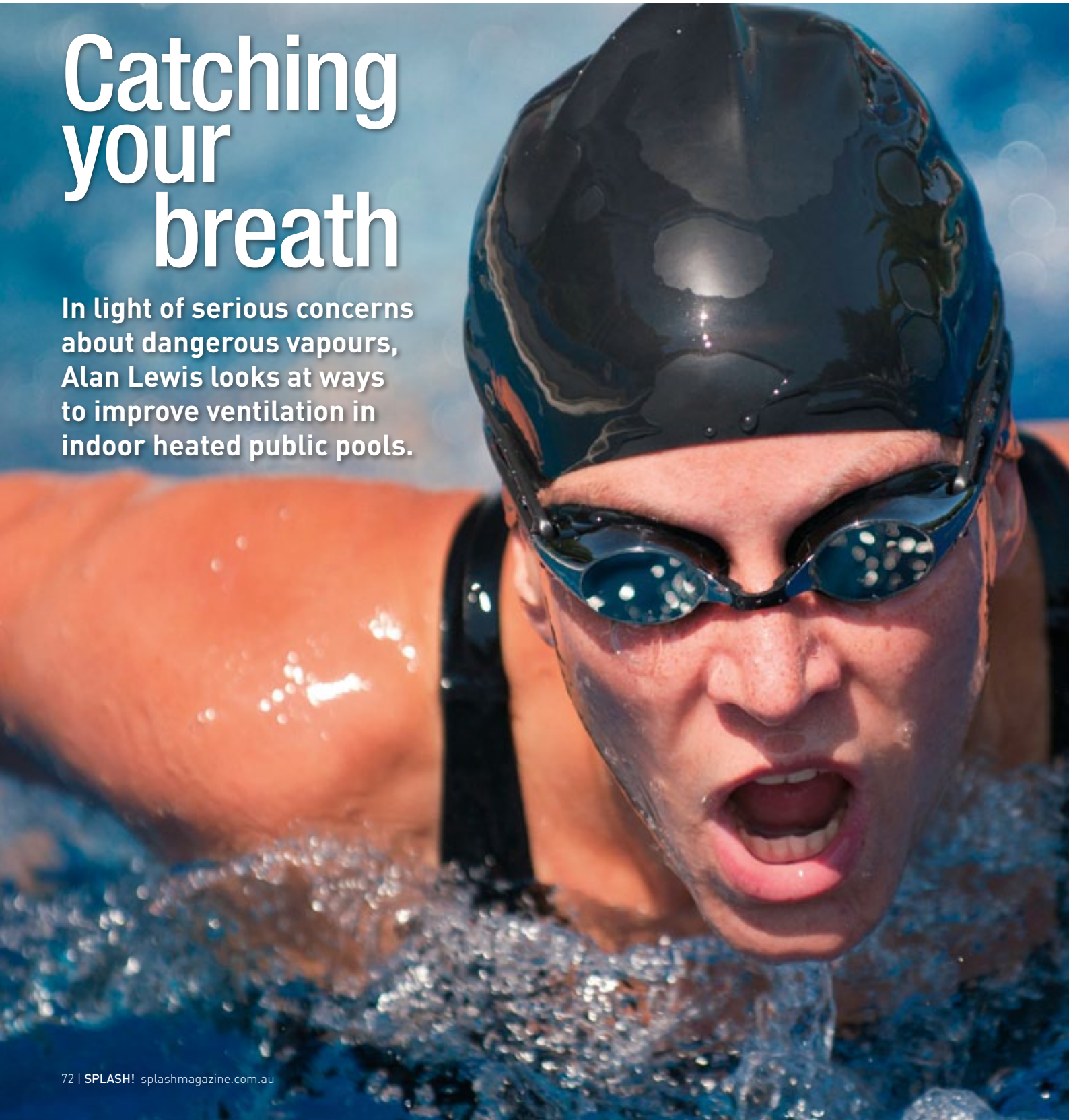
We now know that when a swimmer is

immersed in a chlorinated pool, access to oxygen is complicated by the fact that the air immediately above the surface is often so contaminated with volatile disinfectant by-products (DBPs) that it hampers the healthy functioning of the lungs.

For at least a decade we've had convincing evidence that we are polluting the air in our indoor swimming pool halls (sometimes referred to as natatoriums, especially in Europe).

Catching your breath

In light of serious concerns about dangerous vapours, Alan Lewis looks at ways to improve ventilation in indoor heated public pools.



This malodorous pollution in poorly ventilated halls comes from trichloramine gases (NCl₃ or nitrogen trichloride). Alongside this easily recognised odour are several other toxic gases which are masked by NCl₃. These include chloroform (and other trihalomethanes), haloacetic acids, haloketones and cyanogen chloride. Many organic DBPs do not cause discomfort but some have been identified as potential car-

cinogens, and trichloramines are considered to induce asthma.

The pollutants of most concern are trichloramines, and chloroform and other trihalomethanes (THMs). These are created in the pool in two critical chemical paths shown below.

Free chlorine (HOCl) + body amines (urea, perspiration) → monochloramine + H₂O

Free chlorine + monochloramine → dichloramine + H₂O

Free chlorine + dichloramine → trichloramine (NCl₃) + H₂O

Blatchley and Li (2009) as well as Schmaltz et al (2011) also found that at normal pH values found in swimming pools:

Free chlorine [HOCl] + urea [CO(NH₂)₂] + other nitrogen compounds → NCl₃

Skin cells

It has been thought for some time that UV photolysis actually creates chloroform from (inorganic) chloramines, but Blatchley (2011) clearly showed that UV neither increases nor decreases the production of chloroform. It is now clearly understood that one of the main precursors of chloroform are skin cells.

Free chlorine (HOCl) + skin cells (on bathers or shed by bathers) → CHCl₃

Thus the more bathers there are, the more chloroform will be created. Both of these disinfection by-products are referred to as "volatile chemicals", which means that they have a tendency to vaporise – to change from liquid to gas.

Both exit the water as gases at the surface of the pool. This process is exacerbated by the swimmers splashing down the lane. In spas, pools and water parks with spray features, they are easily aerosoled into the air above the pool surface.

Volatile trichloramine and chloroform vapours are heavy gases which accumulate in the lowest areas of the pool hall – mostly in the space below the deck level.

Pool halls with poor air quality further gravitate to the lowest point in the building – or in the case of outdoor pools the lowest point in the surroundings of the pool. Thus for example the chloramines can be smelled even in the pool car park if it is positioned below the surface of the pool. If the pool is in a building several stories high, the chloramines often find their way to the lift shaft and gravitate to lower floors with surprising ease.

Ventilation engineers have until recently followed the dictates of the relevant national standards and guidelines for the required air changes in indoor spaces. The conventional methods of ventilation have overlooked the

need to extract the air from the lowest areas in the natatorium.

It can be assumed that the vast majority of indoor pools actually continue to this day to cause severe discomfort to teachers and staff, competitive swimmers and young children learning to swim. Even as this article was being written, Australian media announced that one of the nation's elite swimmers was forced to retire from training in an AIS pool in Canberra due to respiratory illness.

"The prevalence of respiratory symptoms and airway hyper-responsiveness (AHR) is high in elite athletes; swimmers have one of the highest prevalences." (Bougalt; Loubaki; Joubert et al 2012 Research Institute of Cardiology and Pneumology in Quebec Canada.)

Improving air quality

Prevention

First, by removing or reducing the precursor contaminants from the circulation of the pool; and second, by:

- a. Compulsory pre-immersion shower by all bathers – this removes 80 per cent to 90 per cent of urea, sweat, body amines which contribute to the immediate build-up of monochloramines when bathers first dive into the pool.
- b. UV/ozone/electrolysis (Ecoline) secondary disinfection systems.

Ultra violet (UV) photolysis is effective in reducing chloramines and some other toxic compounds but has no effect on THMs. Much of the chemistry in this application is as yet undefined and controversy still exists regarding the specifications and sizing of the units.

Ozone applications need to be carefully thought-out and detailed to avoid breakdowns. The materials selected in ozonated systems must all be of the highest quality and totally ozone resistant. Ozone sizing should not be excessive since it is dealing with relatively small residuals that need to be broken down. Ozone does oxidise skin cells captured in the filter media (and following a specific regimen not detailed here, can even affect skin cells residing in poorly circulated parts of the pool). As such it has a slight advantage over UV. Modern ozone applications use cold plasma fields for the creation of low levels of ozone which then break down the monochloramines.

The Ecoline electrolytic system developed by Australian Innovative Systems (AIS) not only does away with the need for a chlorine feed, but creates free oxidants from tap water with a low TDS (500mg/l). No added salt is needed. This process breaks down monochloramines as well – in one and the same process. As yet we have not been able



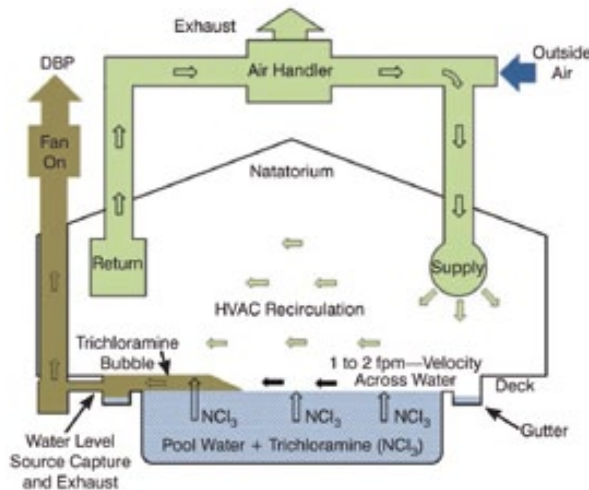
to quantify this part of the system. Clearly the application of an Ecoline system to a public pool – indoor or outdoor – will reduce the chloramines by virtue of the very low levels of hypochlorous acid created. We do know that the need for UV or ozone will be markedly reduced when the Ecoline unit is working well.

- c. Reducing the chlorine feed. European countries already accept that good disinfection is not dependent on high levels of free chlorine in the pool but also on very low levels of pH. Many countries already allow pH in the range 6.8 – 7.4 and free chlorine levels at 0.4 – 0.8 mg/L. Nearly always they advocate the use of secondary disinfection systems and in Australia, several states are now accepting that ORP (redox) levels of no less than 740mV are sufficient. This allows lower free chlorine residuals.
- d. Designing the pool circulation so that skin cells are rapidly swept from the floor out of the pool via the wet edge gutters. The Danes have now shown that by placing the return spigots near the bottom of the walls of the pool, the water jet will sweep the skin cells on the floor towards the centre of the pool and thence up towards the surface and the wet edge gutters.
- e. Using drum filters with automatic back rinsing every few hours in place of media (sand or DE) filters which retain the skin cells for many days at a time until being backwashed. Hytech filters are designed with a fine membrane which filters out all suspended solids greater than 10 micron. The membrane is automatically cleaned as soon and as often as it is clogged with suspended matter
- f. Liquid chloramine /THM “stripping” in the plant room. Ole Groneborg has designed a chloramine and THM stripper in which a side stream of the pool water is sprayed into a vessel and falls through an upstream of air which carries away the noxious gases out of the building. This equipment basically emulates the “aeration” of the water in a similar fashion to the swimmer splashing down a lane. Thus 80 per cent of those gases are removed from the water that passes through the “stripper” before it returns to the pool (or balance tank).

Removing bad air

There are three basic options:

- a. Capturing the air above the water in the gutter where more gases are formed as the water splashes through the grill. This extraction should be combined with the collection of the air that is displaced in the balance tank. From there it is exhausted to the outer atmosphere.



- b. At the building perimeter a duct can be run along the base of the walls where they are built close to the pool edge. In this case the duct is slightly above the lowest point (the surface of the pool) but nevertheless gets dragged over the deck between the gutter and the pool edge.
 - c. Under the deck. This usually entails the raising of the deck high enough to accommodate a duct beneath it so that the intake is again immediately above the surface of the pool.
- Dilution of pool hall air involves the introduction of outside air to replace extracted air, but combined with source capture and exhaust as a retrofit which utilises or extends an existing system (see Diagram A). The refreshed air supply will force the air from one side to the other taking with it the trichloramine/THM bubble.

Destroying DBPs

The other way is to recycle heated air and introduce safe cold plasma (ozonation) destruction of the unwanted trichloramines and trihalomethanes.

With this method, the air is partially purified by passing it through a cold plasma field which converts the oxygen in the air to small amounts of ozone, which breaks down the contaminants to benign components.

In this case, the amount of fresh air introduced into the hall can be reduced because the treated air will no longer aggravate people in the hall. This method has not actually been applied yet. This concept is aimed at conserving the considerable expense of reheating the fresh air stream when the dilution is replacing all or most of the captured gases.

At a time when training is in full swing for the London Olympics, we can only hope that FINA and other relevant bodies are taking steps to prevent recurrences of the respiratory illnesses that our swimmers will inevitably experience if nothing is done to improve the indoor air quality of competition venues. 📍

Model Aquatic Health Code Ventilation Module

THIS code is being prepared jointly by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) together with the NSPF (National Swimming Pool Foundation) in the USA. The first publication of this code module appeared for review on April 13, 2011.

The Ventilation Module contains requirements for new or modified construction that includes:

- a. Increased make-up in addition to that required by the ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers) Standard 62, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality and/or applicable local Codes with additional requirements as stated in section 4.6.2.1.7;
- b. Determination of the extra make-up air needed, based on indoor venue water use type (eg flat water, agitated water, or hot water) and venue or deck patron density (sq feet per person);
- c. Inclusion in calculations of additional make-up air from surge tanks or gutters that source capture chloramines and exhaust them to the external air;
- d. Development and implementation of plans to reduce combined chlorine compounds in indoor aquatic facilities and inform facility patrons of their impact on building air quality.

More details of this code module can be found at the CDC website. Go online to splashmagazine.com.au for a Quicklink to the relevant page.

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Under the desert stars

The Qasr Al Sarab resort features one the most remarkable swimming pools – right on the edge of the Liwa Desert.

Anantara's Qasr Al Sarab desert resort lets travellers become immersed in a world of cultural wonders bordering on the romantic notions of the Arabian Tales.

Although the resort is located just 90 minutes from Abu Dhabi, it set within the famed Liwa Desert – an area steeped with tradition. It's easy to let your mind drift into the fabled world of ancient Arabia, especially as the setting is inspired by the simple grandeur of an old desert fortress and boasts locally hand-crafted furnishings, rich carpets and embroidered fabrics to evoke an inescapable sense of romance.

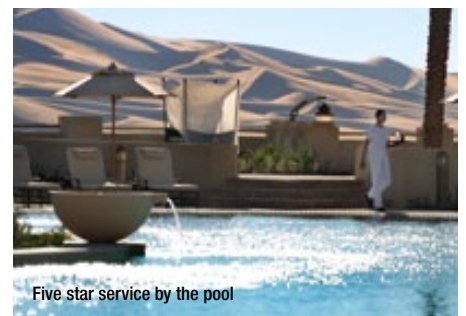
The resort offers a camel caravan into the desert where you can traverse the towering red sand dunes, witness the crystallised sand formations known as "desert roses" that embellish some of the largest dunes in the world, and glimpse free roaming sand gazelles and oryx. You can also experience

the spirit of Arabia with a visit to a Bedouin tent, where dining and entertainment are treated as sensuous arts.

But perhaps the ultimate experience is to simply soak in the pool while the hot dusty Arabian day slips into a cool desert evening, where the endless sky is speckled with countless stars.

The villas are lavish spaces exuding sensual Arabian touches with hints of Bedouin tradition and exquisite reminders of a timeless culture. Each features five star service including a 24/7 butler, king sized beds, a common lounge area, pantry, sun decks, oversized terrazzo bathtubs, rain showers, complimentary wifi and – of course – a private pool.

Deluxe garden rooms are from \$AU250 per night, while villas are up to \$AU1600 per night for a family villa. For more information go to qasralsarab.anantara.com.



Five star service by the pool

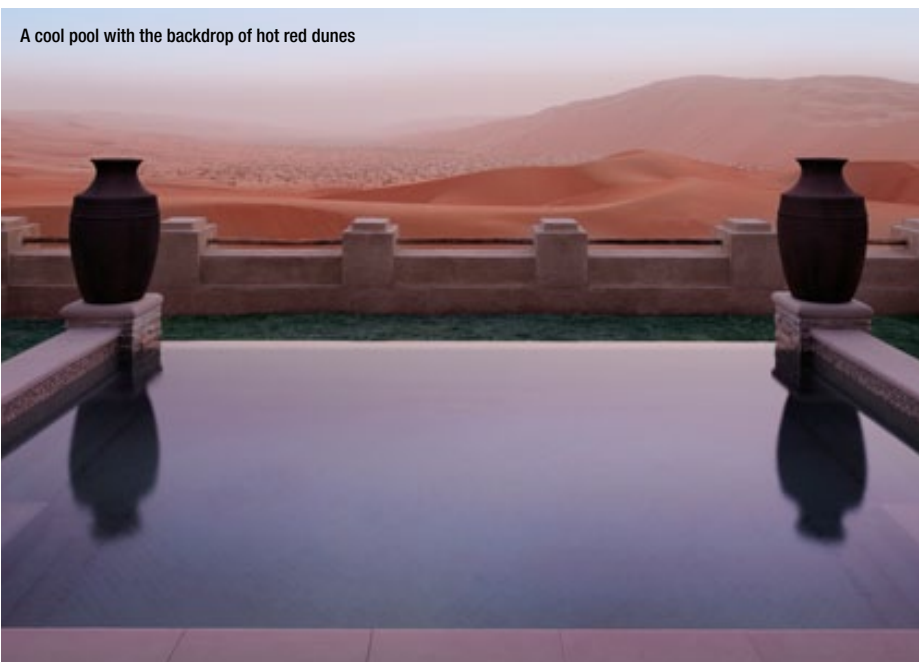


Each villa comes with its own private splash pool

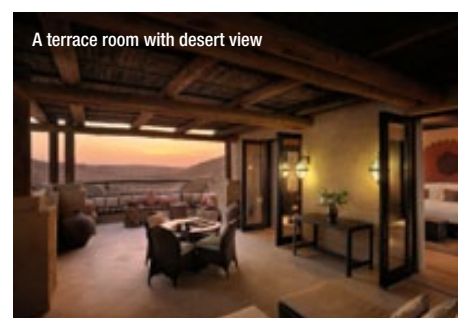
The desert sky is speckled with countless stars



A cool pool with the backdrop of hot red dunes



Smoking is allowed in the desert resort



A terrace room with desert view

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The pool has already been earmarked as a venue for the Masters Games



The race is on

Rocky's Memorial Pool hopes to be a training venue for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

A state of the art timing systems is the latest addition to the \$17 million redevelopment of Rockhampton's Southside Memorial Swimming Pool.

When finally completed, the pool will be one of only a handful of FINA-compliant facilities in Queensland.

The timing technology selected to bring the Southside Memorial Pool up to spec was the Colorado Timing System (CTS), imported and distributed in Australia by International Quadratics (IQ).

Management embraced the full potential of the technology. The pool has been equipped with electronic relay judging platforms, dive blocks with individual speakers and touch buttons as back up for time keepers. The movable bulkhead has pressure sensitive touch pads, which are linked to a 10 lane scoreboard and at the heart of the system, a


System Six computer console capable of operating Olympic swimming events, water polo and diving events.



Dive blocks have individual speakers and touch buttons as back up for time keepers



Pressure-sensitive touch pads are linked to a 10-lane scoreboard

be used for general recreational purposes, sport recovery, lap swimmers, learn-to-swim programs, and disabled and elderly patrons," he says. 

Andrew Collins, Operations Manager from Rockhampton City Council, expects the facility to attract many high level swimming events.

"We've already been approached by Swimming Australia to look at hosting the 2014 Australian Masters. We're also hoping to attract other nations, as we now offer a great training venue for the upcoming 2018 Commonwealth Games," Collins says.

While offering facilities for elite swimming, Collins says the facility will continue to cater for the whole community.

"Southside is first and foremost a community pool, and will still

Features when complete

- A 50m x 25m x 2m constant depth, heated FINA-compliant Olympic standard swimming pool.
- Moveable bulkhead, Colorado timing system and disabled ramp access.
- A 650 permanent seat capacity grandstand with a control centre for swimming events.
- A shade structure over the 50m pool and grandstand.
- An 8-lane x 25m heated pool, including disabled ramp access.
- A refurbished 5m deep diving pool, including 5m and 10m platforms.
- An indoor learn-to-swim program pool, including disabled ramp access.
- A wet play area including a lagoon to various depths.
- Supporting entry building, café, amenities and dry structures including storage space.
- Plant rooms and courtyards.
- A refurbished old entry building, a WWII memorial.
- Media and marshalling rooms.

New products

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

SLIMLINE FURNITURE FOR OUTDOOR ELEGANCE

THE Faz table is sure to make a stylish impact for pool-side entertaining.

The slender European style comes from designer Ramon Esteve, and is made by Spanish company Vondom.

It will be available in Australia from September 2012 for the upcoming summer.

The Faz collection now boasts two elegant tables at dining height: 1800mm x 900mm x 720mm; and 720mm x 720mm x 720mm.

The base is constructed from twisted lacquered metal rods while the table surface is made from high-pressure laminate. The angular base provides an intriguing line to offset the slender simplicity of the tabletop, providing a beautiful piece of outdoor furniture that will complement modern or retro styling.

For more information call Kezu on (02) 9669 1788, email info@kezu.com.au or go to their showroom at 69 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria, NSW.





SWINGING BY THE SWIMMING POOL

RETRO and maritime combine with the Marine Buoy hanging chair, the joyful contemporary design piece with classic nautical references.

Sure to be a highlight of any outdoor space, the subtly swinging chair is effortlessly stunning, relaxing and fun.

Marine Buoy is part of the casual but stylish outdoor lifestyle range of hard and soft furnishings by Newport Beach brand Deck, comprising indoor/outdoor beanbags, an oversized ottoman called The Cube, carry-bags, and this hanging chair.

Deck owners, Virginia Steed and Annika Bennett originally devised the concept of their fun range of durable sailcloth products almost two decades ago while living in London but it was not until Virginia moved to Sydney and Annika to New Zealand that Deck was finally born.

Today the Deck product range is sold across Australia and New Zealand as well as in Greece and Asia.

The Marine Buoy hanging chair was on display at designEX. For more information go to www.designex.info.

FAST FACELIFT FOR AUSSIE DECKS

THE iconic timber deck is a mainstay of the Aussie poolside, harbourside and entertaining experience. But it often takes a battering courtesy of our harsh weather conditions (and perhaps a few spilt drinks) making regular maintenance essential.

Cuprinol, with 75 years experience in caring for timber, has released a complete range of products designed to cater for every aspect of preparing, finishing, staining/colouring and protecting timber decks.

They all have one key feature – to reduce the application time while extending the life and wear of the finish.

Cuprinol specialist timber products include a Decking Restorer, Decking Cleaner, Decking Stain and Decking Oil and Protector.

For new hardwood timbers or those that have been previously finished in solvent-based decking oil or stain use the Cuprinol water-based

Decking Restorer. Simply apply direct from the container with a brush or applicator. It takes just 15 minutes to do its work and will even remove linseed oil or sap and tannin from oil rich timbers. The deck is then ready for a finishing, protective coat.

For grey and weathered decks, or those affected by grease, algae or mould, Cuprinol has a Decking Cleaner that is a fast acting powerful detergent, in a gel format. It will transform the deck to its original appearance. Brush on the gel, leave for 15 minutes and then scrub with a stiff bristle brush before rinsing off with water to reveal the new timber beneath.

Once the deck is clean, choose from Cuprinol's Ultra Tough Decking Stain with Deck-Grip Technology or the company's Decking Oil & Protector.

For more information go to the website of distributor the Flood Company at www.floodaustralia.net or call toll free on 1800 226 113.



FULLY TILED PORTABLE SPA FROM SPAIN

AQUAVIA has launched its new 10-person Hydra spa in a version lined with glass mosaic tiles.

Aquavia says that glass mosaic tiling is by far the most resistant material to external agents, chemical products, freezing and extreme heat. Its composition makes it almost impossible for it to absorb water,

thus making it longer lasting than other materials.

It has the added advantage of adding a touch of style and originality wherever it is placed.

For more information or dealer or sales enquiries contact Sònia Guerra Campo of Iberspa at sguerra@iberspa.com.



GETTING RAINWATER TO THE RIGHT PLACES

ALTHOUGH many households have rainwater tanks, there is plenty of evidence that not all householders are deriving the full benefit from their investment.

Sometimes the water harvested in rainwater tanks is only used for low grade applications like garden watering or washing the car. Other householders have installed fully integrated rain and mains water systems where the rain water supply is used internally for toilet flushing and laundry applications.

This is where the Onga WaterSwitch automatic rainwater controller comes in. It enables the water supply for relatively low grade uses to be derived from the best available source rather than mixing the two resources.

It is a compact dependable product designed to operate at mains pressure and flow through a stainless steel internal filter, with a backflow and siphoning prevention system and a state-of-the-art wireless interface. If the power supply fails, the WaterSwitch will continuously supply mains water.

The Onga WaterSwitch has a high flow capability in excess of 100 litres a minute and with its contemporary design and option of four different pump covers, the choice can be made to suit external building colour choices.

For more information call an authorised Onga distributor, go to www.ongawaterswitch.com.au or email au.sales@pentairwater.com for technical information.

EASY-INSTALL LIGHT BORN FROM BUILDER FEEDBACK

SPA Electrics says builders told them the market wanted a compact, high performance and easy-to-install niche light for concrete pools.

In light of this feedback, they developed the new Atom (EM Series) which will be available from June 2012.

The EM Series lights incorporate patented Pulsewave and Duosink technologies for superior reliability. They are also suitable for fibreglass and vinyl pools.

For more information call (03) 9793 2299 or go to www.spaelectrics.com.au.



NEW COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL UV SYSTEMS

UV and ozone water treatment specialist Triogen has shown their most advanced UV systems at the Piscine Middle East exhibition in Abu Dhabi, with their UVA Ray CF system for commercial pools and their low pressure TR2 UV range for residential pools, spas and water features.

Commercial system

THE innovative UVA Ray Cross Flow (CF) system, is now available after being developed over 18 months as a further addition to their UVA Ray range. It provides optimal ease of installation and covers flow rates from 40m³/h to 830m³/h. The CE approved system utilises a 316L stainless steel reactor, fitted with a DVGW-approved UV sensor, reactor temperature sensor and an automatic "smart drive" wiper system. The reactor also features quick release UV lamp connections making lamp replacement simple. The new system is cost effective offering high efficiency, and easy low-cost installation and maintenance.



Residential system

THE new TR2 low pressure UV system has been designed for disinfection of small pools, spas, ponds and water features. The four TR2 models in the range cover flow rates up to 40m³/h and are manufactured in UV inhibited polymeric materials making them suitable for pools using either salt water chlorinators or standard chemical dosing. The system offers reduced chemical consumption, improved algae control and water clarity along with superior bather comfort. The TR2 range is simple to install and operate, provides low capital and running costs along with an 18-month UV lamp life.

For more information email info@triogen.com or go to www.triogen.co.uk.



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**TECHNOLOGY
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THE RIGHT WAY**

TRAINRIGHT Pro offers coaches and swimmers a revolutionary way of conducting training sessions in the pool.

International Quadratics is supplying the system through its Pierce Pool Supplies division. Eddie Lloyd, Marketing Manager of IQ and Pierce says he feels strongly about the product.

“At the end of the day, it is a system designed to improve an athletes’ skills, so I would be surprised if there is a coach out there that wouldn’t be interested in its application. We are excited to see this technology come to play in Australia.

“TrainRight Pro provides coaches and swim-

mers an increased depth of analysis on a number of different drills during a training session. The great thing about this product is it gives coaches creativity and precise measurable data that is so important when training an athlete”.

TrainRight Pro measures a swimmer’s reaction time, breakout, turn speed, pace time and relay exchange amongst other parameters. It is supplemented by an impressive underwater video camera, which has been designed specifically for analysing a swimmer’s technique in the water.

This visual feed is broadcasted to an LCD monitor beside the pool and has the ability to

review stroke and style in real time or delayed playback at any angle required.

TrainRight Pro accessories include a PC Pro pace clock, mini touchpad, relay judging platform with speed lights, infinity start system (can also be applied for the use in race meetings), tripod, 600TV line camera, slimline/low drag telescopic video pole, static wall bracket, 30m professional video cable and ultra flexible 360 degree camera mount.

For more information or a free demonstration call (02) 9774 5550 or email sales@interquad.com.au.

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www.cordellprojects.com.au

MAYTRONICS RIDES A NEW WAVE

MAYTRONICS Australia has launched a new commercial robotic cleaner.

The Wave 75 provides an entry level cleaner for the smaller commercial pool market including swim schools, smaller hotel pools and unit block pools.

“The Wave 75 really supports those smaller commercial pools that still need the heavy duty aspect of commercial cleaning but don’t quite have the budgets to buy the larger commercial range products like the ProX or ProExpert,” says Cameron McKinlay, Commercial Manager for Maytronics Australia.

It comes with a 24m cable, a 2/3/4 hour cycle, a two-year warranty, swivel, fine filtering, combined or wonder brush options, remote control and a caddy.

Maytronics has service facilities in all major centres and local dealers who will support the roll-out of the Wave 75 across the market.

For more information, call 1300 MYDOLPHIN or visit www.maytronics.com.au.



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FUN OUTDOOR FURNITURE FOR KIDS

ROBERT Plumb has released a range of outdoor furniture for kids, designed by father of two and respected designer, William Dangar.

Handcrafted in Australia using quintessential Robert Plumb techniques and materials, the al

fresco pieces for the little ones combine style with both innovation and practicality.

The range includes: the Nugget setting (table, chairs and stools) made from New Guinea Rosewood; and the Shrunkenstool – a mini

version of the existing Robert Plumb Frankenstool, handmade in Australia from hardwood timber logs.

For more information call (02) 9316 9066 or go to www.robertplumb.com.au.

ONE-COAT RUST REPAIR FOR METAL GATES AND FENCES

METAL Paint from Hammerite can be applied direct to rust by simply brushing off any loose rust or flaking paint with a wire brush and applying a single coat of paint.

No need to prime, no need to undercoat – just one coat and the metal is protected from further rusting and has a beautiful glossy (or satin) finish. If a second coat should be required, it is ready for re-coating in just two hours.

Metal Paint is available in two formats, one for metal that rusts, like iron and steel – Direct to Rust Metal Paint – and one for galvanised steel, copper, brass, zinc and aluminium that is called Direct to Galvanised Metal Paint. Both formats are used in exactly the same way



– applying just one coat direct to the metal, no primer and no undercoat.

Direct to Rust Metal Paint is available in a subtle hammered finish, a satin finish (black and white only) and a smooth finish that creates a flawless high sheen. There are at least eight colours in each finish that include silver, copper, gold, white, black, red, blue and dark green with many of these available in an aerosol formula as well as the brush-on.

Direct to Galvanised Metal Paint is available in black, silver, blue, dark green, copper and white.

For more information call distributor Flood Company on 1800 226 113 or go to www.floodaustralia.net.



SOFT CLOSE HINGE KEEPS TODDLERS SAFER

THE new Polaris Soft Close Hinge is designed for frameless glass pool fence gates.

Polaris says this is the safest and most reliable hinge in Australia and the only one that is NATA tested to comply with Australian Standards AS1926 Safety Barriers For Swimming Pools and AS2820 Gate Units For Private Swimming Pools.

Polaris is unique because it will reliably close automatically from any position, helping prevent small children from unsupervised access to pool areas and therefore playing a significant role in reducing the risk of drowning.

Polaris comprises a spring, high-powered magnets and shock absorbers. Together they ensure that a gate closes every time from any position whether fully or slightly open.

Polaris was specifically designed for durability and reliability. High quality materials were selected for manufacturing of the product. Marine-grade 316 stainless steel is the main material used in the product and was selected for its aesthetic appeal along with its strength, longevity, durability and non-corrosive/rust-resistant properties.

For more information call (02) 8753 0244, email info@glasshardwareaustralia.com.au or go to www.glasshardwareaustralia.com.au.



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There will be two major awards:

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2. The SPLASH! Environmental Product of the Year

These awards will be chosen from the winners of the category awards:

- A. Residential Pool (Indoor and Outdoor)
- B. Commercial Pool or Aquatic Centre (Indoor and Outdoor)
- C. Pool Shop
- D. Product Categories
 - D1. Energy Saving Award
 - D2. Water Saving Award
 - D3. Mechanical Product
 - D4. Sanitisation Award
 - D5. Spa Award

The winners will be announced at a gala evening at the Gold Coast Convention Centre on Thursday July 26, 2012, and together with the finalists and sponsors, will be featured in SPLASH! magazine, on www.splashmagazine.com.au and in a consumer PR campaign.



Duncan Armstrong - Olympian, TV Presenter, Motivational Speaker, Charity Worker - Master of Ceremonies For 2012 SPLASH! Environmental Awards

Duncan approaches everything in life with the same zestful attitude that helped him win Olympic Gold for Australia. This approach has also motivated and inspired thousands of people to achieve their highest corporate and personal goals.

He became a household name at 20 years of age with his upset win in the 200 freestyle at the Seoul Olympics in 1988. It was Australia's

100th Olympic swimming medal. Since retiring from international swimming Duncan has enjoyed careers in television and radio, motivational speaking, endorsements and corporate partnerships. Duncan has also won a host of honours including Young Australian of the Year, a Centenary Medal and an Order of Australia Medal.

For more information please contact the SPLASH! team on +61 2 9660 2113

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BECSYS CHLORINE CONTROLLERS NOW AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA

SIEMENS Aquatic market distributor, Tim Batt Water Solutions, is now the exclusive Australia and New Zealand distributor for the BECS Technology range of commercial pool pH and chlorine controllers.

BECS Technology is the former manufacturer of the well known Strantrrol range of controllers that Batt has been involved with for 30 years. BECS has continued to develop their controller range under the BECSys name since parting ways with Siemens in the USA.

The link up now enables Tim Batt Water Solutions to fully support the many existing Strantrrol controllers in Australia with spare parts and service, as well as providing a choice

of new and advanced upgrade models with many exciting new features for pool operators, along with advanced control capabilities.

A great strength of BECS Technology products has always been the ease with which the controllers can communicate with everyday desktop or laptop computers for monitoring, download and graphing of pool readings and even for remote control of the pools.

The new BECSys for Windows software is compatible with PCs running Windows 2000/XP, Windows Vista or Windows 7 and is available for all BECSys controller models.

For more information call (02) 9948 4177 or email timtbws@bigpond.com

AUSTRAL'S NEW RETAINING SYSTEMS

LEADING Australian building product company Austral Masonry has launched two new retaining wall system ranges: MagnumStone and Cornerstone 100.

MagnumStone is a large hollow-core, wet-cast segmental retaining wall system and comes in a size of 1200mm (w) x 610mm (h) x 610mm (d). Due to its size and design flexibility, MagnumStone is ideal for almost any retaining wall project from residential to large commercial installations.

The large blocks enable gravity walls to be built up to 2.6m high as a single skin, and 4.8m high as a double skin in good soils, with no loading, making them ideal in boundary situations where crib-walls would generally benefit. As soil reinforced walls, the maximum height is limited to the designer's imagination, with walls being able to be erected in excess of 20m high.

The Cornerstone 100 vertical retaining wall system is developed with the installer in mind. Its durable high shear strength concrete SecureLugs fit into the lower units hollow cores, allowing significant lateral movement without using unit-to-unit interlock, and speeding up installation time considerably.

For more information go to www.australmasonry.com.



NEW WEBSITE FOR STRUCTURE STUDIOS

STRUCTURE Studios has dramatically redesigned its website to make it easier for users to access, navigate and explore the company's software and services.

The new website is designed with tablets in mind, answering requests from users who are increasingly relying on smartphones and tablets in the field.

It was built to be easier to navigate by the ClikNetwork.com design team. The website highlights and incorporates the best features of Structure Studios' core software programs, Pool Studio and VizTerra.

Company founder Noah Nehlich says they are focusing on creating exciting new immersive experiences that are on the cutting edge of 3D technology, to showcase the designers' talents and enthusiasm.

For more information go to www.StructureStudios.com.



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