

SUPPORTING AND DELIVERING FOR INDUSTRY

National Precast association member Bianco Precast represents the increasing innovation and capability emerging across the sector. The company's expertise – supported by the association – is helping to deliver major works such as the Torrens to Darlington project.

Bianco Precast is playing a pivotal role in some of Australia's most significant infrastructure projects. The South Australian provider consists of four business units and now offers much more than just conventional precast services, as Dino Pietrobon, Chief Executive Officer – Bianco Precast explains.

"We have BubbleDeck, a flooring system that we're the exclusive supplier for in South Australia. Then we have our civil and drainage division supplying pits, side-entry pits, lids, sumps and custom pits and culverts," Pietrobon says.

"Our structural division handles super tees and other heavy road infrastructure elements like stressed planks, bridge columns and headstocks. Then our architectural division is known around Australia for high-end, complex-shape architectural precast with a wide range of finishes."

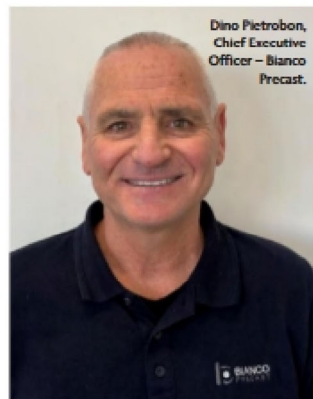
This increasing capacity has led to Bianco Precast being awarded contracts

to deliver works with increasing complexity and scale, best exemplified by the company's recent contributions on the Torrens to Darlington (T2D) project in Adelaide.

Bianco Precast's first package on the \$15.4 billion T2D project was a Y-column bridge structure, which also included associated panels and stairwells. Those structural Y-columns have been completed, with stair works still being finished.

Following that, Bianco Precast was awarded a major 'Super Tee' and plank package. The initial structural package comprised approximately 200 Super Tee girders and about 200 precast planks. This was then expanded, with a structural package for about 1200 stressed planks being requested, with additional works on the horizon.

"There's nearly 70 years of precast expertise in this business – Bianco Precast dates back to 1957 – and that experience really shows," Pietrobon says.



Dino Pietrobon,
Chief Executive
Officer – Bianco
Precast.

"One of our real strengths is the unification of our company. We're all on the same ship, with the rudder steering in one direction, and every person on deck working towards that direction."

Bianco Precast is also a proud member of the National Precast Concrete Association of Australia – best known as National Precast.

National Precast is well known across the concrete industry segment for its role as an advocate and representative for the sector. Pietrobon says that on a technical and regulatory level, the association provides a strong voice when Australian Standards affecting precast are being drafted or revised.

He adds that this advocacy has helped to ensure that the regulatory environment remains workable for producers, allowing Bianco Precast to continue innovating and delivering complex works while facing fewer challenges.

Through the association, Bianco Precast also has the opportunity to connect with suppliers, engineers, architects, consultants, and fellow precasters from across the country.

"What excites me is the continuous evolution of new ideas and new products. The supplier side of the industry is quite competitive about who's got the next idea coming through,"

Pietrobon says. "The camaraderie and the ability to rely on other precasters for potential solutions is important. If we get enquiries on jobs that don't make sense for us logistically, we'll often just refer them on to others – it's good for the industry."

"There's also a lot of sharing, especially when it comes to safety. Through National Precast, there's a lot of chat about lifting, rotating, transporting and anchoring elements. There is a lot of support and a real focus on finding better, safer ways of doing things."

Site visits – some even taking place at Bianco Precast's biggest competitors – also help to establish a unified approach to tackling challenges, and optimising opportunities.

"We work closely with other precasters interstate. We help each other with advice and solutions, and we host site visits so others can see our yard and we can see theirs. You might pick up just one good idea, but it can really help your business," Pietrobon says.

"If you're in the industry and you need to know who's who, being a part of

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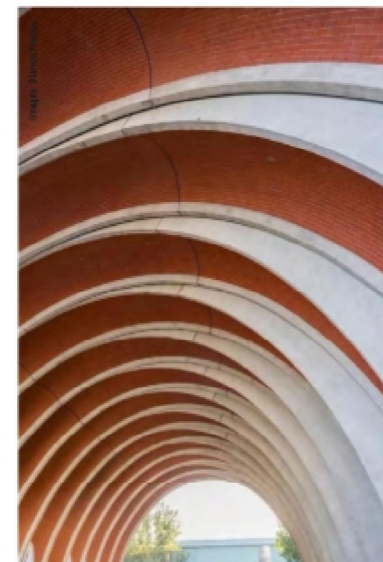
National Precast is a very good way to do that."

Looking forward, Bianco Precast is eyeing more potential work on the T2D project, while also looking to further grow each of its internal business units.

Another key point of excitement has been the development and growth of Adelaide itself.

Pietrobon says that the local infrastructure pipeline has grown significantly, presenting a lot of opportunities for local suppliers.

"Adelaide is on the up," he says. "There's a very promising pipeline of work – defence projects, T2D, the new Women's and Children's Hospital, and a lot of private investment. Relative to Adelaide, it's a really strong outlook." ■



Above: Bianco Precast's ability to deliver complex and large-scale works has seen it win tenders to contribute to the likes of the Torrens to Darlington project.



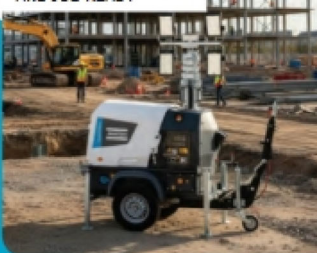
Bianco Precast has grown to become one of the largest precast providers in South Australia.

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