

News Release

Premier Jay Weatherill Minister Tom Koutsantonis

Treasurer
Minister for State Development
Minister for the Public Sector
Minister for the Arts

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy
Minister for Housing and Urban Development



Minister Leon Bignell

Minister for Tourism
Minister for Recreation and Sport

Wednesday, 20 March 2013

Local industry innovation at work at Adelaide Convention Centre upgrade

The most difficult phase of the Adelaide Convention Centre Redevelopment has been completed with 1,700 tonnes of structural steel framing in place metres above Adelaide's busiest railway station.

Premier Jay Weatherill said by challenging the skills of local companies with complex feats of engineering, the Convention Centre project is increasing their ability to successful bid for future work here and interstate.

"This is a true example of the collaboration between Government and industry that is the hallmark of this State's economic success," Mr Weatherill said.

"By providing local businesses with work, the Government is not only supporting thousands of jobs but providing opportunities to sharpen their skills to tackle difficult projects.

"The skills honed through this initiative are giving local companies the confidence and ability to go and tender for big projects, knowing they have a track record of success."

More than 200 workers are currently working on the first stage with many more to be employed as works proceed and the redeveloped centre opens for business.

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Tom Koutsantonis said the recent shut down of the Adelaide Railway Station provided an opportunity to tackle a difficult phase of the project.

"One of the biggest challenges faced by the firms involved in this \$350 million project is dealing with the little space available in the rail yard," Mr Koutsantonis said.

"As part of that challenge local architects, engineers and steel fabricators had to devise a steel structure with enough strength and reach to support the 4,300 square metres of new convention floor above the rail yard.

"The bridge-like structures holding the floor, wall and ceiling of the new convention space will eventually provide a new entrance from the Morphett Street Bridge.

The structure also includes two 300 tonne steel trusses, each 80 metres in length that sit on top of the concrete pillars."

Minister for Tourism Leon Bignell said the \$350 million redevelopment is creating one of the largest, most flexible and up-to-date convention centres in the country.

“Our Convention industry already brings thousands of people to South Australia to spend money in our hotels, restaurants, shops and tours to our regions,” Mr Bignell said.

“The increased capacity provided by the Adelaide Convention Centre Redevelopment will help South Australia to compete with other States for business as well as retain some of our large-scale events.

“The redevelopment is estimated to generate an estimated \$4.3 billion in tourism and related economic activity during the next two decades and is an integral part of our plans for revitalising the Riverbank Precinct.”

Mr Koutsantonis said access to the first stage, which incorporates the westward expansion of the existing facility to link with Morphett Street, is expected to be completed by late next year.

“By being able to source this engineering solution locally has given the local construction industry a much needed boost,” Mr Koutsantonis said.

“The project so far has provided 95 per cent of the work by value to local sub-contractors.”

The Adelaide Convention Centre Redevelopment Project team consists of:

- Managing Contractor – Baulderstone
- Architects – Woods Bagot
- Structural Engineers (and rail engineering consulting) – Aurecon
- Mechanical, electrical and Services Engineers - Bestec
- Project Managers – Thinc Projects

Subcontractors involved include:

- SA Structural
- Mitcon Formwork
- Piotto Concrete
- BDB Steel fixing
- Transfield Rail
- ODG Rail
- De-Construct Civil
- McMahon Services Demolition
- Vibro Pile

For more information visit www.infrastructure.sa.gov.au or call the project team on 1300 305 255.