



A Board of Management for ATTAR!

ATTAR was established in 1986 and has grown significantly from the original business of providing materials testing and research! As you would be aware, ATTAR now offers a variety of consulting services including Metallurgical Services, Acoustic Emission Testing, Slip Resistance Testing, Failure Analysis and other tailored services. ATTAR is the only NATA accredited Laboratory for three Slip Resistance Testing methods!

As an Authorised Qualifying Body, ATTAR is also the largest private provider of accredited Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) Training, with courses available all year, both nationally and internationally! Furthermore, ATTAR provides flexibility in NDT Training, including customised and in-house courses. Specialist NDT

services, including Level 3 Signatory services in all methods also form part of ATTARs suite of services!

ATTAR also has an Engineering consulting presence in New Zealand! As a result of this rapid growth, ATTAR now has 14 fantastic employees, and is looking to hire more! Dr Gary Martin is the majority owner, the Founder of the Company and has successfully managed ATTAR since the beginning. In late 2006, Gary decided in order to ensure ATTAR continues to reach its potential that the Company would be best served by establishing a Board of Management.

The ATTAR Board of Management held its first meeting on 28th February 2007 and consists of Ian Wills – Non-Executive Director, John Dimopoulos – Board Member (a returning ex-employee!), Georgina Ablett – Director, Gary

Martin – Director & Robyn Martin – Director. Georgina Ablett was appointed Executive Officer at this time also, reporting to the Board she is now responsible for the strategic direction and planning for ATTAR. A profile for Ian Wills can be found later in this Newsletter!

ATTARs Board of Management has already met a number of times and is working hard to ensure that ATTAR achieves their Vision of providing leading practice Engineering Consulting & Training Services with quality, integrity & relevance! Gary also gets to take a well-earned break with the confidence that ATTAR will continue to provide an outstanding service in his absence. Gary & Robyn are off to cruise through Europe and sample the fares of the South of France later this year, more on their trip in future newsletters!

ATTAR 'stands out' again – WTIA Technology Week!

As part of the WTIA Technology Week, ATTAR once again 'stands out' at the The 5th Asian Pacific IIW International Congress/AINDT 2007 National Conference & Exhibition! ATTAR was yet again present at a leading Asia Pacific event, noticeably with the red &

black Exhibition Stand! Held at the Novotel Hotel, Olympic Park Sydney from 7th – 9th March, ATTAR sent Georgina Ablett, Stephen Saunders & Dr Gary Martin. Alison Saunders and Robyn Martin also attended as partners and accompanied the ATTAR crew to the Dinner Cruise on Sydney Harbour, the Formal Conference Dinner and the Farewell Lunch!

Aside from all the festivity, Stephen & Gary both undertook professional development by attending the conference sessions and Georgina staffed the ATTAR Stand. Gary also presented a paper titled; Improving the Quality of NDT Weld Inspection Technician Training. A copy of this paper can be found on the ATTAR website. Stephen also returned extra enthusiastic about NDT after attending a Workshop lead by Gerd Dobman of IZFP Germany on Latest Developments in Rail Applications & went on an Industry Tour of Repair Facilities for Trains & Rollingstock.

A big thank-you to the large number of delegates who visited the ATTAR stand and

kindly put their business cards in the draw to win 2 Quality Australian Wines & Leather Wine Bottle Case! The winner of this competition was drawn at Pre-Lunch Drinks on the final day and CONGRATULATIONS goes to Rob McCarthy from BlueScope Steel!

Overall this Exhibition was a success, with ATTAR forging many new relationships as well as cementing new and exciting arrangements with some old ones! We look forward to meeting you next time!



Garry Martin presenting Rob McCarthy with his prize!

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ATTAR Visits New Zealand

On the 4th November, six of us, Gary, Robyn, Paul, Vicki, Georgina and Malcolm flew to Auckland, New Zealand to attend the Asia Pacific Conference of Non-Destructive Testing.

Held at the Aotea Centre, ATTAR had an exhibition stand alongside the stands of other NDT related companies, during the course of the conference the ATTAR stand was visited by a great variety of delegates from Australia, New Zealand and Asia. Congratulations to Peter Hayward who won 2 bottles of New Zealand wine for supplying his business card

when he visited! In addition having many other NDT companies displaying their wares enabled Paul to find lots of goodies to purchase!

The conference was organised such that three separate halls were used simultaneously enabling a choice of subjects and speakers at any one time, there were many interesting and educational presentations made during the week, and both Paul and Gary were excellent.

Paul's presentation was titled "Ultrasonic Detection and Measuring of Isolated or Pitting

Corrosion". Gary presented "Acoustic Emission Monitoring as a Tool in Risk Based Assessment". Copies of the abstracts can be obtained from the ATTAR website.

The conference gave everyone the opportunity to meet old friends and make new friends at the cocktail party and a formal dinner.

The APCNDT was a resounding success, our thanks go to the organising committee and we look forward to attending the next one in China in 2008.

Join the ATTAR team!

ATTAR is an exciting, fun and friendly place to work! If you would like to join the ATTAR Team, please check out the Job Vacancies on our Website!

We are currently looking for Level 2 qualified & experienced NDT Technicians who may be looking for a change in career direction to become a NDT Trainer & Consultant for Level 1 & 2 NDT methods! Professional development is also provided to further your NDT training career using different methods and even to Level 3! More details about this opportunity can be found on our website, www.attar.com.au

New Registered Plant Inspector for Elevating Work Platforms.

John Cacic ATTAR's Mechanical /Electrical Engineer had recently satisfied the requirements to become a Registered Plant Inspector for Elevating Work Platforms. Elevating Work Platform examinations were previously conducted to AS 2550.10 - 1994 – Section 10.3, however with the introduction of the new Standard as of December 2006, AS 2550.10 - 2006 – Section 6 is the new Standard to which inspections are conducted.

For further information please contact John Cacic.

Slip resistance testing standards - reviewed

Both AS/NZS 4663 and AS/NZS 4586 have been reviewed recently with some changes to on-site slider preparation and roughness measurements being introduced for more slippery surfaces and removal of results interpretation data in the former. Voting on the changes has closed.

As negative votes have been lodged there will be another meeting of Standards Australia committee BD/094 to consider these next month.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Standards may impact your business or our slip resistance test services, which include wet and dry testing as well as the oil wet ramp, all (NATA Accredited), please contact Marcus Braché.

Acoustic Emission (AE) for Aurora

In January ATTAR personnel travelled to Tasmania to conduct Acoustic Emission (AE) testing and Plant Inspection on Aurora's Elevating Work Platforms.

Acoustic Emission testing was conducted to AS 4748 –2001 Acoustic Emission Testing of Fibreglass Insulated Booms on Elevating Work platforms. This standard has a standard test method for determining the structural integrity of the fibreglass sections of EWP's.

electrical companies in Australia and New Zealand to ensure the safety of their equipment and ensure they have met their duty of care responsibilities.

Visual inspection of these types of booms cannot detect internal defects or determine the effect of surface cracks on structural integrity. AE monitoring of the boom allows for a 100% inspection in one test and only "active" or growing defects are detected.

Acoustic Emission works by listening to the boom under a load using high frequency sensors and sophisticated computer

equipment. The energy or noise released by any active defects is detected and analysed allowing trained operators to determine the structural integrity of the boom.



ATTAR staff working in Tasmania.

Travelling Trainers

As ATTAR trainers we can provide NDT instruction anywhere, be it at our own facilities or our client's facilities.

This type of flexibility has led to "Travelling Trainers" and "Flying Freight".

This article however is not about trainers or training but some of the interesting places we have been that may not be known to some of our readers.

Head Office Melbourne has seen trainers Gary, Paul and Malcolm travel to state capitals Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney, as well as Newcastle and Mt. Isa.

Perth Office has seen trainer Stephen travel to state capitals Adelaide, Darwin, Melbourne, as well as Wickham.

This first installment deals with a little known place in the Western Australian Pilbara region known as Cossack which I discovered on my recent trip to Wickham for a MT1 training course at Pilbara Iron.

Cossack is a "Ghost Town", currently it trying to attract the tourism trade. It is located just 12 km north of Roebourne and was the first port in the Pilbara region being declared a township in 1872. Prior to this it was known as Tien Tsin which came from the barque which brought the first settler to the area. In 1871 it was re-named Cossack after the ship which brought the Governor to the area. It was the home of the first pearl divers when in the 1870's over 80 boats work out of the port before they moved to Broome at the turn of the century. By 1910 the town had become a ghost town when the port had silted up and operations were moved to Point Samson and

the town council was dissolved, however people continued to live there until World War II.

It wasn't until 1976 that a committee was formed to bring the old stone building back to life. Today there are 9 buildings listed by the National Trust, including the Schoolhouse, Courthouse, Customs House and Bond Store which offers light snacks and drinks, as well as the old Police Barracks which is now backpacker accommodation. This place is well worth a visit anytime you're in the region.



Courthouse erected with stone from ships ballast (1885)



Old customs house (1895) – Reopened in 2001 Relax and enjoy the refreshments

Acoustic Emission (AE) Testing of Flat Bottom Tanks

ATTAR has been conducting Acoustic Emission testing of flat bottom tanks in WA.

Acoustic Emission (AE) is being used by ATTAR clientele to enable grading of tank floor bottoms. Grading of floors allows for tanks to be prioritised for upcoming inspections.

Acoustic Emission testing of tank floors when used in a Risk Based Inspection (RPI)

program (such as one adopted around American Petroleum Industry Standard API653) may be used to extend the internal inspection intervals. Intervals can extend from 10 years to 20 years and beyond if the RBI indicates fitness for purpose, thus allowing for a significant cost saving!

AE testing is usually conducted with minimal disruption to operations. Tanks

are required to be filled to approximately 70% before allowing it to settle for 12 to 24 hours, after which testing is conducted by listening to the tank floor using very sensitive AE sensors located on the external circumference of the tank.

For more information on AE Testing do not hesitate to contact either of the following: Dr. Gary Martin, Marcus Braché, David Padfield or John Cacic.

ATTAR Phased Array Courses

ATTAR is now scheduling Introduction to Phased Array courses, for more information on this course or the latest course schedule please visit our website at www.attar.com.au



Hair today – gone tomorrow!

March 3rd:- (2 weeks before the day)

I asked friends and family and colleagues to join me in shaving their heads and all declined. Am I surprised? Yes. A little. However on the plus side, they all thought it was a great idea. (except my sister who was just plain horrified!)

March 11th (Less than one week)

I am excited. I look at all the hair products lined up on my bathroom vanity and I know that it will be quite awhile before I will need anything more than a "finger styling". Our hair is often called our crowning glory and it is comical to think about how much time I have spent in front of the mirror preening my dead matter (for those of you who didn't know, hair is actually a dead substance once it grows past the scalp). *Continued page 4.*

Hair today – gone tomorrow! (Cont.)

March 18th (The day after)

"Man! It's cold without hair!" I went shopping today without my bandanna on. I felt weird going into the huge shopping centre with the strangest looking hair (I coloured it purple) and the shaved comment in the back of my head. Oh? I didn't tell you about that? My hairdresser shaved a small statement into the back of my head - SHAVE FOR A CURE.

The guy at the fish and chip shop didn't recognise me: in fact he slid his eyes away from me. I wanted to wave my arms and

yell: "Hey it's me!" It made me wonder - is that how people react to those who lose their hair from Leukaemia? I hope not, because that is sad really.

ATTAR has been absolutely fantastic in supporting me in my drive to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation's SHAVE FOR A CURE. If I have inspired you a little, donations will still be gratefully accepted online – simply log onto www.worldsgreatestshave.com.au and enter my name: Christine Elliott.



Director and Board Member

Ian Wills, is a family man with two children and grandchildren! Ian commenced scientific life at Aeronautical Research Labs. and studied Metallurgy at RMIT part time. Ian then spent two years at an Opal Mine in Coober Pedy and on return to Melb. He worked on underground tunnelling under high pressure air for the MMBW. In the 1970's he worked on metal forming techniques at BHP Research, then made a decision to enter the sales / management stream, first with Comsteel as a technical adviser then WFE as Technical Sales Manager. By the 1980's Ian was General Manager of the Boral Steel Foundry in Tasmania, where he began

his career as a "Corporate Mr Fixit". Ian then took up the position of CEO of Fesca Qualos Gears, leading that Company through a rapid growth stage before moving to the Institute of Metals and Materials as Director and CEO. Ian and his wife Noreen, then moved to Surabaya, Indonesia for David Brown International and in Ian's role as President, Director and Board Member he established the joint venture businesses on a stable footing. On return to Australia in an attempt to "retire" Ian established his own consultancy business. It was not long before David Brown Aust. asked him to advise on restructuring the Aust. Gearmake businesses and in the



absence of the Managing Director Ian temporarily assumed the role of CEO. Ian then also joined ATTAR as a Director and Board Member and when not "consulting", Ian enjoys doing a number of building projects and horticultural pursuits from his home in Mount Dandenong!

Engineering and NDT Assistant

Having noticed a distinct shortage of young sophisticates around the place, ATTAR decided the very thing they needed to improve the company profile was a Callum™. Often seen around Upwey and its surrounds, the average Callum™ spends much of its time riding mountain bikes and motorcycles. Callum™ enjoy's quiet cups of tea, the genteel consumption of biscuits, and

greatly appreciates the company of spanners. Other places known to have employed a Callum™ are the public education system and Rosebank Engineering, where he was utilized in the role of Trades Assistant. The ATTAR Callum™ is currently employed as the Engineering and NDT Assistant.



Training and Administration Assistant

Jade Kelly joined ATTAR on February 19th 2007, in the position of Training & Administration Assistant.

Jade comes to us with a number of years experience in an RTO – TBM Training Pty Ltd, where she worked initially as a Personal Assistant/Sales Rep and then as a Trainer in Retail Operations. Prior to this she has worked in reception/customer service roles for Baycity Curtains and as a Waitress for Club Lounge at AMC cinemas, Seaford

Taverner and more recently Aztex in Phillip Island.

Jade's qualifications include Certificate III in Business Administration, Certificate IV in Training & Assessment and even a Statement of Attainment for 'Maintain Workplace Hygiene Procedures' and as an Accredited Boat License Trainer!

Jade enjoys going to the gym and spending time at the beach with her Jack Russell Stella.

