

# Changing the landscape

THE **HANSON** BRAND IS MORE THAN A NAME – IT'S A PROMISE THAT THE EMBLAZONED EQUIPMENT IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF TECHNOLOGY AND COMPLIANCE, FROM ITS GEOFENCING SYSTEM TO ITS PNEUMATIC **V.ORLANDI** TOW COUPLINGS.

Many of the world's impressive structures wouldn't be standing today without materials supplied by the HeidelbergCement Group. The global heavy building supplier's concrete and cement were critical components to constructing the likes of the Petronas Towers in Malaysia, the 'Walkie Talkie' building in London, and the award winning Palazzo Italia in Milan, among others. Closer to home, the Australian arm of the corporation, Hanson, maintains the HeidelbergCement Group standard with its construction materials playing an integral

part to structures such as the \$4.8 billion Airport Link in Brisbane – the country's largest infrastructure project. While not all of Hanson's projects are on the same scale, each are carried out with the same level of professionalism and pride as the multi-billion dollar development, says Hanson Brisbane Transport Manager, Hayden Post. "Hanson aims to be the safest, most efficient and innovative company with industry leading compliance, regardless of the job size," Hayden says. "We are always looking for transportation optimisation, which we think makes us among the most

technologically advanced and innovative company in construction materials logistics." Hayden says the fleet of 79 trucks and tippers he manages for Hanson's Brisbane division is a case in point, describing a collection of Bulk Transport Equipment (BTE) and Borcat combinations. "We run a lot of truck and three-axle dogs and truck and four-axle dogs under the Performance Based Standards [PBS, ed.] scheme, which allows us to optimise our payloads," Hayden says. "We track the fleet movements with a Trimble program



#### Fast Fact

According to Transport Manager, Hayden Post, Hanson is the local leader in the supply and production of heavy building materials aggregates, including crushed rock, sand, gravel and premixed concrete to the construction industry.

that incorporates into our ticketing system to automatically delegate loads. Deliveries are geofenced, so they are instantly logged based on pre-set GPS locations."

The technology was rolled out across the fleet around six months ago, Hayden says, and removes the potential for human error and delays in paperwork lodgement. "We try to use industry-leading equipment to make the job as easy as possible for the drivers," he adds, explaining that this outlook extends to every part of the tipper combinations, not just the telematics system.

"Hanson takes driver safety very seriously, and over the last few years part of our strategy to eliminate manual handling injuries has led us to use air-operated E550 Pacific couplings from V.Orlandi," Hayden says. "We haven't had a single wrist or shoulder injury from uncoupling since we switched to V.Orlandi, so we will be upgrading the whole fleet with

the equipment."

To support the inclusion of the Italian coupling across the fleet, V.Orlandi sent out a delegation to explain the details of the equipment to Hanson's workshop crew, which Hayden says was 'greatly appreciated'. "The team taught us the best way to service the E550 Pacific couplings, which have since proven much easier to work with than other brands," he explains. "Since we do all service and maintenance in-house, our mechanics love how much less labour time is required."

With its D-value rating of 330kN – the highest available in the country – the 50mm coupling is ideal for Hanson's PBS-approved trailers, helping to optimise the payloads with its lightweight composition. "They're also packed with safety features, including audible and visual warning alarms that give feedback if the coupling is open, closed, in a jack-knife position or at

maximum extension of articulation."

Now part of the Hanson national specification, Hayden says all new trailers will feature the Italian-made couplings, including on the dozen new tipper and dog combinations that are due mid-year. The new trailers will carry out a variety of tasks, Hayden adds, ranging from the internal concrete deliveries to the biggest infrastructure projects in the state.

"No matter what job we do or where we travel, a tipper with the Hanson brand is guaranteed to be at the forefront of industry compliance, safety, technology and efficiency," he says, treating every project with the same respect as parent company HeidelbergCement Group for each landscape-changing construction development. 🇮🇹

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