



## June 2010 Newsletter

### Wire Rope Special Issue: *OSA and Ronstan Collaborate*

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## *Simplifying Wire Balustrade Systems*

The hardest part of designing with stainless wires, terminating and joins, has now become very easy for design professionals. Here is an opportunity to learn from one of my misfortunes.

During the time we were collecting data for our Commercial Barrier Guide, we engaged a rigger to fit wires to steel posts on a deck of our design. Despite having the posts carefully engineered to accommodate a common brand of imported “commodity” fittings, nothing fitted!! When the rigger went back to the supplier their comment was “Our catalogue was right once!”. Hence we decided that we had to include a very comprehensive section on wire balustrades in our guide and matching design tools on our website so you need never experience our frustrations.

OSA worked with Ronstan International Pty Ltd, an Australian manufacturer of stainless fittings to incorporate a simplified version of their extensive catalogue of wire balustrades into our new guide. You will see this in pages 22 to 31 of the guide. We adopted one post spacing of 2.0m (max) and a wire of 4mm 316 1x19 construction. This offers the lowest stretch over long distances along with the best combination of corrosion resistance and strength. When designing to the BCA that gives a wire spacing of 60mm. We selected for our guide the following two systems.

OSA1 (Ronstan ABS1) suitable for runs of 10 metres

OSA2 (Ronstan ABS3) suitable for runs of 20 metres

OSA2 is a tamper resistant system developed in conjunction with Brisbane City Council and should be the choice for specifiers for public structures.

The design tools on our website are

- Images of the two systems
- PDF drawing of the components



The good...



The bad...



And the very ugly!

- DWG block detailing terminations etc.

Remember that we can also supply standard steel posts to match (see page 10 and 11 of the Commercial Barrier Guide).

## **Timber Links**

Commercial Barrier Guide:

[http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/commercial\\_barrier\\_guide\\_10.pdf](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/commercial_barrier_guide_10.pdf)

Design Tools for Wire Ropes:

[http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/tpd\\_stainless\\_steel\\_cable.php](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/tpd_stainless_steel_cable.php)

A good project with OSA2 wire rope:

<http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/gallery.php?gid=95&SID=2>

## **Revision to Commercial Barrier Guide**

There are a few small changes to the Commercial Barrier Guide. This affects pages 4, 12, 15 and 20. We have clarified the need to use Custom Rail 1 in conjunction with a centre support. This rail is produced from a large section size and is difficult to supply straight in lengths over 3.6m. The other rails can be provided as 4.2m lengths. The table on page 12 has been amended. This is probably our most complex guide and we keep coming across more applications which seem to be gray areas. We welcome your feedback.

Commercial Barrier Guide:

[http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/commercial\\_barrier\\_guide\\_10.pdf](http://www.outdoorstructures.com.au/pdf/commercial_barrier_guide_10.pdf)

## **Back Issues**

Sending bulk emails through Bigpond has been nothing short of a nightmare. I fear that many recipients may have missed useful technical advice in our back issues due to the vagaries of their "spam" rules. We are now down to sending six emails every 5 minutes! You can now find the following back issues on our web site.

### **Back Issue Links**

<a href="#">July 2009 Newsletter</a>	<i>How to Avoid Cupped decking</i>
<a href="#">February 2010 Newsletter</a>	<i>Decks can kill Reports on recent deck collapses</i>
<a href="#">March 2010 Newsletter</a>	<i>Making sense of timber sizes</i>
<a href="#">April 2010 Newsletter</a>	<i>Why are unsuitable bridges being specified?</i>
<a href="#">May 2010 Newsletter</a>	<i>Why Are Unsuitable Bridges Being Installed?</i>

Regards

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