

news

**NEW SYSTEM
DESIGNED TO
SAVE LIVES**

**INGOT CHAIN
AUTOMATION IS GO**

**NEW POT DESIGN
COULD DELIVER
\$10M IN
ANNUAL
SAVINGS**



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NEW POT DESIGN COULD DELIVER \$10M IN ANNUAL SAVINGS

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CEO MESSAGE



MATT HOWELL – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

THE PAST THREE MONTHS HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONAL IN MANY WAYS FOR TOMAGO ALUMINIUM.

We recently received approval from the NSW Department of Planning to increase our saleable aluminium output to 600,000 tonnes, which in combination with a secure energy contract to 2028, locks in a long term future for our business. The increase was required due to this year's



BY CHALLENGING THE WAY WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE THINGS AND EXPLORING THE APPLICATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY, OUR OPERATION WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AND THRIVE.



excellent results, which saw annual production exceed our previous licence cap. These results were possible because of collective achievements and efforts right across the site. To recognise these outstanding efforts, we recently held our third Tomago Innovation Awards, with 20 winners. Every single one of our people have contributed innovations that make the business safer, more efficient - long term future.

Congratulations to all winners. Withers who won the award of our overall Excellence in Innovation award. This award challenges the way we do things and uses technology to develop simple, innovative improvements to our systems. The changes that have resulted from Andrew's dedication impact the entire plant and are greatly appreciated.

At the recent Hunter Manufacturing Awards our 'Mates Looking After Mates' program was named winner of the Excellence in Safety Award. This program is at the heart of what we do at Tomago - we look after each other. Our combined commitment to the safety of our mates, and to sharing

personal stories and experiences to improve safety, is one of our greatest achievements. The resulting outstanding safety record is testament to the success of this program.

While it is encouraging to see our people recognised, it is also important to recognise that our people are a vital part of our success and with us we can get our job done. Our local Supplier network has a reputation for excellence. I am pleased to announce that our new team of 1000 people has been announced. This team will be working to join us again and this year went home with the award for the major Raw Materials category. We also had representatives from most Australian states at the awards, reflecting the extent to which our business supports other businesses throughout Australia.

In the past few months we have also implemented some incredible new initiatives using the latest technology. We are now using a drone for auditing our infrastructure, saving time and money, and improving safety. We also have a 360fly, which is a panoramic 360 degree video camera

that combines with a virtual reality headset which allows us to provide training and familiarisation that seems real, without having to be on-site. By challenging the way we have always done things and exploring the application of new technology, our operation will continue to grow and thrive.

On behalf of the Management Team, my thanks to everyone for another milestone year in which we have achieved beyond expectations. Please enjoy some well deserved time with family and friends over the festive season and particularly to those who keep our business running around the clock on shiftwork, we say 'Thank You'. I have no doubt that by working together we will continue to kick goals that may not even seem possible yet.

I wish you and your families a safe and relaxing festive season. 🍷

Best regards,
Matt

Do you have an interesting story to tell? If you have a suggestion for TAC News please contact Toni Lawson at toni.lawson@tomago.com.au



NEW POT DESIGN COULD DELIVER \$10M IN ANNUAL SAVINGS

ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT COSTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ALUMINIUM IS POWER.

REDUCING USE OF ELECTRICITY IN THE PRODUCTION OF ALUMINIUM REMAINS A KEY CHALLENGE AT TAC AND THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT POWER-SAVING PROJECTS UNDERWAY HELPING TO DELIVER A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION TO ESCALATING COSTS.

One of the largest and most important of these projects is the Pacific Aluminium Low Energy Pot (PA-LE) pot, designed by the Pacific Technology Centre (PTC). Successful generalisation of the design is expected to deliver savings of up to \$10 million annually.

The materials used in the construction of PA-LE pots enables the cell to operate using much less energy and without compromising anode cathode distance (ACD), therefore maintaining excellent metal production performance. The new design also ensures the pot can operate

in a broader amperage range (245kA to 260kA), with the flexibility to accommodate market conditions and business needs by running at a low ACD.

Booster engineer Darryl Frew said the early stages of the project were challenging, and highlighted several opportunities for improvement around the new pot work.

“Our people have responded to the challenge and we have now set the benchmark in the Pacific Aluminium group for pot pre-heat, start-up and early life control,” Darryl said.

“PA-LE 1.2 is the third iteration of the design and a strong collaboration with PTC allowed us to respond quickly and implement key design changes to address issues with heat balance and insufficient power savings.

“We currently have 12 PA-LE 1.2 pots, with an additional 50 pots to be installed this year.”

Business Improvement Leader Michelle Whyte said early indications were promising, with all predicted power savings now being realised on these 12 pots.

“Successful generalisation of this pot design could deliver a saving of approximately \$10 million per annum, however we need to validate metal production and thermal balance,” Michelle said.

“Thermal measurement campaigns are being completed along the way in March, May and September, followed by the final design assessment at the end of the year.

“Between now and September our Potline Early Life Controllers, in consultation with Room Controllers and Process Supervisors, are providing additional follow up for the PA-LE project.”

Specific checks and investigations performed each shift are ensuring a rapid response to exceptions, accurate data for design assessment and an accumulation of knowledge and strategies for successful operation of this pot design.

Electrolysis Process Superintendent Greg Kinniard said he expected Tomago Aluminium would be in a strong position to evaluate the most effective future pot design for Tomago by September this year.

PASTE PLANT FUEL REDUCTION PROCESS

FOR MOST OF US THE TERM ‘SPRING CLEAN’ MEANS SPENDING A WEEKEND SPRUCING-UP THE HOUSE AND GARDENS BUT FOR TOMAGO ALUMINIUM’S FIRE AND HAZARD REDUCTION TEAM THAT WOULD JUST BE WAY TOO EASY.

The team is currently six months into a three-year project involving removing oil, grease, dust and carbon material that has been building up in all the Paste Plant’s hidden nooks and crannies for the best part of 30 years.

In the right conditions the various elements are fuel for what could be a very dangerous, very expensive fire and, says team spokesman Steve Bramble, by removing all that dust, grease and oil residue now and taking steps to ensure it will not build-up so quickly in future, the team is effectively fixing future problems as they go.

“Any material leak we find we fix,” Steve said. “Plus, we’re looking at modern ways to lubricate machinery to stop it happening again.”

If you think there is a special way to attack the problem you are right: the six-strong team effectively started at one end and of the plant and is methodically working its way through to the other, cleaning the lower three floors of the two seven-storey buildings it has been assigned.

“Two plants, three floors of each – we don’t need to clean the upper floors, two months to clean each floor. There is a lot of trial and error and some of it is taking several passes to clean,” Steve Bramble said.

“We started six months ago with two guys and we now have four cleaners, one operator and a fitter.”

In a kind gesture that says ‘the Fire and Hazard Reduction team has been here’, team members also install new LED lighting after each section is cleaned, all part of the safety package, according to Steve.

How dirty has the Paste Plant gotten over the years? Consider that from just one floor of one building the team removed one tonne of residue. That’s 30 years of fuel loading which, Steve suggests in something of an understatement, would be “quite flammable”.

Making a mess is cheap and easy but cleaning it is a whole different ball game, which explains why the Fire and Hazard Reduction team has a \$1.25 million budget for this year’s operations alone.

RODDING CONTINGENCY POURING PROJECT

NECESSITY, THEY SAY, IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION SO WHEN 'NECESSITY' INCLUDES INCREASING PRODUCTION SPEED AND IMPROVING SAFETY, 'INVENTION' IS NEVER GOING TO BE FAR AWAY.

Which explains the development and introduction, later this year, of the Contingency Cast Iron Pouring Machine, known simply as 'The Manipulator'.

'The Manipulator' is exactly that, a pouring unit that will give Tomago Aluminium a handy back-up plan for the supply of anodes to the pot rooms should any sort of shutdown happen during assembly and casting.

The unit, which is still in the concept stages of its development, is an impressively simple design, according to Carbon Improvement Projects Superintendent, Andrew Thurlow. It will be able to handle up to 200 anodes per shift, well above the 90 anodes per shift the current machinery can handle.

"The unit itself is a hydraulically-operated ladle that fits on the front of a forklift truck," Andrew said. "It's still a conceptual design

but general arrangement drawings will be completed soon, ready for construction.

"We know exactly what we want so the main thing is working-out the speed of the fork unit itself," he added.

The plan is to use a standard 'off-the-shelf' forklift truck but modified mechanically and electronically to run an inching speed control and have its overall speed governed to walking pace for safe operation.

What that means in real terms is a minimum speed of just 10 metres per minute and 120 metres per minute at its absolute maximum pace.

"It's not a complex machine, it's all pretty straight forward," said Andrew.

"We'll be using it this year, hopefully by September but probably by October, as long as we can get the forklift truck's speed right.

"We will be working closely with our on-site mobile team to make sure we get the correct outcomes."

And when that mark is achieved the other blocks will fall quickly into place with the nett results bringing time, cost reductions and overall safety improvements — a win-win situation all round.



RODDING RISK MITIGATION CONTINGENCY

You don't have to be Einstein to understand that combining alumina, carbon and electricity to make aluminium is hard, hot and potentially dangerous work.

The process currently needs a lot of manual handling of hot metal but the new ladle manipulator coming on-line before year's end will not only simplify the process for operators but make it safer as well.

The manipulator will take hot metal from the furnaces, move the ladle to the pouring area and pour anodes in batches, allowing operators to smoothly move it between the anode stubs for smooth, controlled pours.

Safety and smoothness will be the key words for the new cast iron pouring ladle, which is based on past and current cast iron manipulators (some of which are still in use).

Carbon Improvements Projects Superintendent, Andrew Thurlow said when it goes into operation the forklift truck will have an open cab design but with heat shielding added. This will protect not only those operating it from splashing molten metal and heat radiation but its vital components as well.

Controls will be ergonomically designed for best possible operator control of the ladle manipulator and, for maximum safety, the truck will use Fuchs 'Plantoflux' fire-resistant hydraulic fluid.

Other factors that will set the process apart from the methods currently in use include:

- Lip pouring to lower height changes as the ladle empties during a pour;
- Maximum operator visibility for critical pour control;
- Full hydraulic operation;
- Complete protection of all hydraulic lines and components
- A hydraulics fail-safe for molten metal ladle handling and;
- 'Side shift' to reduce the need for machine repositioning over misaligned trays.

"There's currently a lot of manual handling of hot metal and this (new) process will cut a lot of that," Andrew Thurlow said.

"It will cut a lot of the risk factors."

ASH AUTOMATION

“

THE SUCCESS TO DATE IS FROM THE HIGH INVOLVEMENT AND ‘CAN DO’ ATTITUDES FROM THE OPERATIONAL, AUTOMATION AND MAINTENANCE TEAMS THAT ARE LIFTING THE LID CONTINUALLY ON THIS PROJECT.

”

AROUND TOMAGO ALUMINIUM WE KNOW IT AS ‘ASH’ AUTOMATION. FOR THOSE NOT IN THE KNOW ‘ASH’ MEANS ‘ANODE STORAGE AND HANDLING’ AND IT IS ONE OF THE MORE IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS OF OUR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS.

The ASH description covers everything from the processing, handling and storage of anodes between Paste Plants one and two to Bake Ovens one, two and three and the Rodding Shop.

It should come as no big surprise then that ASH operations are critical to the overall carbon operation at Tomago. So critical in fact, that it has been described, quite poetically, as “the beating heart and soul of the business unit”, according to Mark Westbury, Carbon Operations Project Superintendent.

This area of operations has been managed by Anode Storage and Handling controllers (known simply as the ASH controllers) since the very early 1980s with an operator on the control desk at all times, and two during some peak periods.

That is now in the process of being changed with the ASH Controller role becoming automated and, says Mark, it was not something most people thought would or even could happen.

“When the idea was floated to automate this area the initial thoughts were that we were mad to even think about it,” Mark recalled.

But, some two months into the ASH automation project, success is already being achieved.

“The success to date is from the high involvement and ‘can do’ attitudes from the operational, automation and maintenance teams that are lifting the lid continually on this project,” he said.

At this stage there is currently no finalisation date for full automation.

TAPPING TRUCKS

EFFICIENCY IS ALWAYS IMPORTANT TO INDUSTRY AND WHEN IT CAN BE COMBINED WITH SAFETY THERE IS A STRONG ARGUMENT FOR INTRODUCING THE BEST EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE.

For Tomago, that could mean Tapping Trucks for more manageable transportation of molten metal between the Potline and the Cast House. Currently, the process of moving molten aluminium between the Potline and Cast House requires a tapper, a ladle, a trailer, Pot-tending and Cast House Furnace-tending cranes and Cast House furnace men.

That could change though if an investigation currently underway into the adoption of Tapping Trucks is green-lighted. The process could create a more efficient movement of metal between Potline and Cast House.

Warren Dixon, spokesman for the Tapping Truck team, said Tomago has been handling molten metal in the same way for more than 30 years, using a process that required a high degree of interaction between people and machinery.

Tapping Truck technology simplifies the process by tapping the metal using the truck's onboard compressor and syphoning unit, driving it to the Cast House and pumping it into the holding furnace using the onboard systems.

"The technology allows a single operator to take control of a single piece of equipment," Warren said. "And one of the benefits is we de-couple our tapping process from the pot-tending process. We are more able to get to the 'drum beat' of the pot line."

The current system also generates a high amount of oxidised aluminium or dross. Tapping Truck cut the amount of dross manufactured so have the potential to save millions of dollars.

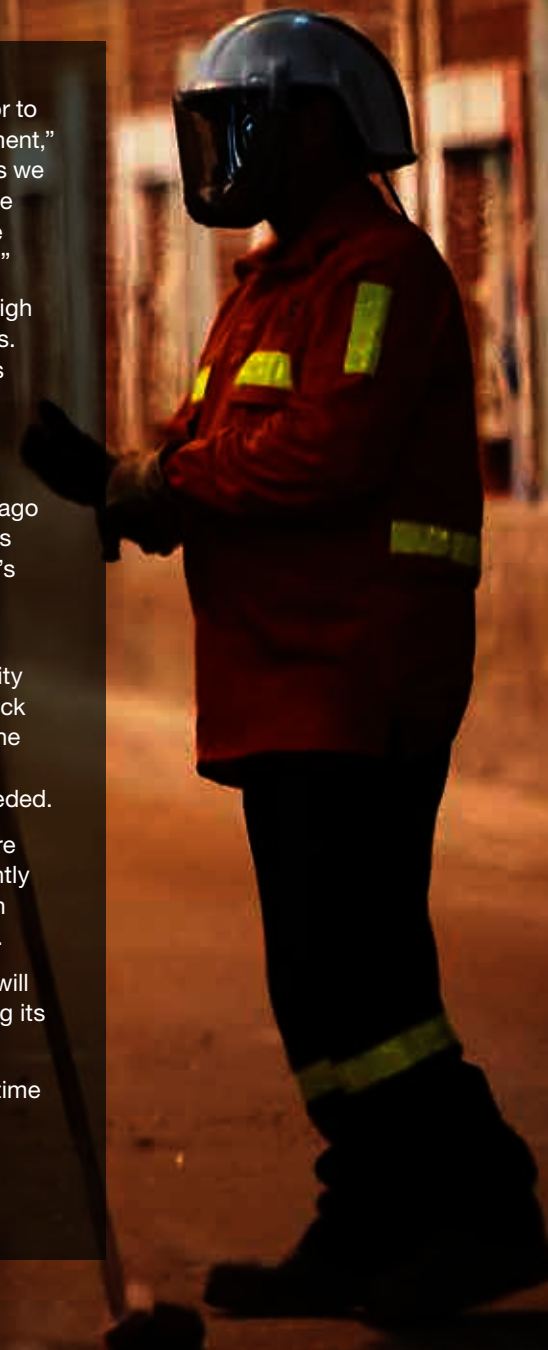
Tapping Truck manufacturers Hencon, Glama, HMR and Techmo visited Tomago during March with their representatives making presentations to the company's Feasibility Group.

The visits had two main aims, the first being to gauge each supplier's capability and the second to give the Tapping Truck team the chance to learn more about the process and ask the questions that will give team members the knowledge needed.

When will it happen? Warren says there is a need to understand what is currently available and gather all the information needed to build a solid business case.

The transformation process, he says, will help lock-in Tomago's future by making its processes more efficient.

There is, he adds, a 12 month lead-in time on such specialised vehicles.





The Mobile Team (L-R):

FLEET IMPROVEMENTS IN FULL GEAR

2017 IS A YEAR OF CHANGE FOR THE MOBILE WORKSHOP, WITH A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES UNDERWAY TO ENHANCE THE OVERALL QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF TOMAGO ALUMINIUM'S MOBILE FLEET.

In the next three months Tomago will take delivery of more than 10 new vehicles, an enhanced preventative maintenance system and a speedy roll-out of new and innovative technology.

Working with the production areas and Hunter Lift Trucks, the Mobile team has been busy writing scopes and specifying the details required for the new vehicles.

Central Maintenance Superintendent Mal Muddle said the team had already accepted delivery of an additional 14 tonne Yale Forklift for shipping operations late last year, along with a new buggy and a bath tapping fork for Liquid Metal Operations (LMO).

"A further eight units will be delivered in April," Mal said.

"These will include four Potline 5 tonne forks, two new Hotside forks for Cast Products and the final two bath tapping Forklifts for LMO."

"Our preventative maintenance program is also on the move and by mid-2017 we will see the majority of our mobile fleet being serviced on a use-based program, as opposed to the conventional time-based system.

"This will be an enabler to allow even equipment usage and is expected to realise significant improvement in reliability and cost."

The third front for change is the utilisation of technology around the mobile fleet, with the roll-out of front and rear dash cams across the critical fleet already underway.

Mal said the cameras would make fault-finding easier for operations and maintenance crews, as well as provide more opportunity to identify damage and safety concerns.

"Selected vehicles will also have Navman GPS systems installed," he said.

"In addition to the existing GPS functions, this system will also facilitate the use of employee clock cards to start the vehicle, online pre-flight capability and a direct link to fuel and engine performance data.

"This will give the mobile maintenance team an improved window into vehicle and fleet performance and assist the team in delivering reliable and cost-effective maintenance."

INGOT CHAIN AUTOMATION IS GO

MONTHS OF WORK DESIGNING AND ENGINEERING A NEW AUTOMATED INGOT CHAIN SYSTEM CAME TO FRUITION FOR CAST PRODUCTS OPERATIONS (CPO) IN MARCH WITH THE SUCCESSFUL AUTOMATED START OF CAST ON INGOT CHAIN 6. THIS MARKS TOMAGO ALUMINIUM'S FIRST COMPREHENSIVE AUTOMATED SYSTEM.

Automated Casting Project Leader Erin Brown said the completion and commissioning of the project was a milestone for CPO that would yield welcome safety benefits for operators.

“This project has immediately brought us into the future of our castings systems at Tomago and drastically reduces interaction between operators and molten metal because it is run from the control room rather than down on the chain itself,” Erin said.

“Not only is this a great improvement for our people in terms of safety, it also reduces intervention time, allowing for predictable operation, as well as consistency in ingot size at the beginning of the cast.”

The automation at the casting section of the ingot chains optimises existing automatic features and enables an automatic start of the cast, an automatic

furnace changeover, a camera system for remote operation and an increased launder depth.

Ingot Chain 3 is expected to be completely automated and commissioned by the end of April, with Chains 4 and 5 coming into play soon after.

All four ingot chains will be run from the central control room by a team of three operators, minimising exposure to hot metal and manual tasks at the front end of the chain. Every phase of the operation, including the hot metal aisle, will be monitored from the control room and operator training is well underway.

“Huge thanks go out to Phil Bartlett (CPO), Chase Bennett (CPO) and Tony Smith (Automation) as well as to our Engineering teams for their tireless efforts in getting this to work initially,” Erin said.

“

ALL FOUR INGOT CHAINS WILL BE RUN FROM THE CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM BY A TEAM OF THREE OPERATORS.

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TWO IMPROVEMENTS MANY BENEFITS



THE ELECTROLYSIS DEPARTMENT (LIQUID METALS OPERATIONS) HAS BEEN ON THE JOURNEY TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCIES SINCE SEPTEMBER IN 2016.

One project has been devising a sustainable, safe procedure to change all the anodes in each room with a single PTA. The result of this is an improved operational drumbeat with anode change commencing right from the start of each shift.

The single PTA anode change project has been run in line with the development of a Bath Tapping Forklift (BTF) which is an original design that effectively replaces existing bath tapping vehicles reaching the end of their lives.

The BTF is a much more flexible unit than the existing vehicles and allows for the accurate addition and removal of bath to a cell which increases the current capability of our bath tapping function. With our key focus being process variation in 2017, the BTFs have a critical role to play in delivering our process outcomes this year.

Process Engineer Phillip Brown said trials of this new work structure will begin in Potline 1.

“Operators will change anodes from the floor for a brief period at the beginning of each shift and bath will no longer be transported between rooms,” Phillip said.

“These are significant changes for Tomago Aluminium, given that these two paradigms have been unchallenged for the 35 years of our operation.

“One of the major benefits of the single-change PTA anode provides is the opportunity for 36 of our longest serving Electrolysis employees to transition into retirement with a voluntary redundancy much earlier than expected. Those who stay on will reap the benefits of being one step closer to maintaining our status as a Quartile 1 smelter that attracts investment and uses it wisely.”

“

WITH OUR KEY FOCUS BEING PROCESS VARIATION IN 2017, THE BTFS HAVE A CRITICAL ROLE TO PLAY IN DELIVERING OUR PROCESS OUTCOMES THIS YEAR.

”

NEW SYSTEM DESIGNED TO SAVE LIVES

Which explains why Tomago Aluminium is rolling-out a system of life-saving measures across the site.

“If you don’t get all your ducks in a row you can be in a lot of trouble,” explains EHS Systems Officer, Charmain Underwood.

In Tomago Aluminium’s case, “lining-up the ducks” involves adopting and implementing a safety system first devised by Rio Tinto Alcan as part of a Critical Risk Management Process aimed at preventing fatalities.

Described by Charmain as a “lifesaving standard”, the system is based around a computer program developed by K2 for the workplace. It is, she says, a computer tool that works across computer systems to connect to the SAP computer network.

Staff work through a safety checklist and when something fails to comply the program asks for a list of the steps needed to fix the problem.

When the operator hits ‘SAVE’ it is automatically registered as an incident with the Tomago Aluminium SAP EHS system. A plant maintenance request is generated to have the item fixed or, at

the other end of the scale, it assigns the right people to deal with the situation immediately.

The complete system was developed for Tomago by Information Systems’ Ian Macdonald, Kate Brown and Charmain Underwood from Safety and Training Services and K2’s Kieran Moore.

Because of its operating system, it cancels out the time-consuming need to work through multiple systems to report on an outcome, a report that can often be time-critical.

Importantly, as part of the adoption and integration process, the Safety Team has worked with the people who will use the system to ensure the questions are relevant to the worksite and completely understandable.

Charmain says the first Life Saving Control roll-out using the K2 operating method has already taken place in the Carbon Department and has been well received.

“We’ve got a good safety record here at Tomago but we always want to do better,” she said.

**TIME IS CRITICAL,
LIFE IS PRECIOUS AND
IN MANY SITUATIONS
SAVING ONE CAN
SAVE THE OTHER.**



NEW YALE 16-TONNER

THE NEW YALE FORKLIFT HAS A FEW CREATURE COMFORTS THAT MAKE A DAY IN THE CABIN A LOT MORE ENJOYABLE.

Contractor and Shipping Logistics team leader Gary Fleming along with Mobile Maintenance team members Mal Muddle and Jason Giddins, were charged with choosing Tomago’s newest forklift fleet member.

“We didn’t run out and look at 100 different forklift trucks,” Gary recalled. “Instead I gave our specifications list to Mal and he and his guys worked-out what we needed. That way we didn’t confuse ourselves.”

The end result? A new Yale lift truck with 16-tonne carrying capacity as the newest member of the Shipping Logistics fleet of eight forklifts, slotting-in alongside five smaller seven-tonne units and two older 16-tonners.

The enclosed cab Yale went into service in November last year and, says Gary, because it is from the current generation of forklifts, has plenty to offer in both user-friendliness and comfort.

“It has a bigger, six-cylinder diesel engine so is more powerful and a lot smoother in operation.

“It has good forward vision through the mast and out to the sides. We have a lot of B-Double trucks come in here, multiple truck movements so good peripheral vision for the (forklift) drivers is very important,” he said.

As far as creature comforts go, the big yellow Yale is packed with them. The cab is air-conditioned and it has a radio with Bluetooth connectivity so the operators can pair their smartphones or play music.

“It’s got the comforts that make the job a bit better. It makes the guy’s shift more comfortable.

“We needed something that was going to work for the guys and this vehicle has great all-round capabilities. It’s a nice truck.”

How nice is “nice”?

So far, says Gary, the feedback from the shipping team has been nothing but positive with one operator describing it as one of the best forklifts he has ever driven.

Lachlan White with Port Stephens Mayor Bruce MacKenzie and TAC Human Resources Officer Keiran Turner at the presentation evening in February.



SMOOTH SAILING AHEAD FOR TAC SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Aspiring mechanical engineer and winner of the Tomago Aluminium 2017 Port Stephens Mayoral Scholarship Lachlan White is a young man who knows what he wants and is well on his way to getting there.

The Merewether High School graduate and champion sailor was presented with his scholarship by Port Stephens Mayor Bruce MacKenzie and TAC Human Resources officer Keiran Turner at a presentation evening in February.

Lachlan will begin a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) with Honours at the University of Newcastle this year, with the ultimate aim of securing a mechanical engineer's role with the America's Cup.

He said exciting new mechanical systems were changing the face of the America's Cup and it was his 'dream job' to work in the field.

"America's Cup boats have massive mechanical systems driving them – the teams with the best engineers have the best systems and therefore the best chance of winning," he said.

"I really want to be part of that."

During his school years, Lachlan was selected for the NSW and Australian Secondary Schools Sailing Championships.

Outside of school sailing, he placed first in the Viper Division at the recent Sailing World Cup in Melbourne, and is now a member of the Australian Sailing Nacra 17 Pathway to Gold Training Squad, which will assist him greatly in his goal to qualify for the Australian Sailing Team and compete in an Olympic Games.

As capable with books as he is with boats, Lachlan received numerous academic awards during his school years. He was also included in the Higher School Certificate Distinguished Achievers List.

Lachlan said it was an honour to have received the scholarship, which would help him access extra resources throughout the year.

"The scholarship is a huge help to me. It means I'll be able to purchase all the extra recommended books and resources which will help me gain ground when I am away in Europe this year sailing with the training squad," he said.

"I can't thank Tomago Aluminium enough."

FIT AND LEAN IN '17



HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO JOIN THE 2017 TOMAGO TURNAROUND CHALLENGE?

This is the year of 'little changes for big results' at Tomago Aluminium, with plenty happening on-site to motivate employees to start taking small steps towards positive changes in health and wellbeing.

Occupational Health Advisor Simon Treyvaud said the activities were designed to support people to make initial, small lifestyle adjustments with a view to investing in their long-term health and wellbeing.

"We introduced some new activities this year to inspire our employees to join in because once people start seeing the benefits of the small changes they are making it's usually a real incentive to keep going," Simon said.

Tomago Turnaround was kicked off with two launch days held at the main gate in February. Anthony 'Cookie' Cook created healthy frittatas for breakfast and employees were able to sign on for various activities scheduled for throughout the year.

Kicking off 2017 is the 5% weight loss challenge. Run over six weeks, there's a cash incentive to inspire participants to lose 5% of their body weight. Tomago Aluminium is providing plenty of support, with one-on-one nutrition sessions

available with Cookie, as well as a host of information available to employees to guide them on a healthy weight-loss journey.

Healthy cooking classes will be offered on-site this year. Hosted by Cookie, these sessions will include recipes, healthy cooking ideas and a wide range of tips.

Tomago Aluminium will also host on-site boot camps which will be held at a range of times in the gym. They will include free personal training sessions with an external exercise physiologist.

For the golf players, there's a golf day planned for later in 2017, with more details available as they come to hand.

Last but not least is a mystery competition aimed at flushing out the creative bug and allowing employees to leave their mark and change the landscape at the plant for years to come. Stay tuned for more on this.

In addition to these activities are Tomago Aluminium's ongoing health and wellbeing services, they include:

- Nutrition and dietitian sessions – free on-site nutrition and meal-planning advice for those wanting to achieve better health, weight loss or learn about sports nutrition. Contact Anthony Cook on Ext 7604.
- Physiotherapy – assessment and treatment for sporting injuries, work-related injuries and rehabilitation. Contact Health Services on Ext 9095.
- Skin Cancer Checks – free regular skin checks. Contact Ext 9095/7604.
- Flu vaccines – offered as the winter months approach.

- Free on-site gym – available 24 hours to all TAC employees. Inductions can be booked on extension 7604.
- Discounted memberships to a huge array of external facilities via the CareTrac network are available to Tomago Aluminium employees and their immediate family. These facilities include unlimited access to a huge range of gyms, swimming pools, indoor rock climbing centres and yoga studios all over NSW and Australia. Contact 9095/7604.
- As part of its commitment to Tomago Turnaround, Tomago Aluminium will contribute up to \$50 towards entry fees to the Hill to Harbour Run Newcastle and to CareTrac registration.

IMPORTANT DATES

April	Free flu shots
April 2	Newcastle Hill to Harbour
April 28	World Day for Safety and Health at Work
May	Bootcamps begin
June	Healthy cooking classes
June 12	Men's Health Week
August 27	Hearing Awareness Week
September 4	Women's Health Week
September 4	R U OK? Day
October	Tomago Golf Day
November	World Diabetes Day

RECRUITMENT ON A WHOLE NEW LEVEL

A NEW APPROACH TO RECRUITMENT HAS SEEN TOMAGO ALUMINIUM INCREASE ITS POOL OF AVAILABLE TALENT TO FILL OPERATOR AND TRADE VACANCIES QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

The Assessment Centre takes a fresh new look at recruitment and offers candidates and TAC Leaders the opportunity to meet and assess potential employees in a group environment.

The first Assessment Centre was held in February and was followed up with a second in early March. There were 21 potential candidates at each session, at which they were assessed through aptitude testing and a range of group activities.

Human Resources Officer Keiran Turner said both sessions were extremely successful.

“We initially looked at the idea as a process improvement that would help us keep our numbers up and have a pool of available operators/trades for when we needed to bring people into the business quickly,” Keiran said.

“We had nine leaders each meet nine candidates.

“The leaders facilitated group activities and engaged candidates in discussions around their knowledge and experience in safety, teamwork, problem solving etc. It also gave us the opportunity to gauge people’s interactions with others and their ability to communicate.”

Keiran said the bulk assessments reduced the man hours required to put 21 candidates through sessions individually from 63 hours to 30 to assess the same number of people on a group level.

“The successful candidates now go in to a pool of people ready to start work immediately,” she said.

“It’s a great way to fast-track the recruitment process and have operators and tradespeople on hand when we need them.”

The sessions also received positive feedback from candidates.

Successful candidate Troy, who attended the first session, said:

“My experience with the Tomago Assessment Centre was very fulfilling and a great way to meet more than one or two supervisors. We were able to engage in some very informative talks about the how TAC operates and the Tomago representatives were also able to test our knowledge and understand our backgrounds. I also found it a great way to meet the people you may be working alongside or just passing on site.

“Even though it was a little nerve-wracking, the supervisors and TAC representatives all made it a smooth and comfortable experience.”



LOOP THE LAKE

SUCCESS FOR TAC CYCLISTS



Brian Iredale who retires late March, Gordon Wilson, Neil Roser, Maurice Schneider and Linda Minter.



Our mountain bikers Maurice Schneider and Tony Smith.

MORE THAN 1000 HAPPY CYCLISTS, INCLUDING A 13-STRONG TEAM OF TAC RIDERS, TOOK TO THE PICTURESQUE TRACK AROUND BEAUTIFUL LAKE MACQUARIE IN MARCH FOR THE ANNUAL LOOP THE LAKE CHARITY RIDE RECENTLY.

After one of the hottest summers on record, followed by some very wet weather, Sunday, March 12 turned on an absolute cracker of a day for the highly-anticipated event, which attracts riders from across the state to challenge themselves and raise money to support the Cancer Council.

Veteran rider Gordon Wilson said the group had been ‘blessed with very little breeze, not a cloud in the sky and a cool but not too cold start to the day that warmed up nicely as the day progressed’.

“It was a truly perfect autumn day,” Gordon said.

This year the ride was 90km for the full course, which was slightly longer than previous years due to a route change implemented to improve safety.

“The TAC team was a mix of old-time regulars and most pleasingly, a couple of first-timers,” Gordon said.

“First-timers really are the success story of Loop the Lake because participating often sparks an interest to continue riding for the health benefits it provides. It also takes the courage to challenge pushing yourself to physical limits.

“This year we had two first-timers – our maintenance manager Maurice Schneider and Linda Minter from procurement support. Hats off to both of them as Maurice took on the 55km challenge on a limited training base, while Linda completed the full 90km challenge following a committed training program over many weeks in the lead up to the ride.”

Gordon said Tomago Aluminium was proud to support employees who took part in the ride each year because it was consistent with the company’s philosophy on the benefits of a healthy approach to life.

“It was another successful event, promoting good health, pushing personal boundaries and supporting a great cause,” Gordon said.

OUR NEW APPRENTICES FOR 2017



MORE INFO?



CARLEY WHITE



ZAC MIDDLETON



BEN JOHNSTON



LACHLAN MCDONELL



JACK PATTISON



GAVIN BEASLEY



TRAVIS COLLINS

BRAD BURGESS

Biggest regret?

There's no need for regrets you can't change the past.

Favourite food?

I love a good steak and veg with Dianne sauce.

What is your current role?

Security Emergency Response

What were your first thoughts of TAC?

I felt very lucky to have the opportunity for a long term career.

Finish this line: When I'm not at work...

I love walks on the foreshore and dining out with my wife.

What's the best piece of advice you've been given?

Always project positivity, it rubs off.

If you had \$100 to spend on yourself what would you do with it?

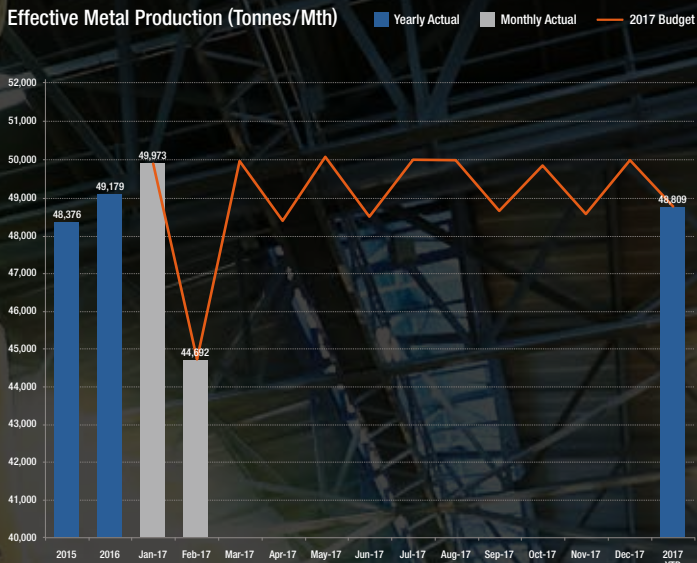
Enjoy a nice meal with a nice bottle of shiraz.

MORE INFO?

ALUMINIUM FACT

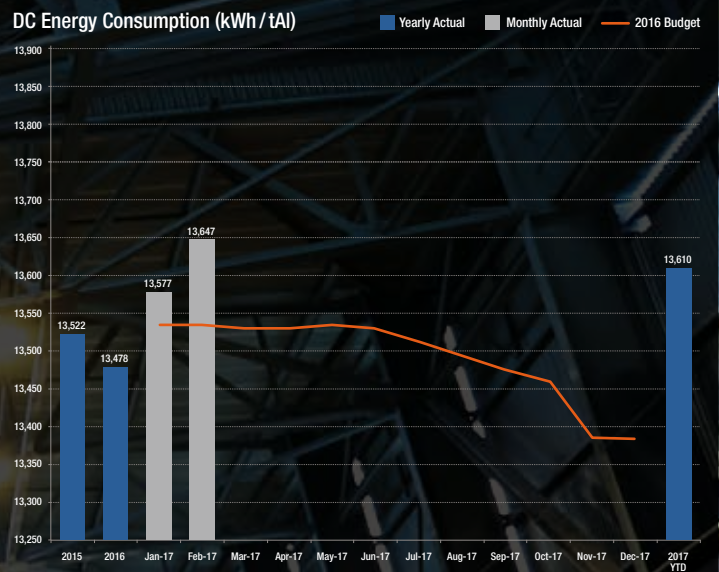
TOMAGO'S KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Effective Metal Production (Tonnes/Mth)



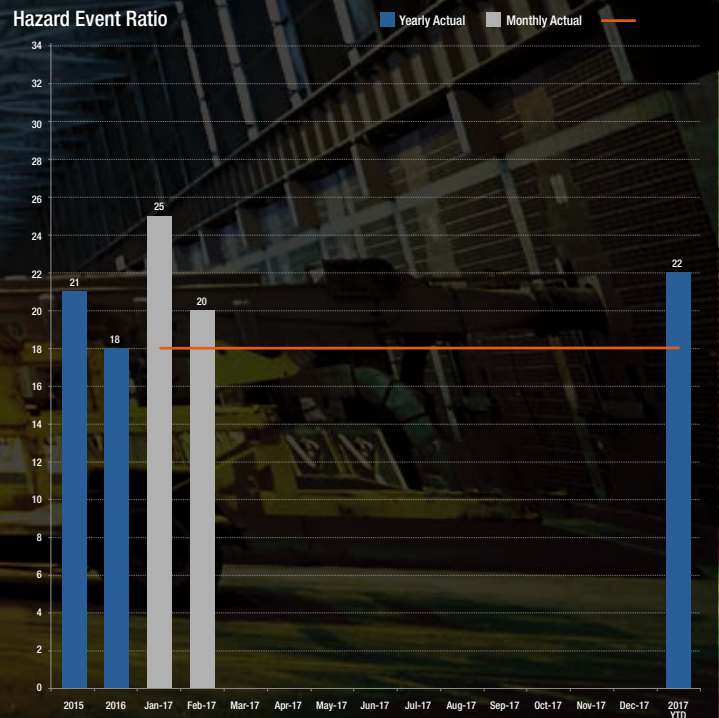
The Effective Metal Production is the total amount of hot metal tapped from the pots. It includes both hot metal tonnes delivered to Cast Products plus any reclaimed cold metal.

DC Energy Consumption (kWh/tAl)



Energy Consumption measures how much power we use to make one tonne of aluminium. The lower this number the better!

Hazard Event Ratio



The Hazard Event Ratio measures the number of injuries in proportion to the number of safety related events.