

BOWHILL ENGINEERING THRIVES WITH OPENING OF NEW WORKSHOP



Jeremy and Jodie Hawkes
CEO of Bowhill Engineering
stand proudly in front of their
new B5 workshop. Photo:
Jacob Jennings.

Together we thrive is the motto the dedicated team at Bowhill Engineering follows as they transform their community and build structures that matter.

Thriving they are, with the recent opening of a massive new workshop that will expand the company's capabilities, introduce innovative technologies and continue its dedication to sustainability.

As specialist fabricators of heavy and complex structural steel, Bowhill collaboratively builds structures, from design optimisation through to installation, that benefit many Australians.

Bowhill's reputation has been built on a wide range of areas:

- Specialising in large complex structural steel
- Being easy to do business with
- Offering a collaborative problem-solving approach
- A high capability for developing innovative solutions to complex projects
- A positive track record for delivery on time and with high quality
- Price competitiveness.

There is a wide variety of projects in Bowhill's workshop at any one time. However, Bowhill Engineering is best known for building large steel bridge girders. In all, the company has completed over 15 bridges on the North-South Expressway in South Australia, and over 25 bridges in the past 20 years.

Part of this success has been identifying and aligning with key clients, who fit the same culture and values as Bowhill.

Bowhill also understands the importance of certification and innovation. The company has been ISO 9001:2015 certified since 2014, and holds AS/NZS ISO 3834.2 and AS/NZS 5131 certification. Bowhill also runs a cloud-based Integrated Management System, which has been consistently reviewed and managed to ensure a high quality of results.

Bowhill's New B5 Workshop

The new B5 workshop includes a 16m crane that can lift up to 100 tonnes, giving the team more flexibility to turn large components quickly and safely.

Director of business development Jeremy Hawkes said the company had originally planned to knock down its B2 workshop to improve its overhead lifting capacity. But its board members suggested a new building instead – then fate intervened.

"A client from Osbourne mentioned they had a surplus building that was originally for the diesel subs," Hawkes said. "We didn't have a tape to measure it, so we just stepped it out."

"Would you believe the length was within one metre of what we were going to build and the width was about the same – to me that's divine intervention. We were able to purchase the frame, cladding and crane at a substantially discounted amount."

The creation of this workshop has allowed Bowhill Engineering to take on their biggest contract yet – around four times bigger than anything they've taken on in the past. The project, yet to be announced, is a significant milestone for Bowhill Engineering and

the region, bringing state-of-the-art manufacturing to South Australia while driving economic and social outcomes.

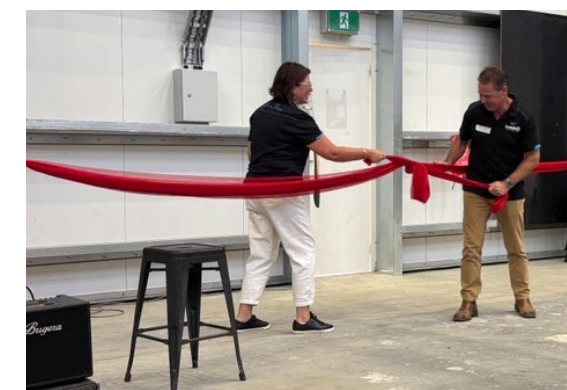
In order to complete this massive new project they have invested \$5 million of equipment in three robotic welding stations.

"This project is a game-changer for Bowhill Engineering," Hawkes said. "Not only is it the biggest project we have won, we've set ourselves up to be the only supplier of this product in the southern hemisphere. This builds Australia's sovereign capability, right here from regional South Australia."

One of Bowhill Engineering's core values is doing what they say they will do for their clients. CEO Jodie Hawkes said its priorities also included providing security for family and staff, offering them a healthy work/life balance and giving back to the community. "Over the next couple of years the goal is to build our current capacity of 60 staff to 75 staff and increase our productivity by 20 per cent," she said.

Currently Bowhill Engineering employs 61 locals and has trained more than 30 apprentices, who are now fully qualified. They will be seeking new staff in project management, on the production line, fitting and turning, deliveries and, as always, more boilermakers.

As the Bowhill Engineering's founder, Brendon Hawkes, said: if you've got to work a third of your life, you might as well be happy doing it.



Further Information

For further information about Bowhill Engineering, visit: boweng.com.au



Inside the B5 workshop,
which is around 70 metres
long and 23 wide.
Photo: Jacob Jennings.