

OCTOBER 2026

FENCES & GATES



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BY FENCEPAC COMMERCIAL

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OFFICIAL INDUSTRY PUBLICATION

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FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to the October edition of FENCES&GATES.

This edition of FENCES & GATES highlights the diversity of work, skills and experience across Australia's fencing and gate industry.

From complex commercial installations and architectural balustrades to rural gate automation and residential fencing, our featured projects demonstrate the craftsmanship and technical expertise of contractors around the country.

We also recognise Industry Legend Chris Alebakis and his more than 35 years in the trade, share practical business insights and bring you the

latest products, developments and news from our industry Partners.

Planning is well underway for the 2027 Australian FENCING and GATE Conference, Trade Show and Awards on the Gold Coast next April. We're looking forward to bringing the industry together to connect, learn and celebrate.

Thank you to the businesses and individuals who contribute their projects, knowledge and experience to FENCES & GATES. Your involvement helps us share the stories that matter to our industry.

Sherrie Mazur
EDITOR

Why COLORBOND® steel

Here in Australia, our buildings certainly face some pretty challenging weather conditions from extremes of heat and cold, to dust, rain, wind and hail. And it's for this reason that COLORBOND® steel is assessed at outdoor sites around Australia, as well as in accelerated laboratory testing.

COLORBOND® steel undergoes corrosion testing, durability testing, application testing (to ensure it can be used in a wide range of building and manufacturing applications, and with all the common building products used across the industry) and outdoor exposure testing.

As part of the assessment program, there are over 12,000 panels on exposure across Australia, ranging from moderate to very severe marine environments, and from tropical to industrial locations.

BlueScope's assessment program for COLORBOND® steel is designed to replicate building applications in actual Australian conditions.

By recreating actual building applications – including varying pitches, profiles, product types and the inclusion of unwashed areas – BlueScope's assessment regime exceeds Australian testing standards for steel building products, giving a genuine understanding of how COLORBOND® steel will perform on real homes.

So, choose a fence made from COLORBOND® steel; it can enhance the privacy and security of your home for years to come.

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Tested in Australian Conditions



**HIGH-SECURITY PER
FENCEPAC COMMEN**



OTECTION
RCIAL

HIGH-SECURITY PROTECTION

Cross River Rail Queensland



Fencepac Commercial delivered 1,888 lineal metres of security fencing, custom concrete panels and automated gates at Queensland Rail's Mayne Yard in Bowen Hills, Brisbane, as part of the Cross River Rail project.

Mayne Yard has supported Queensland's rail network since the 1910s and remains a major stabling and maintenance precinct. The facility is undergoing significant upgrades to increase capacity, improve efficiency and support future rail operations.

Fencepac's scope included design, shop detailing, fabrication, supply and construction of a comprehensive high-security fencing and gate package, designed to meet Queensland Rail's operational and safety requirements.

Specialist Fencing and Gate Systems

The installation incorporated ASF Securemax Type 358 high-security fencing, galvanised chainwire and custom pre-stressed concrete panels manufactured in-house by Fencepac.

The Securemax system provides anti-climb protection while maintaining visibility, and the pre-stressed concrete panels were designed for structural strength, minimal deflection and long-term durability.

Additional perimeter protection included razor wire supported by engineered brackets.

Vater Hardware stainless steel and galvanised fittings were incorporated throughout the fencing and gate systems, providing robust connection points and resistance to environmental conditions. These components

contributed to the structural reliability and long-term durability of the installations.

Vehicle access was managed through Assure Industrial Gate Solutions motorised gates, complemented by purpose-built pedestrian and vehicle gates integrated with the fencing systems.

Heavy-duty structural frames and reinforced concrete footings provided additional support for the installations.

Working Within a Live Rail Environment

Delivering the project within an operational rail precinct required careful coordination, strict safety procedures and compliance with Queensland Rail specifications.

Custom aluminium entrance masterpiece





Random Ali Fabrication transformed a challenging entrance at Cooroy on Queensland's Sunshine Coast into a striking custom sliding gate and feature wall installation.

The project incorporated powder-coated aluminium panels, laser-cut detailing and a distinctive cut-out design across the sliding gate.

Laserworks in Noosa completed the laser cutting, while Pacific Powdercoaters in Warana provided the powder-coated finish.

The sliding gate was automated using a **Centsys D5 Evo** motor, combining practical vehicle access with a distinctive architectural finish.

The completed installation exceeded the client's expectations, turning a difficult starting point into a standout property entrance.

THE INDUSTRY IS HEADING TO THE GOLD COAST

Join more than 600 industry professionals for the 2027 Australian FENCING and GATE Industry Conference, Trade Show and Gala Awards Dinner at the Convention Centre at Broadbeach on the Gold Coast in Queensland. Two days bringing together fencing and gate contractors, manufacturers, suppliers and industry professionals to connect, discover new products and build industry relationships.

More than 50 exhibitor spaces are already booked, with limited exhibition space remaining.

BRING YOUR TEAM

Make it a team event. Businesses attending as a group can take advantage of branded tables, giving your team its own meeting point while putting your business name in front of the industry.

WHEN:

Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 April 2027

WHERE:

Gold Coast Convention Centre at Broadbeach
Queensland

WHO:

600+ industry professionals
50+ exhibitor spaces already booked
Limited exhibition space remaining

Book your place for 2027.

BOOK TICKETS NOW!

The Lysaght logo is positioned in the top left corner. It features the word "LYSAGHT" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with a thin white horizontal line underneath the letters. The background of the entire advertisement is a photograph of a modern outdoor patio. A tall, white, vertically-ribbed steel fence runs across the middle ground. In the foreground, there's a dark grey paved patio area. To the left, a large green agave plant is visible. To the right, a white wooden bench with a slatted seat holds two cushions: a patterned one and a solid mustard yellow one. An open book and a closed book are also on the bench. In the background, behind the fence, there are lush green trees and a clear sky.

LYSAGHT

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Aussie fence installers have been choosing LYSAGHT® steel fencing for decades. Our fences have always been shaped from 100% Australian-made COLORBOND® steel so installers know they're supplying their customers with a product that is made to last.

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Unified Streetscape Across 21 Homes

Creating a consistent architectural finish across 21 properties was the focus of this decorative fencing project at Cadence, an AVJennings residential community in Ripley.

Superior Screens designed and fabricated continuous vertical batten fencing with individual pedestrian gates, complementing the homes' dark façades. Custom shorter panels above rendered brick walls maintained a uniform fence line across the development.

Project Details:

- 32 × 32mm aluminium battens with 32mm spacing
- 50 × 25mm welded support rails
- Pedestrian gates with Rad Box 50 × 50 × 3mm frames
- Dulux Black Satin powder-coated finish
- Maximum 1.2m height and minimum 50% transparency



Sweeping curves, intricate spiral panels and integrated LED lighting make this feature staircase a striking centrepiece at Saint, a wellness club in Melbourne's Southbank.

Penny Royal Fabrication designed, engineered and fabricated the custom balustrades from a supplied 3D render, incorporating uneven tapers, curved panels and seamless transitions into glass balustrades.

Materials and Finishes

- Custom laser-cut aluminium
- 38mm slotted stainless steel tubing
- Custom stainless steel spigots
- Prismatic Miners Gold powder coating
- Onsite electrostatic painting, colour-matched to the powder-coated finish

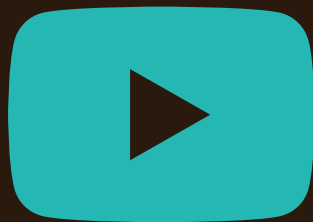
The completed design combines complex geometry, precision fabrication and integrated lighting to bring the client's architectural vision to life.



Custom balustrades



Innovative pedestrian gate solution



Watch the video to see the system in action

An automated pedestrian gate system installed on Melbourne Street in Brisbane combines traffic signal integration, advanced collision detection and multiple safety features to improve pedestrian protection at a busy intersection.

Delivered by FAAC Technologies Australia, the Melbourne Street Pedestrian Portal Gate project was designed to provide a safer and more reliable solution for managing pedestrian movement in conjunction with existing traffic signals.

The project brief from Brisbane Move focused on three key requirements: integration with all-red traffic signal logic, gate operating speeds of up to 600 mm per second and long-term system reliability.

Integrated Traffic Signal Control

A key feature of the installation is the integration of automated gate movements with pedestrian traffic signals.

The gates are programmed to open only when the pedestrian 'walk' signal is active. When the 'don't walk' signal is triggered, the gates progressively close, helping prevent unsafe crossings.

The system incorporates FAAC Technologies automation and controls, together with Magnetic Automation cantilever gate hardware.

Multiple Layers of Safety

Pedestrian safety was central to the design, with several protective features incorporated into the installation.

LiDAR and radar sensors provide collision detection, supported by a redundant bump strip and force-sensitive crush protection.

Child-safe perforated mesh infill panels, a trip-free cantilever undercarriage and a fully enclosed back runner address potential hazards associated with moving gate components.

A dedicated emergency exit gate provides an additional means of evacuation.

Designed for Reliability

The installation includes a custom stainless-steel control cabinet and an uninterruptible power supply (UPS)-backed programmable logic controller (PLC) for power management.

The UPS-protected control system is designed to maintain operation during power interruptions, supporting the client's requirement for reliable gate operation.

This project was a 2025 finalist in the Australian FENCING and GATE Awards.



Legend **CHRIS ALEBAKIS** RJL COMMERCIAL FENCING & GATES

With more than 35 years in the fencing industry, Chris Alebakis has built a reputation as a familiar and respected figure in Melbourne's fencing community.

As the owner of RJL, Chris has dedicated his career to the trade, building strong client relationships and sharing his knowledge and experience with the next generation. Now 66, his enthusiasm remains undiminished, and he still occasionally joins the team on the tools.

One of his proudest achievements is working alongside his son, Jarrod, who grew up visiting job sites and is now his business partner.

Together, they have expanded RJL into three divisions:

- RJL Commercial Fencing & Gates – Large-scale and specialised fencing projects
- RJL Concrete Solutions – Concreting services
- RJL Electrical – Electrical solutions for automation and related works

Chris's commitment extends beyond business. In 2019, after quoting a fencing project for newly established charity The Big Group Hug, he offered to organise its grand opening. The RJL team rallied suppliers and supporters to deliver the event, helping raise awareness of the charity and its work.

Recognised for his passion, generosity and longstanding contribution to the trade, Chris continues to play an active role in the business and the industry he has helped shape.

Rethinking Panic Bars for Outdoor Gates



Panic bars were originally designed for doors, but outdoor gates present a very different set of demands. Exposure to weather, gate movement and long-term wear can all impact how reliably a system performs over time.

With more than 35 years of experience developing magnetic latching solutions for outdoor gate applications, D&D Technologies has rethought the category through purpose-built and innovative design.

“This system was designed specifically for outdoor gates, where movement, weather and wear all affect performance”

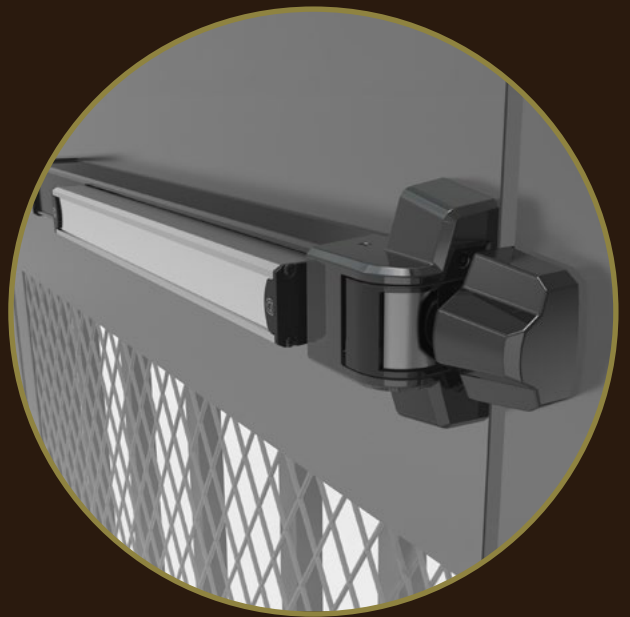
Richard Zitzelsperger
Group Product Development Manager

The MagnaLatch® Panic Bar + Access system replaces the traditional spring-based approach with magnetic latching, reducing mechanical resistance and helping gates close more consistently in changing environmental conditions.

Constructed from corrosion resistant materials, the system is built to perform in demanding Australian environments, from coastal settings to high-traffic public spaces where safety and reliability are essential.

“The key is being able to control entry from the outside while always allowing safe exit from the inside”

Justin Francis - Director of Product & Brand.



The MagnaLatch® Panic Bar + Access system replaces the traditional spring-based approach with magnetic latching, reducing mechanical resistance and helping gates close more consistently in changing environmental conditions.

Constructed from corrosion resistant materials, the system is built to perform in demanding Australian environments, from coastal settings to high-traffic public spaces where safety and reliability are essential.

This combination of access control and safe egress is critical in environments such as swimming pools, childcare centres, sporting facilities and public-access spaces, where compliance, security and ease of exit must all work together.

The Panic Bar can also be purchased separately and is compatible with a wide range of external lock and trim options, providing greater flexibility for both retrofit and new installations.

Learn more about the MagnaLatch® Panic Bar + Access at ddtech.com

Clever coastal screening

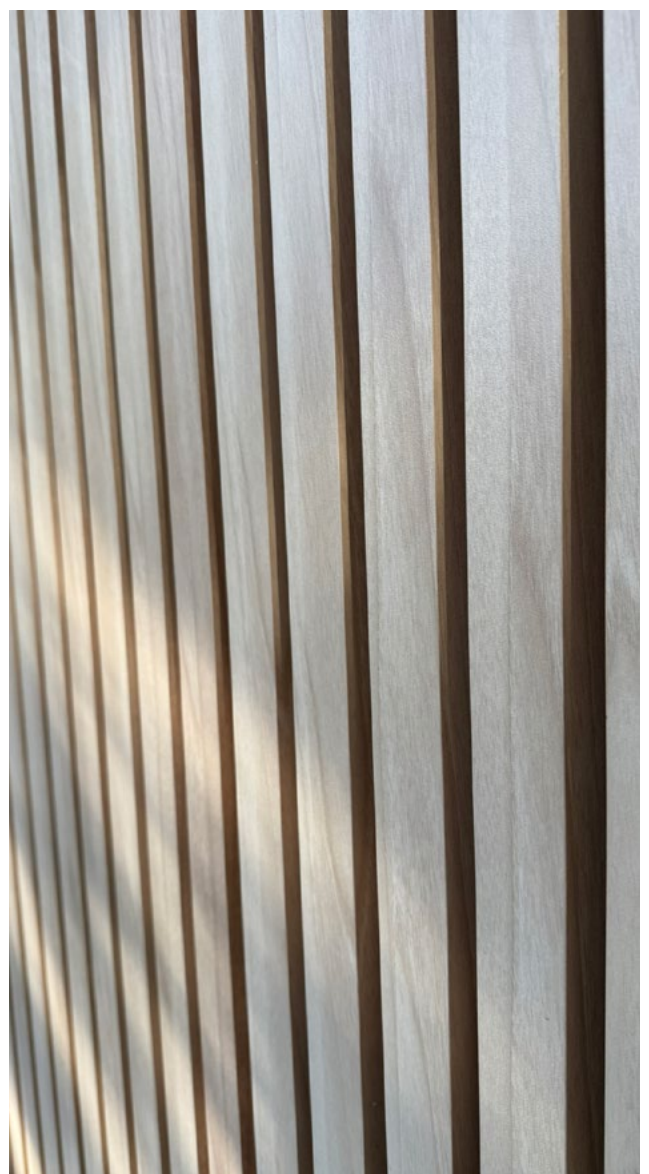


Eagle Fabrication and Welding transformed a BBQ area in Bronte, a coastal suburb of Sydney, with a custom aluminium batten screen that delivers the appearance of natural timber without the ongoing maintenance.

The installation featured 40 × 40 mm DECO Australia two-part aluminium battens in a Curly Birch finish, selected for their durability and ease of cleaning in a coastal environment.

To overcome an uneven brick wall, the team installed three 50 × 25 mm RHS aluminium rails supplied by Megastone Aluminium, carefully packed to achieve a plumb finish. The two-part batten system was then secured to the rails, with the front sections clipped into place and finishing caps installed.

The result is a timber-look feature that complements the surrounding landscaping, with the client particularly impressed by its realistic appearance and low-maintenance benefits.



PROJECT UPDATE

Building Skills for Australia's Fencing and Gate Industry

Work is progressing to identify the skills and training needs of Australia's fencing and gate workforce, with BuildSkills Australia engaging industry to help inform the development of appropriate training products.

The Fencing and Gate Industry Project aims to identify the skills required across key areas of operation, including commercial, residential, rural and security fencing, and develop training products to support workers in the industry.

Australian FENCING and GATE Industry (AFGI) is on the project's Technical Committee, which provides evidence-based advice drawing on industry, educational and technical expertise. This includes identifying potential impacts on learners and issues that may arise when implementing training products.

BuildSkills Australia has established a consultation strategy to engage key industry stakeholders throughout the drafting process. Consultation methods include in-person and virtual meetings, online surveys, focus groups and industry workshops.

Draft training products will also be subject to public consultation, with feedback collected and processed as part of the development process.

Industry involvement is an important part of identifying workforce needs and informing the development of training products.

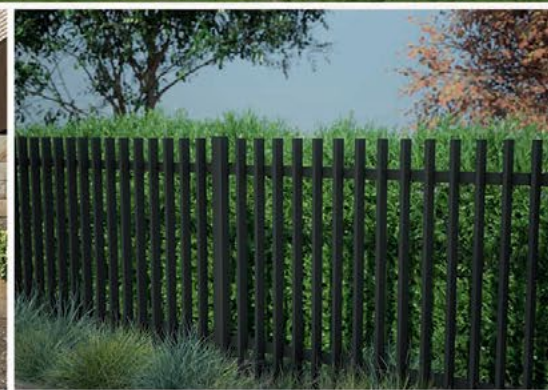
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AH Fencing racing ahead





Ten custom-designed fencing systems, more than 50 bespoke gates and a \$1.3 million contract! AH Fencing tackled a major installation challenge at The Q Racecourse redevelopment in Ripley, Queensland.

Designed specifically for greyhound racing, the project required innovative solutions to prioritise animal safety, including padded protection systems with no exposed fixings.

The installation incorporated chainwire, COLORBOND® steel sheeting, custom spear-top fencing and specialised gate hardware, including wide-throw hinges and tailored sliding mechanisms to accommodate padded gates.

All ten fencing styles were designed in-house by AH Fencing to meet the racecourse's operational requirements, with safety, durability and functionality central to the project.

Despite a demanding construction schedule, AH Fencing completed the project on budget and ahead of schedule, delivering a major sporting infrastructure installation for client FKG.

Built on trust, powered by safety: Toughcoat's spigot revolution





In an industry where water and electricity never mix, Toughcoat spigots have emerged as a game-changer.

These innovative pool fence spigots by [Glassfit Australia](#) combine robust electrical safety with elegant design, solving a compliance headache that has long plagued installers.

Until recently, contractors had to either ground each metal spigot with an electrician's assistance or use bulky plastic fittings to comply with earthing regulations.

Toughcoat has changed the game by introducing a better-looking, non-conductive coating that preserves the sleek stainless-steel look pool professionals prefer.

Toughcoat's spigots meet AS/NZS 3000:2018 standards without any earthing wires, allowing metal posts within 1.25 m of the pool to be installed as easily as any others. The magic lies in a patented insulating layer and patent-pending inserts, which together block electrical flow, making it the safest and most reliable choice on the market.

Toughcoat's insulated spigots feature a classic stainless-steel look in a range of finishes, including Clear, Industrial Satin, Coastal White, and Matte Black.

Developed in close consultation with pool builders and electricians, this technology enables safe, stylish glass pool fencing.

The Toughcoat technology wasn't developed in a lab in isolation; it was envisaged through years of field experience and collaboration. Glassfit's team drew on decades of expertise and continuous feedback from installers, certifiers, and electricians to make it the innovative product it is today.

"Non-conductive spigots are the path of least resistance for meeting compliance... and Toughcoat's are the best quality on the market," notes Luke of Poolside Projects, echoing a common sentiment among many installers. Toughcoat is a game-changer that cuts out cost and delays; no more scheduling electricians to bond each spigot, meaning jobs finish faster and clients save money.

Trade professionals nationwide trust Toughcoat, not because of flashy ads, but because their peers have tested it, love it, and recommend it.

Toughcoat Non-Conductive Spigots have earned the SPASA QLD Product of the Year award, a prestigious nod to their innovative contribution to pool safety. This recognition cements what many in the field already knew: that Toughcoat offers something truly new: safety without aesthetic sacrifice.

Government contracts under scrutiny

Fencing and gate contractors involved in government projects could face increased compliance requirements and restrictions on workforce arrangements under proposed Federal Government procurement changes.

Australian Industry Group has called on the Government to reconsider its proposed Secure Australian Jobs Framework and Commonwealth Supplier Code of Conduct, warning they could increase costs and reduce competition.

Chief Executive Innes Willox said the proposals would link government contracts to workplace relations practices, potentially favouring businesses with union enterprise agreements.

He warned that restrictions on casual, fixed-term and labour-hire arrangements could make it harder for businesses to manage skills shortages, fluctuating workloads and project-based employment.

Mr Willox also criticised the absence of economic modelling assessing the financial impact of the proposals.

The Commonwealth spent \$105 billion on procurement during 2024–25.

Australian Industry Group is calling for detailed economic modelling and further consultation before the proposed changes are finalised.



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STALLIONRAIL

Hedge Farm upgrade

Grumont Fencing completed an equestrian fencing upgrade at Hedge Farm in Carlsruhe, Victoria, replacing ageing fencing across a 20-acre property while redesigning the paddock layout.

The existing treated pine posts had been damaged by horses chewing them, while ongoing electric fencing issues had resulted in horses pushing against and breaking sections of the fence.

The owners chose to install a complete Duncan Equine fencing system, incorporating black steel end assemblies, 120mm PVC posts and three rails of Stallion Rail Extreme with electrified top and bottom edges.

The new 1400mm-high fencing is complemented by 3.6m powder-coated black Duncan Equine gates, providing a coordinated finish throughout the property.

The project combines a redesigned paddock layout with a fencing system selected to improve safety, durability and appearance.



Automated bi-fold hospital security



Managing an 8-metre-wide opening in a busy hospital environment required a secure, reliable gate system designed for frequent daily use.

Walsh Gates supplied and installed a fully automated aluminium dual bi-fold swing gate at Maroochydore Private Hospital. Standing 4.5 metres high, the installation features custom vertical batten infill, powder-coated steel supports and integrated safety systems.

Key Products & Features

- Communello Grande Albatross bi-fold system
- ROGER Smarty 7/HS gate operators
- Dual-height photoelectric safety sensors
- Electric drop bolts and amber LED warning strobe
- Dulux Duralloy powder-coated finish
- Form 15 engineering certification

The bi-fold design accommodated the large opening within restricted space while supporting efficient access and site security.

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Let's make it better together



SCAN FOR
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1. Gate Motor: Venus

At the touch of a button, this motorised gate closer allows access to the bike shed.

2. Safety Cable: B-Safe

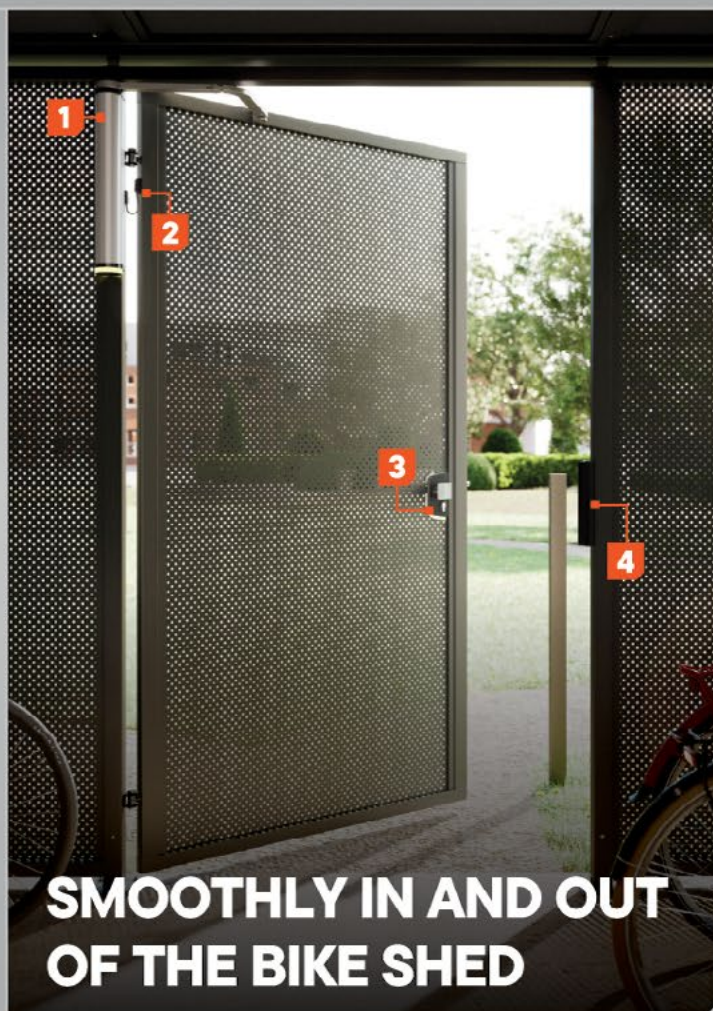
Stainless Steel Safety Cable for Gates up to 500kg

3. Lock: LAKQ with 3006PUSH HANDLE

The reliable lock with a convenient handle set for easy one-push gate opening.

4. Keep: Modulec-SA

The electric keep is easy to install and features fail-safe unlocking in emergencies.



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EDGESMITH TOWER PRO

Designed by Edgesmith. Powered by Roger Technology.

The TOWER PRO is a unique industrial gate operator developed by Edgesmith Australia, featuring the advanced Roger Technology Brushless TOWER110 motor. TW110 with digital controller in pre-wired box, It's a low-voltage system capable of driving **gates up to 2000kg**, combining industrial power with modern efficiency.

Specifications:

Max Gate Weight: **up to 2000kg**

Max Stroke Length: **up to 20m**

Manoeuvre Speed: **12-25m/min (0.2-0.42m/s)**

100% Duty Cycle

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



KEY FEATURES



External Manual
Override

Ajustable Motor
Height and distance
from the gate

Fits up to 32mm
easy conduit
access



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Natural finish by Brushwood Fencing Australia

Case Study: Tennis Court Enclosure, Wahroonga NSW

Creating privacy without compromising the property's natural surroundings was the priority for this tennis court enclosure completed by Brushwood Fencing Australia.

Visible from both the house and outdoor entertainment area, the enclosure needed to complement the surrounding vegetation while providing an attractive and functional boundary.

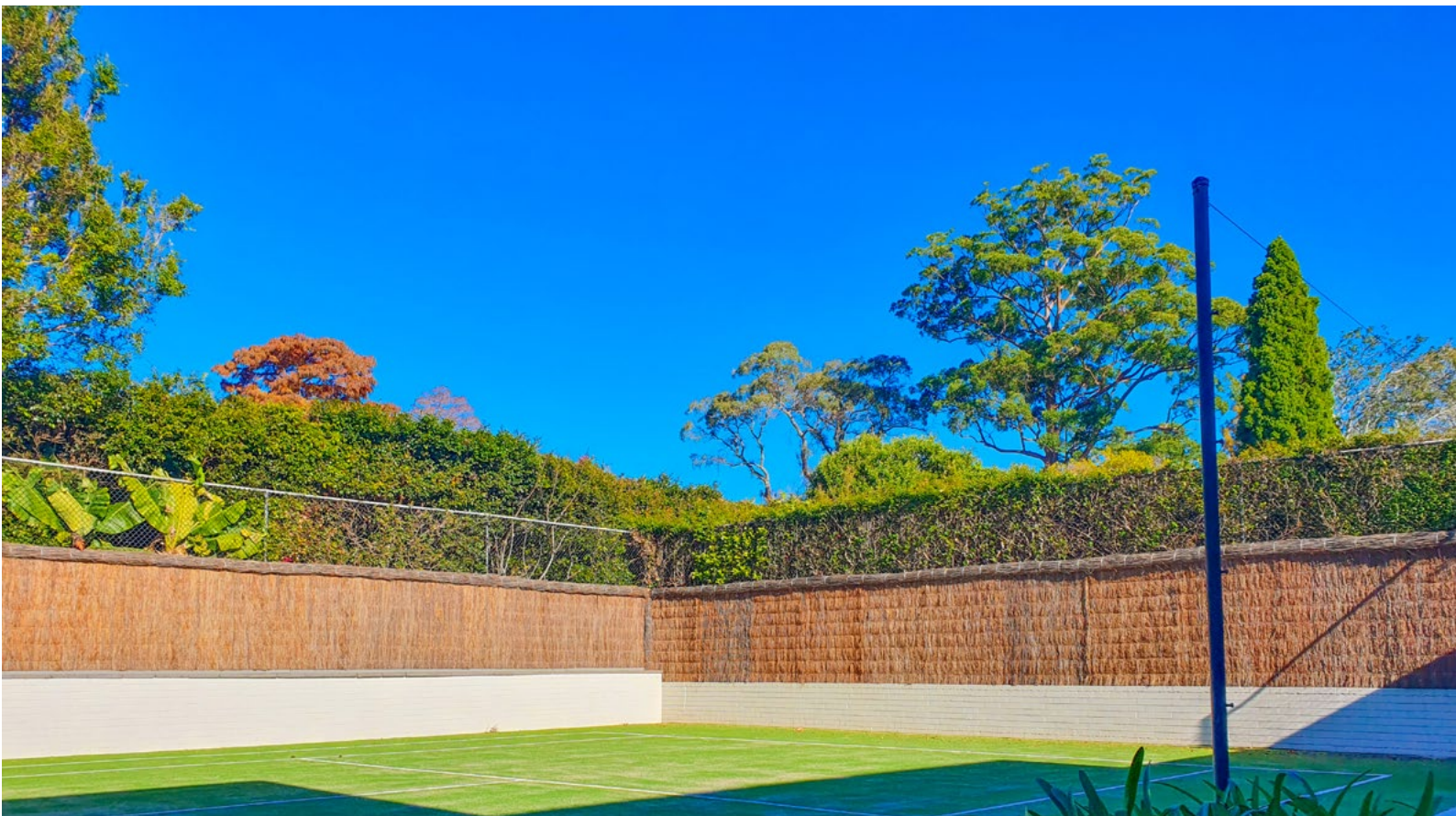
The Challenge

With the property being prepared for sale, tight deadlines meant construction had to be completed in two stages. Despite the scheduling challenges, the project required a consistent natural appearance across the enclosure.

Products and Materials

- Plantation-grown brushwood panels
- Galvanised round posts – 20NB, 32NB, 40NB and 50NB
- Galvanised wire – 2.5mm and 3.15mm
- 150mm black polyethylene waterproof membrane

The combination of natural brushwood and galvanised steel framework provides privacy while maintaining the softer appearance the owners wanted for this prominent area of the property.



Put your business in front of the industry

Exhibit at the 2027 Australian FENCING and GATE Trade Show

Put your products, technology and solutions directly in front of fencing and gate professionals from across Australia.

The 2027 Australian FENCING and GATE Trade Show provides manufacturers, suppliers and service providers with a dedicated industry platform to showcase products, demonstrate new solutions, strengthen existing relationships and make valuable new connections.

With contractors and industry professionals together in one place, exhibiting gives your business the opportunity to have direct conversations with the people who specify, purchase, recommend and use products across the fencing and gate sector.

- Industry Updates
- Latest Products
- Tech Talks
- Podcast Lounge

Trade Show spaces are limited.

Secure your stand and put your business at the forefront of Australia's fencing and gate industry.

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cantilever sliding gates



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The Group, named after the company founded in 1979, was born from the need to respond specifically to the needs of increasingly demanding markets. Our products combine tradition and innovation, exploiting synergies and shared know-how. Today the Benincà brand is a symbol of Italian style worldwide, thanks to its continuous pursuit in the search for excellence in materials and technologies. The company maintains strict control over production processes, all of which are carried out entirely in Italy.

**Discover our solutions**benincaaustralia.com.au

Rural entrance with smart automation



A pair of timber-clad sliding gates set between rammed-earth walls creates an impressive entrance to this Flinders farm, with All Things Low Voltage delivering the automation and access control.

Designed for the practical demands of a working farm, the system incorporates Tousek Pull T10 Master and Slave operators, with Palgate smartphone control allowing the owners to operate the gates remotely.

A Prastel keypad provides visitor access, while a vehicle loop detector enables automatic exit. A Grasslin timer allows scheduled opening and closing.

The result is a practical combination of automated access, security and rural design.



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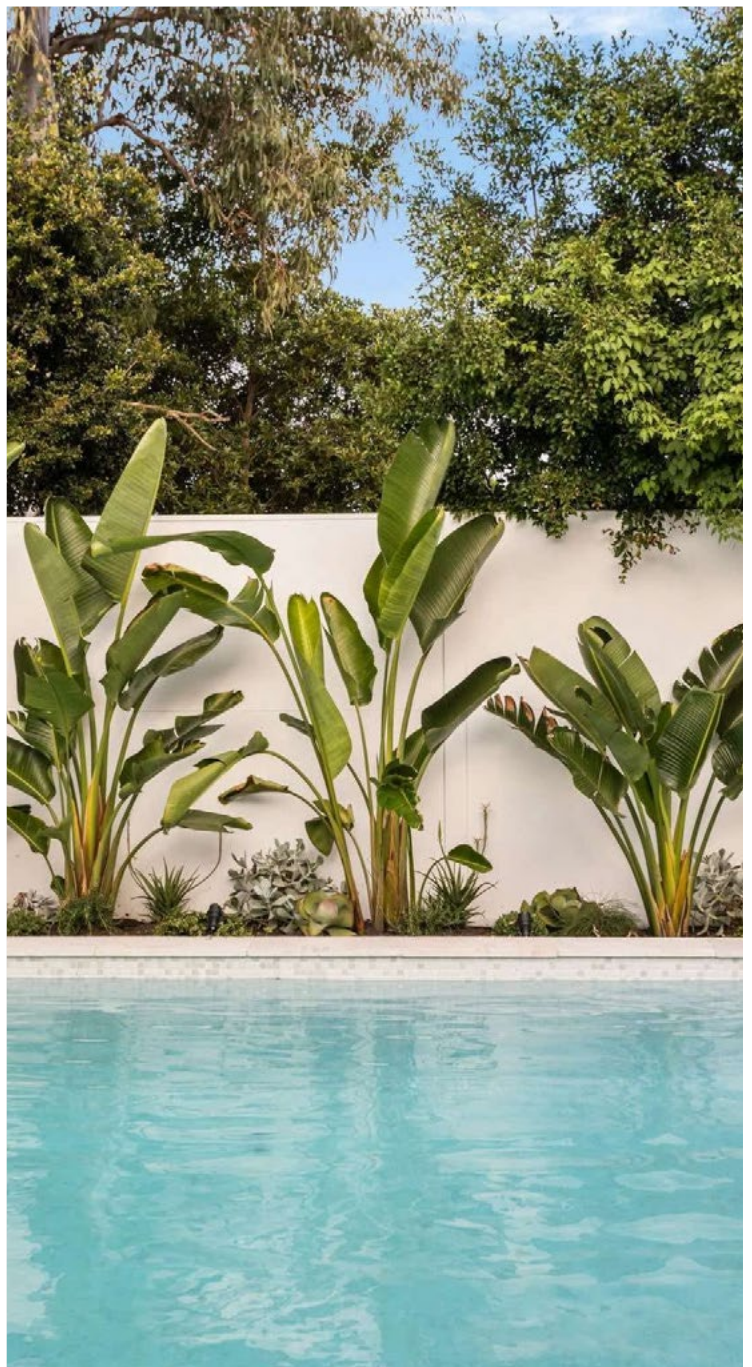
Resort style finish by Select Fencing

Select Fencing installed nearly 100 metres of ModularWalls TrendWall for a luxury duplex development, with wall heights ranging from 0.9 to 2.2 metres and incorporating retaining elements.

Engaged early by a repeat developer client, Select Fencing integrated the fencing into the property's resort-style design.

Finishing Details:

- ModularWalls TrendWall with integrated retaining
- Dulux Acratex textured coating
- Dulux Weathershield topcoat in Natural White.



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OFFER YOUR CUSTOMERS A 5-STAR
EXPERIENCE WITH THE TaHoma by Somfy APP



Simple and intuitive, the TaHoma app from Somfy is the best solution for allowing your customers to access their home in a smarter way. At home or remotely, they can control and check their entrances from their smartphone, any time, any place.

An easy app full of handy functions, already loved by thousands of users for its intuitivity and ease of use.

Plus, thanks to integration with Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa, your customers can control and check the status of their entrances using voice commands, even when not at home.