

Company thrives on diverse work

Jo Bailey

A&S Engineering works regularly with some of Auckland's biggest construction firms, but is also firmly focused on being the "local steelies", says general manager Jim Marsh.

"The business is built around service and we never want to lose sight of our local customers, no matter how big we get."

He says the North Shore structural steel specialists enjoy the diversity of projects that come through the door.

"We do any steel-related work - from general welding of a resident's wheelbarrow, hairdresser's chair or a few bins for the local rubbish guys; to the manufacture of steel handrails and balustrades, and fabrication of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of structural steel for big commercial construction projects."

Sue Mill is still at the helm of the company she founded with a former business partner in a garage around 27 years ago.

These days A&S Engineering operates from a purpose-built factory in an Albany industrial park.

It employs 14 staff - all fully qualified tradespeople.

"We train our own apprentices and have a great team that we are committed to looking after," says Marsh.

He says the problem solving and manufacturing expertise of the staff is often called on to build one-off items for clients.

"We love the opportunity to exercise these skills and have a lot of repeat business for this type of work."

"When it comes to drawing and design we do everything from hand sketches to full Autocad and 3D drawings - depending on the complexity and budget of the project."

Marsh says A&S Engineering is regularly sub-contracted to a number of Auckland builders and construction companies, such as IPM Group, Hawkins Construction and Signature Homes.

The company recently produced all the steelwork for the Salvation Army's new head office on the North Shore, and new administration centre at Albany Primary School.

"We do quite a lot of school work - everything from fabricating the steel for a new building or structure, down to replacing a broken handrail."

Other current projects include steel production for Ryman Healthcare's new retirement facilities at Orewa and Tauranga.

"We have already worked on the first four stages of Ryman's Orewa development - which on completion will be one of the biggest retirement villages in New Zealand."

A&S is just starting work on the Boatsheds residential development at Takapuna - a "beautiful steel structure with all steel portals that is just coming out of the ground," says Marsh.



A&S Engineering does a wide range of steel-related work, including large commercial construction projects.

It uses a full range of steel coating systems and has particular expertise in finishes that offer protection from sea and salt spray, a "hot issue" with customers and builders on the North Shore.

Marsh says most of the company's work is North Shore and central Auckland based.

It has five mobile trucks that hit the road at 6.30am to avoid traffic and cut costs for its clients.

"We install around 80 percent of what we build using our fully-equipped mobile trucks and Hi-Abs when needed."

"We have generators available for remote sites where we may not be able to access power."

Company owner Sue Mill says customer service is still her prime motivator as A&S moves towards its fourth decade in business.

"There's nothing better than one-on-one contact," Mill says.

"Our clients like to know who they're dealing with and that they can call us 24 hours a day."

She is currently looking at opportunities to expand into aluminium and stainless steel production.

"We are looking at options to start our own subsidiary company, buy an existing business, or work in with other companies already providing these services."




New product?

Our readers want to know!

BUSINESS NORTH

CONTACT US TODAY ON 03 983 5514

ABSOLUTE BLAST LTD
Specialised Grit Blasting,
Hot Zinc Spraying
& Industrial Coatings

WAYNE MORRIS
Manger

Phone: 09-574 0000
Fax: 09-574 0008
Mobile: 021 593 347
P O Box 112034, Penrose
Unit E 6 Morrin Road, Ranmure
absoluteblast@callplus.net.nz

**PRIMERO
PROFILES**
Cutting Edge Plate Solutions

Primero Profiles is proud to supply A & S Engineering
· Plasma Cutting · Profile Cutting · Guillotining · Press Braking

Phone 09 633 4923 | Fax 09 633 4928 | www.primeroprofiles.co.nz

Shane Hegg Transport

Shane Hegg Transport Ltd
Specialist Hiab Operators
is proud to be associated with
A & S Engineering

P.O Box 229 Kumeu
Ph: 0274 718 773
Email: shanehegg.ltd@xtra.co.nz

