



BHP Continuous Caster



Location	Whyalla, South Australia
Client	Bhp Long Products Division
Contract	Design And Construct
Total Cost	\$128m
Duration	1990–1992



The Continuous Caster project represented a major addition to BHP's Whyalla Steelworks.

This casting plant was the first 'Combi-Caster' in the world to permit rapid changes between 1, 2 or 3 strand product configurations.

Multicon, a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton, in association with Voest-Alpine and Asea Brown Boveri, successfully delivered this highly complex project in accordance with BHP's specified performance quality, time and cost criteria.

The project was completed within the 27 month contract period, and performance validation was achieved two months ahead of the contract requirement.

The project included all design, manufacture, construction, installation and commissioning of the plant, including the following major items:

- civil works, including piled raft footings;
- a 215 m x 30 m steel and concrete building, 40 m in height;
- a combi-casting machine including a 210 t capacity ladle turret, tundish, mould, mould oscillator and segmented containment/spray chamber;
- a 210 t triple hoist ladle crane;
- runout area equipment, including a torch cutting machine, burr remover, weighing table, stamping machine and separator;
- a product crane equipped with hydraulic tong;
- control systems comprising PLCs and supervisory computers;
- a water treatment plant.