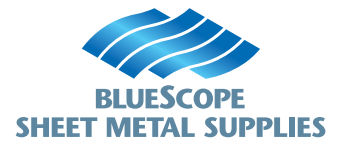


# CASE STUDY

ICS Industries



**CATEGORY:**  
Manufacturing

**LOCATION:**  
Southern Highlands,  
Papua New Guinea

**PRODUCT:**  
ZINCANNEAL® steel  
GALVABOND® steel

## Building A School Of High Knocks

**A chance meeting in Melbourne means that a school that serves 300 children in a remote part of Papua New Guinea will soon be able to attract teachers with a new accommodation unit supplied by ICS Industries.**

The Holy Cross Homaria Primary School is located in the Southern Highlands Province near the centre of Papua New Guinea. Over 50% of the local population of 12,000 are children of school age, many of whom would have no access to formal education were it not for the school.

Current facilities at the school are modest comprising classrooms and teachers' quarters built using bush materials by the local community volunteers.

ICS Industries' involvement with the school came about after a chance meeting with the head of the local diocese, Father Peter Hinawai.

"My wife Fiona met Father Hinawai while he was studying for his Masters in Theology in late 2011," explained Michael Lennox, Managing Director of ICS industries.

"Father Hinawai explained to Fiona how the diocese, like many villages in Papua New Guinea, was having trouble attracting quality educators to the school because of the lack of quality resources and teacher accommodation.

ICS Industries involvement started soon after when Fiona arrived home one night and announced "Guess what we're going to do!"

**STEEL EFFICIENCY**  
**REVIEW™**

*CS Industries has very high quality standards and rigorous internal processes, so we wanted to ensure that our product and supply package was aligned to their expectations.*

After hearing of the plight of the school from his wife and subsequently meeting Father Hinawai Michael decided to travel to the region in December 2012 to see firsthand whether ICS Industries could assist the school.

“What really struck me on that visit, apart from the lack of resources and poor living and working conditions, was the enthusiasm for education from the children and their families,” said Michael.

“I knew right away that I wanted to help this community and it was obvious that ICS Industries have the means to make a very real difference to the quality of education that the children could receive.”

Founded in 1999 to provide communication shelters to Telstra, Optus and Vodafone, ICS Industries design and manufacture transportable communications buildings, modular buildings, switch rooms, sheet metal cabinets plus a range of mobile satellite and communication solutions.

Delivery of the initial accommodation unit being supplied by ICS Industries first involves manufacturing and fully constructing the structure at their factory in Thomastown, Victoria and then breaking it down for container transport to PNG. Once in PNG, the components will then be road freighted to the foothills of the southern highlands in central Papua New Guinea.

“With customers in all corners of Australia, delivering our buildings to remote and difficult to access locations is nothing new for us,” commented Michael.

“Having said that, the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea will no doubt throw up some unique challenges.”

BlueScope Sheet Metal Supplies is also doing its part supporting this project by donating around three and a half tonnes of BlueScope GALVABOND® steel for the construction of floor structure.

“It wasn’t a big surprise when Michael approached us to get involved with ICS Industries on this project,” said Peter Schepis, Market Development Manager at BlueScope Sheet Metal Supplies.

“We’ve been working with Michael for a few years now and have come to understand that he and his wife Fiona are very

charitable people, always willing to assist where they can for a genuinely good cause.

“Michael has an ongoing involvement with the Variety Club of Victoria and Fiona supports a number of local school and community groups.”

BlueScope Sheet Metal Supplies has been supplying ICS Industries a range of products including galvanised, hot rolled pickle and oiled and ZINCANNEAL® steel and have undertaken a Steel Efficiency Review™ (SER™) to better understand their requirements and service improvement opportunities.

“ICS Industries has very high quality standards and rigorous internal processes, so we wanted to ensure that our product and supply package was aligned to their expectations,” explained Peter.

“Their Production Manager, Kristian Dato, comes from an automotive background so he fully appreciates the importance of efficiency gains in a modern manufacturing business.

“The SER™ process enabled us to better understand their specific tolerance, packaging and supply needs and further develop our offering to meet those requirements.”

Based on the SER™ process, BlueScope Sheet Metal Supplies was able to identify and introduce a number of enhancements including cut-to-size blanks to minimise wastage and processing time, an integrated JIT supply package to improve stock management and detailed quality plans outlining the specific sheet and packaging tolerances required for ICS Industries automated laser cutting machine.

“We’ve been working with BlueScope Sheet Metal Supplies for about three years now, and in that time, they’ve shown a real commitment to understanding our business and have tailored their supply package to suit our specific needs,” said Michael Lennox.


“Also being a part of a trusted global company like BlueScope means they appreciate the value and importance of providing assistance to those less fortunate.”

For more information on ICS Industries visit:  
[www.icsindustries.com.au](http://www.icsindustries.com.au)

Phone: 1800 010 247

[www.sheetmetalsupplies.com.au](http://www.sheetmetalsupplies.com.au)

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