



LAND OF WONDER

The histories of Bechtel and Australia have long been intertwined, with success in everything from mines to hotels.



Australia's energy resources are key to the growth of Asian economies. Two-thirds of the world's metallurgical coal (used in the production of metals) comes from Australia, much of it going to the two fastest-growing economies in the region, China and India.

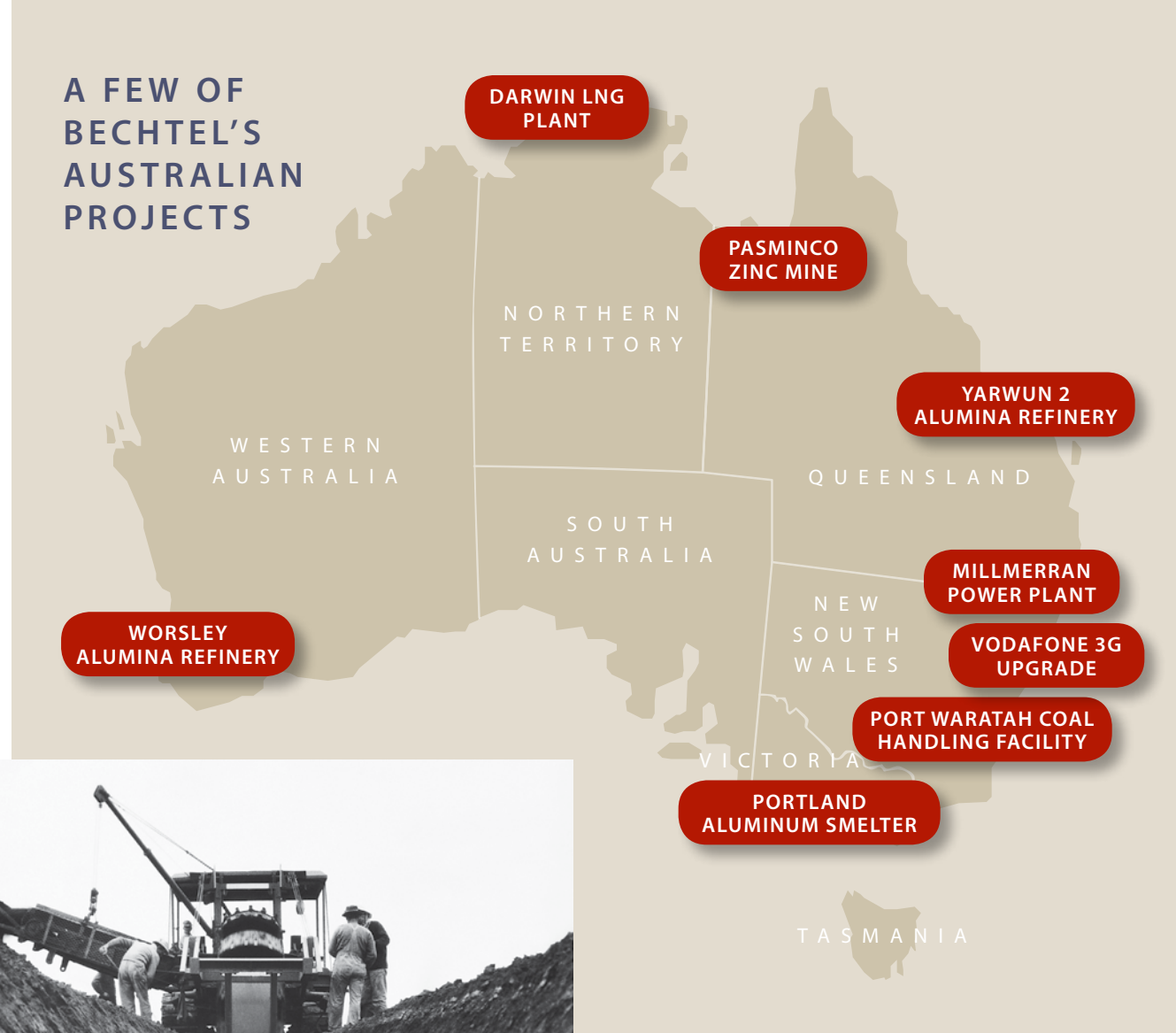
Beyond mining and metals, other Bechtel business units also have contributed to Australia's development. Bechtel built the historic Intercontinental Southern Cross hotel in Melbourne in 1960. Power work includes the Millmerran power station in Queensland, completed in 2000, which was one of the first private power plants in the country. And in 2007, Bechtel handled project management for Vodafone's 3G wireless upgrade project.

Bechtel has also had notable successes in the burgeoning market for liquefied natural gas: The \$1 billion Darwin LNG project for ConocoPhillips, which began production in the Northern Territory in 2006, was only the second LNG plant in Australia. The project introduced new cost-efficient and "green" LNG manufacturing technologies, including high-efficiency aeroderivative turbines.

Many of Bechtel's projects in Australia have been challenging due to their scale, complexity, or first-of-a-kind



A FEW OF BECHTEL'S AUSTRALIAN PROJECTS



nature. Bechtel built Brisbane's Lytton oil refinery—the first in Queensland—in 1963. In 1986, the company completed the Portland aluminum smelter, the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. In 1998, teams completed the PasmaInco Century



mine in the Queensland outback, which now produces a third of Australia's zinc. And in 2004, Bechtel completed the first phase of the Comalco Alumina Refinery in Queensland

Today, Bechtel is working on the Yarwun 2 alumina

refinery expansion (the follow-on to the Comalco project) and expanding the Worsley alumina refinery and bauxite mine near Perth. On the energy side, Bechtel has returned to New South Wales to handle the latest expansion of the Port Waratah Coal Services

facility—the biggest of its kind in the world. Bechtel also is working with customer BHP Billiton to create the "Brisbane Hub," a center of excellence for the execution of coal and other projects.

Such sustained momentum on both new business



TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

Last year, Byron Bone was working in landscaping but uncertain of his future. Today, the 24-year-old has saleable skills on his resume and bright prospects for a lifetime of work in the construction industry.

Bone is one of 41 Indigenous Australian employees currently on site at Rio Tinto's Yarwun 2 alumina refinery expansion project in Gladstone, Queensland. Several programs ensure a high level of local hiring and indigenous people's recruitment, which benefits the customer, Bechtel, and the local community. An alliance with a local employment agency, a welder training apprenticeship program with Gladstone Area Group Apprentice

Limited, and an assistant training program for trades have all had positive impacts. For example, 10 participants are earning a formal accreditation in engineering offered by Australia's Tertiary and Further Education system.

Six months into a boilermaking apprenticeship that will last four years, Bone says he has gained plenty of confidence in his skills. Apprenticeships include on-the-job training tailored to the individual's skills and interests, and support from a mentor who is a member of Australia's Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities.

"I've done welding, grinding, cutting, everything," he says. "I've learned a lot."



and repeat work for customers results from Bechtel's reputation for executing projects safely, on time, and within budget. That's expected, says Greig, but he adds that Bechtel has gone beyond project basics by partnering extensively with local companies, training indigenous people, and respecting Australia's early leadership in green initiatives.

Australia is also a good fit for Bechtel because of one of its less obvious exports—its people. Australian team members have historically demonstrated leadership within Australia and across Oceania, but are also in demand

far from home. For example, 30-year Bechtel veteran Andy Cameron, now back in Australia, has worked on the Fjardaal aluminum smelter in Iceland and the Sohar smelter in Oman.

“Australians have a history of figuring things out for themselves,” says Cameron, now project manager for the Worsley expansion. “In a vast country with only 20 million people, you have to be independent, innovative, and flexible. Those are all traits that I think serve us pretty well.”

Aussies have a tradition of traveling after university, which gives them a broader appreciation



of other cultures. When your job involves building an instant “project community” with 30 different nationalities represented, experience in multinational environments can be a huge asset.

Brisbane is preparing itself for a broad range of work in the next few years. Right now, Bechtel is doing front-end engineering and design for LNG plants to be built in Gladstone and elsewhere. As the global economy chugs back into growth, Bechtel is well positioned to take a major role.

Down under, Bechtel will continue to go above and beyond.

