

NASH NEWS



Newsletter - March 2021

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NASH FACEBOOK

2021 started with a hiss and a roar, with a strong forward workload across our members and the ever present threat that COVID would disrupt us. Out of Auckland we are relatively unscathed and our thoughts go out to our Auckland colleagues who are yo-yoing between ALERT Level 3 and normality. Spare a thought for those in Europe and the US who are predominantly in lock down and dealing with some really wintry weather.

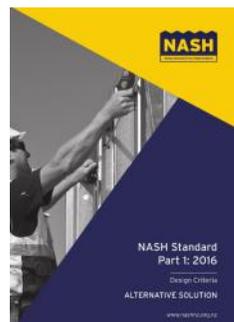
The NASH R & D team have been busy putting the finishing touches to a BRANZ Building Levy funded scoping project which was submitted on time at end of February. - refer R & D Scoping. I attended both of the workshops and there has been really insightful and creative input into this programme of work. Thanks to all who willingly gave their time. With the report complete but not published as yet the NASH team are focused on how we develop an integrated and collaborative programme of R & D, guided by best practice and underpinned by robust science.

Integrated as we need to work across Code Cause requirements, designing solutions which are enabled by off site manufacture and aligned with future challenges which include climate change, productivity and affordability.

NASH has joined the Sustainable Steel Council (SSC), (refer www.sustainablesteel.org.nz) and Steve Cook from Steelhaus has graciously volunteered to be the NASH representative on SSC. Steelhaus was the first NASH member to be audited to the Sustainable Steel Charter. The audit process is designed to help businesses understand the challenges of sustainability and how they can align their business with future opportunities.

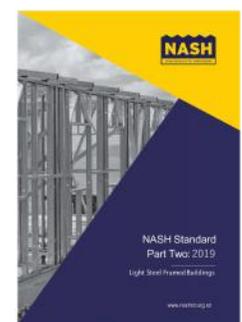
The cost of the audit is \$400 and you can make a start by contacting Cherie at cherie@sustainablesteel.org.nz. You can read how the audit has assisted SSC members at <https://www.sustainablesteel.org.nz/businesses-share-their-audit-tool-experiences/>

NASH PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



Did you know that there are a number of publications and resources available on the NASH website. To view what resources are available **See more**

With NASH Standard for Residential and Low-rise Steel Framing Part 1, NASH Standard Part 2: 2019 and NASH Building Envelope Solutions 2019 available free to download. **See more**



NASH WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR FOUNDATION
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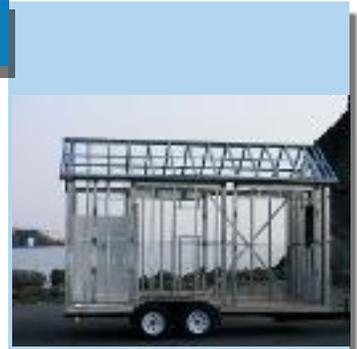


NASH UPDATE

NASH R&D SCOPING

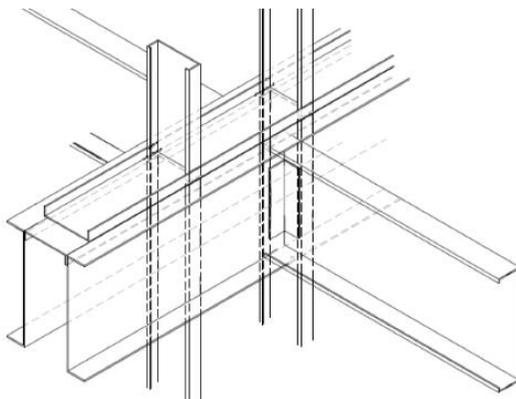
NASH Research and Development Scoping program (covering building for climate change, modular construction and building system for medium density construction) held a couple of sessions with key stakeholders in January and February 2021 to gain feedback on the work completed to-date.

These sessions provided additional information for the researchers and also activities which can be actioned relatively quickly. The scoping program has been identifying areas where there are gaps in industry knowledge, and areas where new research needs to be conducted. Thanks to those who participated, your input has helped in identifying the areas where more work is needed. BRANZ has supported the program through the BRANZ levy. The final report is expected to be submitted by the end of the month.



DETAILER

The proposed steel detailer qualification is currently being prepared for submission to New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA). NZQA reviews the application to confirm it meets the needs of industry and has industry support. Once approval has been given by NZQA, the development committee can progress in developing the detail for the new qualification. The proposed qualification will have two other streams who also in the steel sector, structural steel and reinforcing. A student will complete the steam they are working in.



BRANZ E-LEARNING

We are working with BRANZ's education team in developing E-Learning modules for designers and builders. We are currently finalising content for the three modules.



Getting to know our NASH members -Rodney Stokes from EQSTRUC

Thank you to Rodney (Rod) Stokes for taking the time to tell our members about himself and EQSTRUC.

1. What does EQSTRUC do?

Since its inception in 2010, EQSTRUC has grown from a seismic engineering practice into a diverse consulting engineering company with a team of 26 including 19 engineers. We have offices in Auckland and Wellington and have helped clients all over New Zealand and increasingly throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The core focus of our expertise lies in the key areas of Structural, Seismic and Fire Engineering. Our work is supported by our in-house testing laboratory that provides accurate data for the effective design and assessment of buildings and structures.

We use the latest technologies in our work and are continuously pushing the boundaries of conventional engineering to deliver innovative and practical solutions to every project.

2. How did EQSTRUC get involved in light gauge steel framing (LGS)?

Rod had over 10 years of experience with Light Gauge Steel framing when he joined EQSTRUC. They believe that Light Steel framing can play a critical role in creating structures that are quicker, easier, cost effective and are resilient.

3. What was your favorite project in 2020?

Christchurch Men's & Rimutaka Prison is a modular project that utilizes Light steel gauge roof cassette to provide services and access to the prison cells. In this project we have learned a lot about lifting techniques and the speed benefits a modular design can bring to the project. Working with LGSC in Wellington has been a seamless process.

4. How do you stay focused while working on a project?

Anybody involved in Light Gauge Steel design and detailing will understand the pain of detail required to create accurate fabrication drawings. The trick of maintaining focus is to check and check again. Then get someone else to check by telling them there is a prize for finding my latest mistake.

5. Name something from your bucket list ?

Personally - Walking the length of New Zealand. Business - Designing better structures that use the distinct advantages of LGS to best effect.

6. What brings you the greatest satisfaction with your work?

Personally, my staff and helping them. In business creating structures that work. Not just from a design point of view. Instead, incorporating speed of construction, reducing heavy structural steel and saving costs.

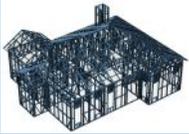
7. Rodney you are mentoring Pouya Rad at Auckland University and overseeing the manufacture of the test rig, how did this come about?

Rod lectures at Auckland University. The lectures are about real design examples and the pitfalls a designer can make. There are very few designers who understand all the different tooling on a roll former and how this tooling affects the design. Auckland University recognised the value and asked EQSTRUC to participate.

8. What is Rod's input into Pouya's research? Is it practical or theoretical?

The input is mainly practical with some theory. The research Pouya is working on will allow designers to brace multi-storey Light steel gauge steel structures. Removing the need for braced frames and shear walls in some cases. If we stop copying timber design and create systems that promote the best properties of steel, then Pouya's research will be a game changer for the industry. I mentioned earlier we can create resilience in Light Steel Framing. Resilience and robustness is the ability of the structure to recover after an event, such as a seismic or cyclone event. Owners of buildings are now realising that a structure that can be re-occupied directly after an event is worth more than a building that requires repair, not just the repair cost, but the loss of revenue.

To learn more about Rodney (Rod) Stokes [click here](#) or [EQSTRUC](#).



Rod on site at the Te Atatu South apartment build.

<https://eqstruc.co.nz/apartment-blocks-te-atatu-south>

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