



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
30 SEPTEMBER 2020

AUSTAL AUSTRALIA DELIVERS 83 METRE TRIMARAN FERRY TO JR KYUSHU JET FERRY

Austal Limited (ASX:ASB) is pleased to announce Austal Australia has delivered Hull 396, *Queen Beetle*, to JR Kyushu Jet Ferry at a ceremony held at the Company's shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia.

The 83 metre high-speed trimaran ferry is the first of its kind to be delivered to Japan and has been custom-designed to provide an enhanced passenger ferry service between Fukuoka, Japan and Busan, South Korea.

Speaking at the delivery ceremony, Austal Chief Executive Officer David Singleton said the *Queen Beetle* was a unique vessel that will set a new benchmark for high-speed ferry travel in Japan.

"*Queen Beetle* offers international ferry passengers a truly impressive, enhanced travel experience, with new levels of comfort, luxury and amenity previously unavailable on any ferry in Japan," Mr Singleton said.

"Austal's trimaran hull design allows up to 502 passengers to travel with complete freedom to enjoy the many amenities on board, including lounges, bars, a kiosk, a retail shop and a playground, while cruising at speeds up to 37 knots.

"We're distinctly proud and delighted to be delivering this exciting new ferry to Japan and congratulate Kyushu Railway Company President Mr Toshihiko Aoyagi, and JR Kyushu Jet Ferry President Mr Masayuki Mizuno on this latest, and dare I say greatest, addition to their fleet."

Featuring a customised interior designed by Mr Eiji Mitooka of Don Design Associates in Japan, the *Queen Beetle* includes two classes of seating plus compartments for groups and families, a children's play area and nursing room, a café and bar, duty-free shop, lockers for luggage and all-access spaces for wheelchairs and prams. An outdoor viewing deck further enhances the on-board experience for passengers.

During sea trials, *Queen Beetle* achieved impressive speed, seakeeping and passenger comfort results, utilising Austal's new MARINELINK technology that provides real-time monitoring, control and analysis of vessel performance, on board and remotely. With the benefit of Austal's MOTION CONTROL System, *Queen Beetle* was able to reach trial speeds in excess of 40 knots whilst maintaining outstanding stability and passenger comfort.

More than 200 Austal Australia employees were directly engaged on the design and construction of the *Queen Beetle*, and the company drew on more than 200 Australian businesses over the course of the project to help deliver the major export contract, worth over A\$68 million.



Austal Chief Executive Officer Mr David Singleton and General Manager, Planning at JR Kyushu Jet Ferry, Mr Hitoshi Ogawa marked the official handover of Queen Beetle at Austal Australia's Henderson Western Australia shipyard on 29 September 2020. (images: Austal)



The JR Kyushu Jet Ferry crew and Austal Australia Project team gathered on the forward deck of the Queen Beetle following the handover ceremony (images: Austal).



Queen Beetle is an 83 metre high speed trimaran ferry designed and constructed by Austal Australia in Henderson, Western Australia (image: Austal)

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by David Singleton, Austal Limited's Chief Executive Officer.

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About Austal:

Austal is Australia's global shipbuilder and defence prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

For more than 30 years Austal has contracted more than 300 vessels for over 100 commercial and defence operators in 54 countries, worldwide.

Austal is Australia's largest defence exporter and first ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry-leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America, Philippines and Vietnam with service centres worldwide, including the Middle East.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world's largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy.

Austal has grown to become the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder and is Australia's largest defence exporter.

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