

# BAO ENGINEERING PTY LTD

## IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT PAST, BAO ENGINEERING RESPONDED UNIQUELY

to the demand in the construction industry for an effective method of formwork construction for staircases. Drawing on structural steel engineering methods, BAO Engineering developed the revolutionary Easystair system.

BAO Engineering's involvement in the redevelopment of the Melbourne GPO project is reflective of the development of the Easystair system. The Melbourne GPO has undergone a modern reinterpretation, with respect to its historic integrity. The Easystair system uses modern technologies and abilities to reinterpret techniques behind a long-standing process such as staircase construction.

Easystair is a prefabricated all steel permanent formwork system, one of the best handrail systems ever designed, and a registered design of BAO Engineering. Easystair consists of steel risers, stringers, reinforcement and soffit. Its handrails consist of a 50 OD top rail and post, and two 33 OD mid-rails.

BAO Engineering uses the Easystair formwork system to form up concrete staircases in four simple stages, for quicker, easier and more cost-effective construction.

BAO Engineering's Easystair system can prepare a concrete staircase in around 48

hours. The first stage involves forming up in the morning. In the second stage the

Easystair structure is placed, with top, bottom and middle propping. Thirdly, the stringer is nailed to the wall, the handrails are bolted to the outside of the stringer, and the start bar is tightened. Lastly, concrete can be poured into the resulting formwork and the staircase will be ready for use the next morning. The return bend is fixed after the stair flights are installed.

For a pictorial demonstration of the Easystair system being used to form a staircase in 24 hours, visit [www.bao.com.au](http://www.bao.com.au). For more information call Mr. Jim Hu of BAO Engineering on (03) 9793-5499.

### BAO ENGINEERING PTY LTD

52-56 Williams Rd  
Dandenong, VIC 3175  
PH: (03) 9793-5499  
FX: (03) 9793-5429  
EM: [baoen@iprimus.com.au](mailto:baoen@iprimus.com.au)  
[www.bao.com.au](http://www.bao.com.au)

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PTY. LTD.** ACH. 075 798 873

# HIGGINS COATINGS PTY LTD.

**HIGGINS COATINGS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1949, AND NOW HAS OVER HALF A CENTURY OF EXPERIENCE** in painting works. Higgins Coatings can deliver painting works of any calibre whilst maintaining a high level of service and professionalism.

With decades of expertise and thousands of projects forging their abilities, Higgins Coatings rose to the challenge presented by the painting work required for the GPO.

Higgins Coatings' ongoing project involvement has lasted approximately nine months to the end of 2004. This nine-month commitment has seen the fastidious repair of the fire damage sustained by the GPO, and the painting of the base building works and several tenancies in accordance with architectural specifications.

The nature and period of the building meant that the GPO's substrate required specialised dental work. Higgins Coatings undertook brushwork, or cutting, of the substrate to prepare the area so that a flawless paint finish could be obtained. Higgins Coatings also used meticulous dental work for the detailed cornices and ornate ceilings. This dental work encompasses the use of specialised machinery to remove affected areas, to prepare the surfaces for a perfect finish.

Dental work to the substrate and other areas set the standard for the remainder of the work, preparing surfaces for the most impressive paint finish achievable. Delivering an unblemished finish to the project was achieved through the use of standard spraying, rolling and brushing techniques, combined with the modernity of airless spray guns and specialised access equipment.

Higgins Coatings' internal paintwork was conducted with utmost proficiency, and in direct compliance with the internal decorative scheme prepared by architects, Williams Boag and Associates.

For all your paintwork needs, consult the experts with over half a century of experience, on 03 9646 9999.



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297 Ingles St  
Port Melbourne VIC 3207  
PH: 03 9646 9999  
FX: 03 9646 5333