

REBUILDING IN TONGA USING SCOTTSDALE'S STEEL FRAME AND TRUSS TECHNOLOGY

The E.M. Jones Group of Companies is a family owned and operated business in the Kingdom of Tonga (South Pacific) which was originally established in 1911 by Eleanor May Jones.

The company has stood the test of time and has since expanded into a variety of different industries such as tourism, manufacturing, retail, rental cars and construction.

E.M. Jones was introduced to Scottsdale's light gauge steel technology by Neal Guenole of Scottsdale Construction Systems who was visiting the island in 2006. Neal discussed the technology with Mike Jones (head of E.M. Jones Group).

Background

In 2007 there were large scale riots in which E.M Jones suffered damage to its property including a warehouse building used to sell hardware supplies used by subsidiary Jones Industries Limited. After looking at options to rebuild Jones Industries' warehouse, Daniel Jones (Mike's son and Jones Industries' Chief Operations Officer) approached Scottsdale to investigate options to rebuild in light gauge steel.

Visit

Initially Jones Industries sent a team to Napier New Zealand to visit Scottsdale and get a better understanding of the technology as well as bringing plans of the proposed warehouse they wanted to build to house Jones Industries new hardware store. After hosting the team from Tonga, the Scottsdale team in Napier set about designing Jones Industries' building in light gauge steel including having the building engineered by local consulting engineers.



Training local Jones' Industry staff to fabricate frames.



Erection of frames by local labour – Kingdom of Tonga



Span capability of Scottsdale's RF600 Truss profile.



The Complete Package

The Scottsdale team developed a total solution package for Jones Industries including all factory equipment (including the Scottsdale

Panelised and Truss Fabrication systems) and tools to enable Jones Industries to manufacture and erect the building on the ground in Tonga.

In fact all materials for the building (other than the concrete slab and wall and roof cladding) were supplied by Scottsdale suppliers and contractors for the building and shipped from New Zealand.

Jones Industries Purchase: Series 700 90mm Panelised Fabrication System, Series 600 Truss Fabrication System, Series 500 140mm Panelised Fabrication System.

Jones Industries sent a team of three (Vai Tafea, Pita Tonga and Lopi Kavapalu) to be undertake Scottsdale's ScotSteel design software training program and Scottsdale factory training covering machine set up, operation and maintenance. Scottsdale also sent a team to Tonga to train local Jones Industries personnel on how to manufacture the frames and trusses and then erect the frames on site. After the training in New Zealand and in Tonga, the Jones Industries team was able to complete the project with remote assistance from Scottsdale's team in Napier available for technical building input.

The Result

The end result was an impressive new building that would have been difficult to build in a small island any other way than using Scottsdale light gauge steel frame and truss technology. The alternative would have required the importing of large quantities of expensive structural steel and portal frames that could only be carried in the bulkhead of large ships. Whereas the steel and materials for this project was able to be sent in two 40' containers and one 20' container.

The local Jones Industries personnel had no previous experience with this method of construction and were proficient in frame assembly and erection within days. The project is an excellent example of the power of Scottsdale's technology and the support it provides its customers.

Daniel Jones commented, "I found the support provided by Scottsdale's team excellent and was very happy with the end result".



Steel Frame Walls & Trusses erected.



Installation of last windows around the main entrance.

SUMMARY

Objective:

Rebuilding a commercial warehouse in an isolated location.

Solution:

Scottsdale's Panelised and Truss Fabrication Systems.

Benefits:

A Total Solution package including:

- Design & engineering support.
- Training of local teams.
- Supply of all equipment necessary for a factory.
- Logistical solution with minimising shipping of materials.
- On-going technical machine & software support.