



## A.G.Coombs

### Media Release

12 May 2015

**Prefabrication resets the safety standard at Barangaroo  
A.G. Coombs and Lend Lease win national innovation award**

A.G. Coombs and Lend Lease have been presented with the KONE Award for Innovation at this year's national Property Council of Australia / Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards.

The awards celebrate leading practice within Australia's property development and investment industries. The KONE Award for Innovation, which this year attracted 18 finalists, recognises innovation that creates significant advancement and improvement within an asset.

The winning A.G. Coombs-Lend Lease submission demonstrated how prefabrication is resetting construction standards at Barangaroo.

The single biggest safety risk identified at Barangaroo was the installation of services risers. Previous methodology required piecemeal installation, with trades working on cantilevered scaffold over the riser voids. This entailed risks from working-at-height (up to 42 storeys at Barangaroo's T2 tower) and debris from above along with other risks associated with manual handling and multiple trades.

At Barangaroo, specialist contractor A.G. Coombs together with Lend Lease has introduced a new way to install services risers – one that had not been applied before to very tall buildings in Australia. By prefabricating them in 3-storey sections, well in excess of 4,000 hours of complicated site installation per tower are transferred into a controlled factory environment and the need to work at height is almost eliminated. This new approach to services installation has significantly reduced construction risk on this landmark project and is set to become an industry standard in Australia.

Property Council of Australia's Chief Executive, Ken Morrison noted that the system has the potential to enhance the quality, productivity and safety on building sites.

"The installation of services risers in high rise buildings typically presents the single biggest health and safety risk on any project. Lend Lease and A.G. Coombs have introduced a new way to install services risers that will reduce construction risk and improve site productivity," he said.

"Workplace health and safety is the number one consideration in our industry and this innovation has profound implications for significantly enhancing this vital aspect of our work." \*

\* Source: <http://www.architectureanddesign.com.au/news/8-chifley-dominates-2015-property-council-of-austr>

#### Video Links:

Link to Barangaroo Rising: <http://portal.agcoombs.com.au/Media/BarangarooRising.htm>

#### Images:





Stemming from an industry-leading A.G. Coombs-Lend Lease initiative, prefabricated services risers are saving hours of on-site installation time and significantly reducing construction risk at Barangaroo.

*Hi-res images are available upon request.*

For more information on the on the Property Council of Australia 2015 Innovation & Excellence Awards, visit the [Property Council's website](#).

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#### **About A.G. Coombs Pty Ltd**

The A.G. Coombs Group is a privately owned Australian group of companies that provides an integrated range of technical services for all systems in buildings; from design through to installation, commissioning, maintenance and ongoing operation and management. Technologies include air conditioning and mechanical services, fire protection, hydraulics, electrical services and lighting, and building control technologies. Specialist mechanical contractor A.G. Coombs has pioneered the application of large-scale prefabricated building services methodologies in Australian building construction. Prefabrication is now being applied to vertical and horizontal building services system components, plant rooms and central energy plant where this approach is leading to productivity and programming benefits together with the further elimination safety risks. Founded in 1945, A.G. Coombs has a national capability with major operations on Australia's eastern seaboard.

Barangaroo is Sydney's largest urban renewal project since the 2000 Olympics and one of the most significant waterfront transformations currently underway anywhere in the world. Lend Lease is developing the southern portion of this 22 hectare former container wharf on Sydney Harbour, into a vibrant new waterfront financial district, with a mix of world class office space, premium residential buildings, as well as shopping, dining, hotel, hospitality and public places. For more information visit: [www.barangaroosouth.com.au](http://www.barangaroosouth.com.au).

For more information on A.G. Coombs and building services prefabrication please contact:

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