

Press release

from ASSA ABLOY Division Asia Pacific

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Australian Manufacturing -- Cheaper than China or India!

ASSA ABLOY Australia, the company behind Lockwood, has found that it costs less to manufacture some products here than in China or India.

“With the right people and technology, we have found it is cheaper to manufacture our premium commercial security products here in Australia than in China or India,” says Tom Devine, ASSA ABLOY General Manager Commercial Division (Australia).

Devine was speaking at the opening of the company’s two year, \$16 million manufacturing site redevelopment, which was opened by the Honourable John Brumby MP, Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Innovation.

ASSA ABLOY is the company behind the iconic Australian lock brand, Lockwood. Its new, custom built research and development centre and expanded manufacturing facility in Oakleigh, Victoria, secures its future on Australian shores and will play an integral part in the company’s global manufacturing process.

“At a time when so much Australian manufacturing is heading off-shore, we are committed to investing in the skills of our local employees,” said Devine, “We have found it more economical to continue designing and manufacturing our premium commercial security products here in Melbourne.”

According to Devine, ASSA ABLOY is committed to the continued local design and manufacture of Australian made premium commercial security products and the new facility is evidence of this commitment.

“Our theme for this event ‘Local Skill – Global Strength’ highlights the important role this facility will play in the company’s continued global success and export opportunities,” continued Devine. “This considerable investment in the Lockwood brand, well known for its Australian-made premium commercial and residential security products, paves the way for the ranges of the future.”

“Lockwood’s sales within Australia are well established and we see enormous potential with many of our products overseas,” he says.

ASSA ABLOY

The World's leading Lock Group

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ASSA ABLOY is the world's leading manufacturer and supplier of locking solutions, meeting tough end-user demands for safety, security and user-friendliness. The Group has about 30,000 employees and annual sales of approximately AUD\$5 billion. In Australia ASSA ABLOY's highly distinctive and highly visible brands include Lockwood, Whitco and Interlock. Our customer base includes retail, trade, industrial, architectural, locksmiths and security dealers in the residential housing, commercial building and industrial application markets.

“ASSA ABLOY is committed to the ongoing development of innovative technology and world's best practice,” Devine said. “Our new plant will allow us to continue to play a pivotal role in our company’s global success, and ensure our investment secures the future of our employees and our business throughout Australia.”

Christer Peterson, ASSA ABLOY Vice President (Australia and New Zealand) said the global vision is for ASSA ABLOY Australia to lead the way as a world-class product development, manufacturing and logistics operation, producing premium-locking solutions under the Lockwood brand.

“The expanded facility will allow a greater emphasis on new and innovative products meeting world standards, benchmark national and local compliance programs, and workplace practices which constitute ASSA ABLOY Australia as an employer of choice, providing a progressive, environmentally friendly and safe workplace” Peterson said. “It was a necessary step in achieving the company’s global goals.”

Designed by architects, Baldasso Cortese P/L, the new centre adheres to the strictest environmental standards.

A comprehensive landscape design has also been implemented, ensuring the site adds value to the local area and reinforces the company’s presence as a local manufacturer of iconic security products.”

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