



Building something great

Case study
Major projects



Commercial



Marble Bar Airport Upgrade

Overview

Location

Marble Bar Airport

Client

Atlas Iron

Date

November 2022

Boral supplies construction materials for Marble Bar Airport Upgrade

Located in the remote Pilbara region of Western Australia, Marble Bar Airport was upgraded to support the increase in mining activities in the area. The airport required an upgrade to accommodate 100-seater aircraft capable of transporting more Fly-In Fly-Out (FIFO) workers from around the country.

Boral was engaged by Atlas Iron to supply the construction materials and sealing aggregates for the proposed 86,000m² airstrip.

Location

Marble Bar is a small mining town located 1,500km north-east of Perth. According to the Guinness Book of Records, it is the hottest town in Australia. Originally a gold mining town, in 1890 the town had a population of 5,000, today it is a tourist destination with a small residential mining community.

Challenge

An Australian gold exploration company required an increased number of FIFO workers to fly-in and out of Warrawoona Peak. Before the upgrade the 100-seater aircraft would not have been able to land at the airport.

To complete the project, an enormous amount of construction material was required at the site, this posed a number challenges, such as the logistics of delivering the 82,000 tonnes of base material and 2,650 tonnes of sealing aggregates to the remote Marble Bar location.

Solution

Boral supplied the necessary materials from their Tabba Tabba Quarry, located 155km north-west of Marble Bar, and delivered them to the site using their Super Quads.

The scope of work included applying a prime, two coat **S15E PMB seal**, a **CRS emulsion sand seal**, a **fuel resistant seal**, and **line marking** to the 86,000m² airstrip.

Boral's crew mobilised in late October and worked in up to 40oC heat, spraying prime and the first coat seal.

Outcome

Despite the remote location and extreme heat, Boral was able to supply the construction materials and sealing aggregates required for this multi-million dollar project, overcoming logistical challenges posed by the remote location and extreme heat. The completion of this project enabled the transportation of FIFO workers to support mine activities in WA's Pilbara Region.

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