NEW BUSINESS

From left, Deputy Superintendent John Heffernan and CSI Operations Manager, Bob Dwyer at Glen Innes Correctional Centre with the new pallets

ACI Petalite

SI has won a contract to manufacture five hundred lightweight pallets and fifteen hundred matching frames for ACI Petalite. The design for the new pallets was developed jointly by the Gencor Business Unit at Glen Innes Correctional Centre, the CSI Corporate Office and ACI personnel to meet the special requirements of storing and handling PET bottles.

Each pallet is constructed from D.A.R. pine to achieve weight minimisation, has a level top to provide stability for high stacking and rounded edges to reduce strap breakage. They also feature a 30 degree bevel on internal boards to reduce damage from fork tynes. The new design will extend the service life of each unit and has been enthusiastically received by the client.

Customer Satisfaction

Cortex has just received a preferred supplier status with Brambles Linen Services for the provision of a range of healthcare textile products. Following years of excellent service to Princes Fabricare Services in Melbourne, (a division of Brambles Linen Services), National Operations Manager, Mr Guy Reeves has advised CSI that all other healthcare plants will now be utilizing the Cortex product range.

Panama Developments

A new private sector trading as Panama Developments has begun in the nurseries at Long Bay and Mulawa Correctional Centres. High quality tube stock from a range of suppliers is being potted in six and eight inch containers at Mulawa. Propagation for most species is then grown on at Long Bay. The new venture provides employment for sixty inmates who are being trained in a variety of areas, including treatments for seed germination, sowing techniques and seed sowing mixes. A turnover of 200,000 plants per annum is expected.

From left, CSI Manager, Business Development Steve Thorpe with ACI Production Manager, Steve Chappelou
REGIONAL NEWS

NORTHERN REGION

The Prestige Private Sector Business Unit at John Moroney Correctional Centre has been given a boost with the introduction of a two-shift operation and new finishing equipment. Now fully functional, it produces over five hundred wireware products per day, which then pass through powder coating and packaging for final quality approval.

CENTRAL REGION

A new weekend course in upholstery has begun in the Corcover Business Unit at Parramatta Correctional Centre. Led by Senior Overseer Charles Boyer, the course will enable fifteen inmates to progress through a series of fully accredited TAFE modules, covering aspects such as tools of the trade, finishing techniques, sewing and edge forming.

SOUTH-WEST REGION

Mannus Correctional Centre recently tendered for livestock agency services. The successful tender was from J. Alleyn and Croy, a local firm representing Dalgety Australia Ltd. Alleyns offer daily reports from meat markets of all kinds and will be running field days and trials to help promote Mannus-Agricor products. The new arrangement provides a tremendous development opportunity for Agricor in the areas of full market coverage, staff and inmate training, customer feedback, promotions, and use of latest technology and products.

EASTERN REGION

Gary Fairley from the Hard Rock Bakery recently travelled to Queensland to assist in the redesign of a bakery at the Sir David Longland Correctional Centre. A joint committee comprised of bakery staff from both facilities and representatives from TAFE will be developing a training system for our Queensland counterparts, based on the Hard Rock Bakery model.

STA CONTRACT RENEWED

CSI’s commitment to providing first-rate customer service is paying dividends to the Corcover Business Unit at Bathurst Correctional Centre. Corcover have just received confirmation that the Bus Seat Repair Contract from the State Transit Authority will be renewed for another twelve months thanks to a new 24 hour service developed especially for Port Botany, Randwick and Waverley depots.

Vehicles registered to these depots are prone to high levels of vandalism, equating to a $600 loss for every day a vehicle is off the road. The new program will help the STA increase efficiency and save valuable taxpayers’ dollars.

PAPRIKA CROP

You may be surprised to learn that 90% of herbs and spices consumed in Australia are produced overseas. As crops require hand-picking and destemming, traditional suppliers to Australia have included Mexico, Southern California and Ethiopia.

Twelve months ago St Heliers Correctional Centre entered into an agreement with Hunter Valley Herb Farms of Merriwa to grow the first crop of paprika chilli in Australia. The St Heliers crop was grown from seedlings which were planted in November and harvested from February to April, providing employment for ten inmates over six months. Preparation is now underway for the new crop which will be grown from seed raised to seedlings in St Heliers own hothouse, custom-built by inmates.