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LOCAL COMPANY WINS MAJOR SYNCHROTRON CONTRACT

The Minister for Innovation, John Brumby, today announced that a Melbourne company, Metaltec Precision International, has been awarded a \$5.5million contract to supply pedestals and girders for the Australian Synchrotron.

“This is the largest contract yet awarded to a Victorian supplier to the Australian Synchrotron. TED Engineering, which now trades as Metaltec Precision International, was selected from a strong field that included international contenders,” Mr Brumby said.

“The Australian Synchrotron building is on schedule for completion in March, and then the installation of the technical components can begin. The pedestals and girders contract will be an important element of that installation process’, Mr Brumby said.

The Australian Synchrotron will provide world-class, leading-edge capabilities for Australia’s industrial and research scientists to develop new products and improved processes, he said.

Metaltec Precision International’s Managing Director, Denver Alvis, said that the company was delighted to be working on a prestigious project of great importance to Australia’s scientific future.

“The award of the contract demonstrates that targeting niche projects of international standing like the Australian Synchrotron with our combined capabilities in high-precision machining and manufacturing is a successful strategy”, Mr Alvis said. “It proves a Bayside company can be a truly international engineering business”.

The 42 girders and pedestals form the rigid support structure for the synchrotron’s giant magnets and main ring. The girders will be positioned to an accuracy of at least 0.1mm (about the width of 1 human hair) throughout the 216m circumference of the main ring. The giant girders, weighing up to 7 tonnes, must be capable of fine adjustments in increments of 10 microns (less than one-tenth of a human hair).

Metaltec Precision International supplies a range of industries including the aerospace and defence sectors, as well as the automotive, food canning and packaging, biomedical, steel, papermaking, oil and gas and mining industries.

“We’ve invested heavily in state-of-the-art plant and equipment as well as having a very highly skilled, stable workforce so that we can supply specialised components and advanced tooling capabilities”, Mr Alvis said.