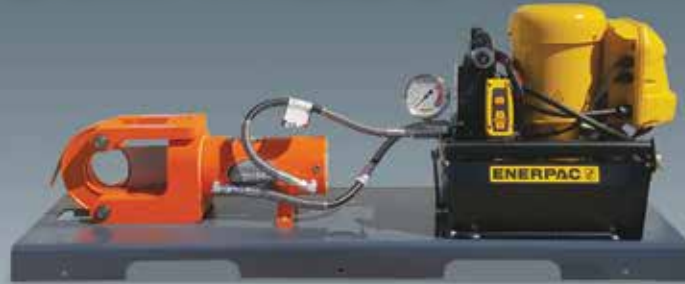




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Ranger, said: "We have been steadily raising our profile in the Melbourne area for a period of time, but we could only place a footprint in the city once we had a figurehead of the right pedigree to execute our growth strategy. Ian is a lifting gear expert and brings to the position 30 years of relevant experience; we are keen to leverage that

knowledge and contact base to become a go-to source for Melbourne's existing and upcoming development projects."

The Kensington facility will be stocked with AUS\$250k-worth of products and house a 350t capacity press, testbed and mobile test truck. The building, which Ranger has leased, is only two years old and is well suited to the manufacture and storage of the company's range of slings, shackles, other below-the-hook equipment, and height safety solutions. It is anticipated that the site will also generate demand for custom products.

Jongen said: "I am excited by Ranger's growth plans, particularly in Melbourne and the state of Victoria, and readily accept the challenge to expand a subsidiary that replicates what the company has achieved further up the east coast. There are remarkable synergies between Melbourne and Sydney, so we can approach the task with a tried and tested business plan, backed by an existing reputation for delivery of world-class product and expertise."

Expansion into Melbourne chimes with National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA)-accredited Ranger's development closer to home, where it is planning to move to a new

warehouse three times the size of its existing location. It is also constantly evolving a fleet of distinctive vehicles and mobile testing trucks that remain the heartbeat of the business.

Thacker concluded: "We make no secret of our ambitions to become the country's biggest force within the lifting marketplace. However, we understand that to achieve that we must expand steadily and astutely, only when personnel and market conditions allow us to implement growth plans. With Ian's stature combining with the booming construction market, we are confident this significant step is the right one. Existing and prospective customers should expect us to expand further in the short- to mid-term future."

Go to their website at www.ranger.com.au for further updates on the Melbourne facility.

AISI Releases December SIMA Imports Data; Import Market Share 27 percent in 2017

Based on the Commerce Department's most recent Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) re-

continued on next page



Ian Jongen, state manager Victoria, Ranger Lifting.