

# BUILDING DESIGNERS **brief**

A U S T R A L I A

**kitchen charisma**



BUILDING  
DESIGNERS  
AUSTRALIA

**winter 2011**

**\$8.50**

“ Queensland’s recent natural disasters inspired the team to develop its winning entry ”

## damage control

**B**lueScope Steel has been awarded the Insurance Council of Australia’s 2011 Resilience Award for Durable Housing for an innovative house design made to endure Australia’s extreme weather conditions.

The award, supported by the Australian Institute of Architects, was presented to BlueScope Steel on Thursday, May 5 in Sydney. A total of 78 entries was submitted this year from a wide variety of entrants including large multi-national engineering and construction firms, architects and private citizens.

Entrants were asked to submit resilient housing design concepts that incorporated inherent protection through design and material selection from five extreme weather elements – hail, flood, bushfire, extreme rainfall and cyclone.

Queensland’s recent natural disasters affected many of BlueScope Steel’s customers and some of its staff. This inspired BlueScope Steel Research’s Building Applications team to develop its winning entry. The team was able to work together with PIDCOCK Architecture and Sustainability and use input from industry experts such as Lysaght Pty Ltd, the National Association of Steel Framed Housing (NASH) and others to ultimately deliver the winning design.

The winning entry integrated elements of BlueScope Steel’s existing building products range, such as cladding and roofing materials, along with new concept steel composite products and well-accepted design elements, into a modern take on the ‘Queenslander’ architecture.

The design consists of two-storey modules separated by a screened breezeway offering a covered external living space. This approach, developed with the architectural input of PIDCOCK, ensured the design provided good liveability and aesthetics, as well as delivering the resilience outcomes.



*Robert Scott, BlueScope Steel Research; Robert Scott, President of the Insurance Council of Australia; Caroline Pidcock, PIDCOCK – Architecture and Sustainability; Trevor Clayton, BlueScope Steel Research.*

Resilience measures incorporated in the house design include an overhanging steel roof that protects external walls from hail; a composite steel and concrete wall system that seals and resists flood waters; corrugated steel walls with rockwool insulation that resists fire; and oversized gutters and downpipes to endure extreme rainfall.

A large range of steel products was chosen for the house design, including steel framing, roofing, cladding and guttering, due to steel’s inherent durability in tough weather conditions, its non-combustible nature which provides protection in a fire, and its weather tightness which provides effective protection against heavy rain. ■

For more information on BlueScope Steel and its products, visit: [www.bluescopesteel.com.au](http://www.bluescopesteel.com.au) or call 1800 022 999.