



## The AstralPool swimming pool beats all records at Melbourne

Fifteen world records in the final balance sheet of the Swimming World Championships held in Melbourne 2007. The setting of all of them, the deepest provisional floating pool in the world installed by AstralPool as a provider and official sponsor of the International Amateur Swimming Federation (FINA). AstralPool belongs to the pool division of the Spanish multinational group Aquaria.

Over 2200 athletes from 171 nations offered the public two weeks of intense performances. Around 215,000 viewers were enthralled as Michael Phelps beat four of the seven records obtained by men and continued doing it with the eight obtained by women, equalling the number of records beat in Berlin in 1978 and only four of the 18 in Belgrade.

AstralPool contributed with the installation of the latest generation swimming pool to the Melbourne World Championships that were 'the best in history' as described by FINA President Mustafá Larfaoui.

### **A technological milestone**

The pool for the championships must fulfil special FINA requirements. It must also host the synchronised swimming competition and therefore, must have a depth of between 2 and 3 metres. The pool also had to be elevated to not damage the famous floor of the Rod Laver Stadium in Melbourne, the traditional setting for the Australian Open for tennis.

Thanks to the Skypool technology, AstralPool could provide a solution to these requirements. In only four weeks, 250 galvanised steel panels were installed over a floating structure, which must support a pressure of 4500 kg per square metre, over double of a conventional pool. After finishing the championships, both the competition pool and the warm-up pool (25 x 50 x 2 m) were dismantled. Both swimming pools will be permanently installed by the Victoria Government as part of its legacy programme.

With the development of this technology, AstralPool has set a milestone in swimming pool construction. The technique applied in Melbourne was used for the first time by Aquaria when installing the pool at the Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona for the 2003 World Championships and the FINA once again placed their trust in the company to construct the main pool for the 2006 Shanghai World Championships.

## **AstralPool, an international reference for swimming pools**

AstralPool is a Spanish company with over 35 years of experience and is one of the companies with the greatest international scope in the industrial world. Belonging to Aquaria, a Spanish international group based in Sabadell (Barcelona), it has over 1000 employees and offices in 30 countries. AstralPool's activity is centred on the conception, distribution and marketing of pool systems and components.

AstralPool offers overall solutions in four different business departments: Public Pools, Private Pools, Wellness and pool heating.

### **Most important figures:**

Dimensions:	50 x 25 m with a 3 m depth
Capacity:	3750 m3
Filling time:	30 hours
Assembly time:	4 weeks
Dismantling time:	2 weeks
Rod Laver viewers:	12,000

An average of 40 operators worked every day to place the 350 galvanised steel panels for the Skypool, which arrived at the Rod Laver Stadium in 51 transport containers after making the long journey from Spain.

