

## **AstralPool will take its *magic pool* to the land of the koalas and kangaroos**

- The Spanish multinational company will install the deepest suspended pool ever constructed, which will host the 12<sup>th</sup> FINA World Championships in Melbourne (Australia) in March 2007

In 2003, AstralPool successfully installed the world's largest suspended pool in Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona and also the 25m pool in Shanghai (China) in 2006. As Official FINA Partner, the International Swimming Federation (FINA) has once again entrusted AstralPool with the installation of the main pool of the 12<sup>th</sup> FINA World Championships to be held on the other side of the globe: in Melbourne (Australia), from March 17<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. It will be set up in the famous Rod Laver Arena: a modern well known building where the Australian Open Tennis championships are celebrated.

### **3 Special Australian Requirements concerning the Pool:**

1. Pool must be suspended and not harm the floor of the Rod Laver Arena.
2. Possibility to re-install the pools after the Championships.
3. Use pool for Swimming and Synchronised Swimming = 3m deep!

### **Three special Australian requirements**

The Australian LOC wished to do a temporary free-standing pool without having to modify the floor of Rod Laver Arena. The Skypool suspended technology responds to this demand. Secondly, they want to install the pools after the championships in other places. The Skypool system makes this possible. Additionally, the LOC wished not only to do the swimming competition but also the synchronised swimming in the same pool. This request means something that has never been done before in the history of swimming championships: Build in 3 weeks a 3m deep<sup>1</sup> free-standing Skypool!

AstralPool has accepted the challenge and will be responsible for installing both the main 3m competition pool, where the synchronised swimming and swimming competition will take place, and also the swimmers' training pool next door.

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<sup>1</sup> FINA rules say that the synchro pool has to be 3m deep, 1m deeper than a "normal" swimming competition pool.  
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## Special requests of a 3m deep pool

A 3m pool is not the same as a 2m pool just a little deeper. There is a big difference “within” the pool structure, something not appreciated from the outside: the panels’ resistance to the strength of the water has to increase exponentially! A 2m pool has to support a water force of about 2,000 kg per metre; in a 3m pool the force to be supported by the pool structure is not 3,000 kg but ca. 4,500 kg per metre! And a diving pool (5m depth) has to be able to resist 12,500 kg per metre. AstralPool is the only one who offers this possibility in a suspended free-standing pool structure.

## Skypool technology

AstralPool will use their highly successful and appreciated “Skypool” technology. It uses free standing panels of hot galvanised steel. This certified technology, developed entirely by the Spanish company, enables the pool to sit on the stadium’s floor without having to enter a single nail in the floor.

The competition pool will measure 50x25x3 metres and will be able to hold 3,750 m<sup>3</sup> of water. AstralPool technicians will begin to assemble this on 9<sup>th</sup> of February and are expected to finish on 5<sup>th</sup> of March. More than two hundred panels of galvanised steel will be used in the pool’s assembly.

AstralPool works in close collaboration in all the stages with the championships’ Local Organising Committee.

## A unique pool for a unique stadium

The pool that AstralPool will install in Melbourne is one of the most advanced of its kind as well as its “host”. The Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne was completed in 1988 as part of the original Tennis Centre complex and is used to host a wide range of sporting and entertainment events, from Grand Slam tennis matches and motorbike super-cross action to rock concerts, conferences and classical ballets.

The facilities of this premier multi-purpose arena – its 15,000 seat capacity and prime location within Australia’s premier sports and entertainment precinct – make it one of the world’s great arenas. It attracts over 1.5 million visitors each year.

### History of the name

The Arena has matured through a couple of name changes to the now embraced name of Rod Laver Arena at Melbourne Park. The honour was bestowed upon Rod Laver for his unsurpassed achievements and accomplishments at tennis in January 2000.

Laver is the only player in the history of tennis to have won two Grand Slams (1962 and 1969) – the ultimate honour in tennis whereby a player claims the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and US Open singles titles in the same calendar year.

## Pool features

- **Adaptable tensors to adjust the pool measurements to the millimetre:** The pressure of the 3,750 cubic metres of water poured into the shell warps the pool structure by a few millimetres. During assembly, AstralPool will use the tensors to correct any possible alterations once the swimming pool is full, to ensure that its dimensions are always exactly 50 x 25 metres.
- **The starting blocks** will be a reinforced edition of the ones used with great success in Barcelona 2003.
- **Disinfection with ozone:** AstralPool uses ozone with a chlorine residual for disinfection and horizontal bobbin-wound filters for filtration.
- **Overflow channel on all four sides to obtain a perfect water surface:** Swimming coaches say that the best results are achieved when the water surface is flattest. In this regard, the World Championships' swimming pool will have the best possible conditions, the water being emptied by an overflow channel installed on all four sides. Barcelona 2003 was the first sports' competition to use this system in a suspended pool. It was so successful that it will now be used again.

## Significant figures of the swimming pools

	Competition Pool 3m	Warm-up Pool
<b>Pool dimensions (inside)</b>	50 x 25 x 3 m	50 x 25 x 2 m
<b>Pool dimensions (outside)</b>	56 x 31 x 3,30 m	59 x 31 x 2,30 m
<b>Water surface</b>	1,250 m <sup>2</sup>	1,250 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Water volume</b>	3,750 m <sup>3</sup>	2,500 m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Nº of panels</b>	150 panels of 1,80m 100 panels of 1,20 m 50 panels of 0,80 m 50 bathers step of 0,40m	150 panels of 2m
<b>Used Shipping Containers</b>	40	
<b>Workers &amp; technicians</b>	21	15
<b>Assembly</b>	9 Feb to 5 March	
<b>Disassembly</b>	2 April to 17 April	
<b>Liner</b>	1,700 m <sup>2</sup>	1,550 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Return inlets</b>	50	50
<b>Water treatment equipment</b>	8 Nefrona Plus + 2 Nefrona Standard	8 Nefrona Plus
<b>Disinfection method</b>	Ozone & chlorine	Ozone & chlorine
<b>Pool water heating system</b>	Reversible heat pump of 400 kW	Reversible heat pump of 400 kW
<b>Suspended bottom of the pool</b>	made of 1x1m steel plates, adjustable height, each plate supports 3,000 kg	
<b>Electrical power</b>	267 kW	267 kW
<b>Nominal pressure which the tensioners resist</b>	18,000 kg	18,000 kg



## **AstralPool, official partner of FINA**

AstralPool has been the official supplier and sponsor of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) since 2005. The sponsorship agreement includes, among other things, AstralPool participating as the official supplier of competition pools for various world championships: the 25m competition pool in Shanghai (China) in 2006 and in Manchester (United Kingdom) in 2008. And the special 3m deep 50m pool in Melbourne (Australia) in 2007.

AstralPool shares its partner status with large sponsoring companies from the sporting world, such as Omega and Speedo.

## **AstralPool, international standard in pools**

A Spanish company with more than 35 years of experience, AstralPool has become one of the most internationally renowned companies in the industrial world. It is part of the Aquaria Group and currently has around 1,000 employees and over 100 branches and offices located in 30 countries worldwide. The production and distribution of its pool systems and components is managed from its central office in Sabadell (Barcelona).

AstralPool provides comprehensive solutions in four different business units: Commercial Pools, Residential Pools, Wellness and Heating.

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For more information please contact:

Bea Strebl  
AstralPool Communication Dpt.  
[bstrebl@astralpool.com](mailto:bstrebl@astralpool.com)  
+34 93 713 63 44