

**Media Release**  
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## **Screw piling – a sustainable foundation solution**

Engineered foundation and construction solutions specialist SFL Foundation Technology has developed a sustainable, energy efficient foundation method - screw piling.

Put simply, screw piles are large screws, manufactured from high strength steel in innovative designs to achieve a strong and enduring foundation. With the importance placed on sustainability today, SFL's screw piles are the ideal foundation tool as they are reusable, energy efficient and have a low impact on the environment.

The steel screw piling techniques and applications offered by SFL reflect the company's positive response to environmental awareness. By incorporating the use of steel within its core piling range, SFL has been able to maintain structural integrity, whilst still making a significant contribution to the reduction in air pollution, water usage, energy and raw mineral waste.

SFL General Manager Robert Bollman said the company was dedicated to providing high quality and sustainable foundation technology that was good for its clients, as well as the environment.

"We are committed to providing the construction industry with outstanding products, solutions and expertise, together with our commitment of partnership and integrity," Mr Bollman said.

"When Steel Foundations Limited opened its door in July 1994 our primary focus was on the manufacturing and installation of screw piles for the residential and commercial building industries. The company has now evolved into SFL, which offers many and varied foundation solutions – not just screw piling."

"To maintain our competitive edge in the market we have continued to expand our products and services to cater to differing site conditions and the construction industry's needs," he said.

Unlimited in their application, SFL Foundation Technology's screw piles provide a range of sustainable foundation solutions for the residential, industrial and civil construction sectors. Committed to providing the option of sustainable building practices, SFL has spent more than a decade providing systems and solutions to construction projects both here and abroad.

Screw piles can be easily installed using excavators fitted with a rotary drive unit and calibrated to ensure stringent quality adherence. During installation the depth and torque resistance is measured and correlated to the safe working load of the pile.

Noosa Shire Council approached SFL to assist it with foundations for a footbridge located in the Noosa Heads National Park, an eco-sensitive environment. The Council was so impressed with the screw pile alternative SFL produced for the National Park Footbridge, that it opted to use the same solution for the WeybaPark Footbridge. The footbridge spans 2km, and was installed manually. The piles met all the council's environmental requirements and can also be easily removed if necessary in the future. Council staff manufactured a drive tool to install the piles that required two labourers.

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The Slabmaster system, for residential housing, is a patented SFL design, supplied and installed at a fixed price. The system incorporates a series of high-tensile screw piers that are wound into the ground to create a platform to support the slab. This system provides an alternative to other less environmentally friendly construction techniques, by removing the need for further excavation of in-ground footings.

SFL designs, manufactures, installs and certifies foundation solutions and packages to strict engineering requirements. With its own team of civil, structural and geotechnical engineers, SFL is able to meet the individual needs of its clients by providing a sustainable, efficient and economic solution.

Ongoing research and development allows SFL to maintain a technological and competitive advantage, improving and expanding on existing products, their applications, capacity and functionality, thereby improving the environmental efficiencies within the manufacturing processes.

SFL screw piles feature:

- 100% recyclable usage
- Vibration free installation
- Minimal impact on sensitive ecosystems
- Suitable for temporary or permanent structures
- Unlimited pile lengths
- Removable, replaceable and reusable
- Suitable for a wide range of geotechnical environments
- Ideal system for areas with high water tables, low bearing soils, sloping or cut/fill sites
- Rapid installation and set-up
- Reduced construction program with time and labour savings
- Immediate use, no curing time
- Minimal noise pollution and spoil
- Can reduce or remove the need for concrete

The SFL Foundation Technology head office and manufacturing facility is located in Ormeau, Queensland, and the company also has offices in Sydney, Newcastle and Melbourne.

**For more information contact:**

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