33 07.05.03

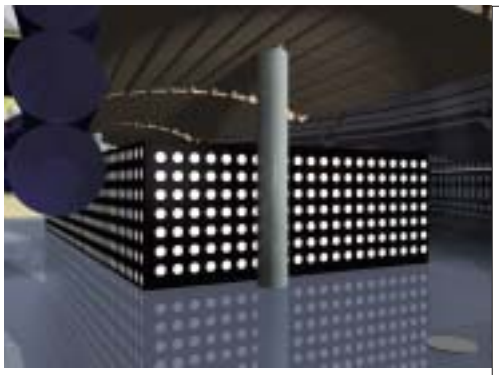
ACMI **Screen Lounges**: Progress report on construction

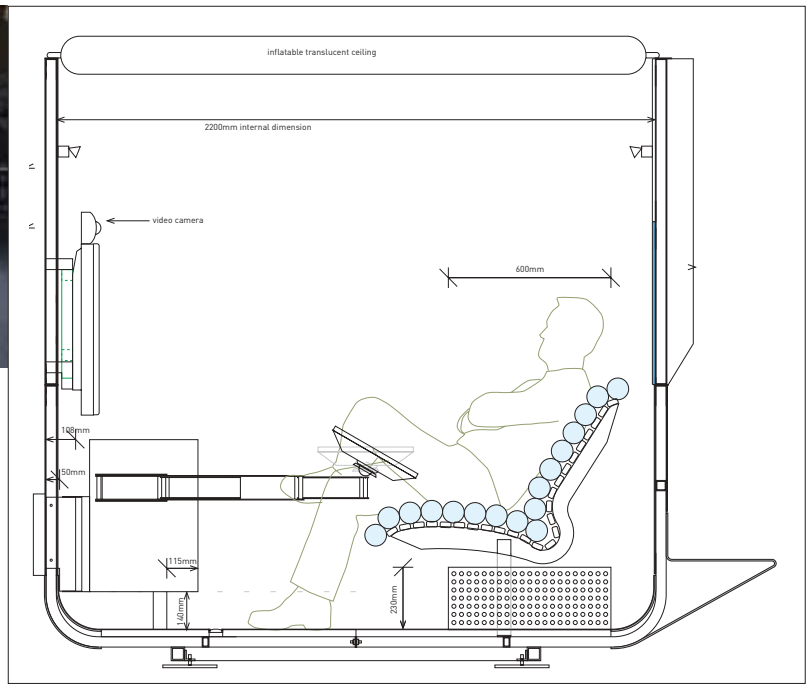
From **Crowd Productions**: A report on progress of research, design and construction work to 07.03.03

01.] **Report on design progress: A meeting with ACMI stakeholders, CMR and PIVoD.**

23.04.03. On Wednesday 23 April, Crowd met with ACMI, CMR and PIVoD to discuss design and construction progress of the Screen Lounge pods and to hear a final decision from ACMI on the delivery system to be used for the LCD touch screen control unit. With all key stakeholder groups represented it was decided that the Scissor Arm system should be employed. The deciding factors were ease of folding operation, greater durability and a greater provision of space within the Mantle Boot left over for the digital delivery technology and related computers. John Smithies has raised a number of issues that he would like to see resolved to ensure optimal operation of the touch screen. The prototype as mounted at ACMI had a bounce response to applied pressure. This needs to be damped out and we explained that in the Mantle Boot mounting system this damping has been provided for. Additionally there were concerns raised about the safety of the sharp scissor edges that close on each other during expansion and contraction. A rubber boot system for protection from these edges was discussed. Crowd will now look at these issues and prepare a final installation of the Scissor Arm within the Screen Lounge pod 01.

Michael Parry from PIVoD raised the need for a new delivery schedule for all pods to be prepared, as he has to slot in resources to begin technical commissioning of the pods along with software testing. The intention is that the first pod will be included in the venues showing material in part two of the Remembrance exhibition. John again mentioned the need to explore provision of more space





Above: Visualisation of proposed perforated metal storage container for additional peripheral entertainment systems to be located under the seating in the Screen lounge pods. The proposed box measures 230mm high by 600mm deep by 1300mm long. Left: elevation of the proposed storage container showing it's relation to the seating in the Screen lounge pod.

below the seats for additional games computers. David Poulton observed that in the Screen Lounge pod there are 5 floor mounted cable conduit connectors already provided below the seats to facilitate and secure connection between such computer installations and the computers driving the plasma screen mounted in the Mantle Boot. These connectors give access to the floor cavity under the pod allowing an easy concealed path across the pod. As mentioned previously this is part of our design philosophy to treat the exterior walls and surfaces of the pod as cable trays for ongoing easy access and rewiring. In this we have conceived the Screen Lounge pods as vehicles of experimentation and change. John again mentioned the need for consideration of a perforated cover to protect the back of the Plasma screen in the open seater pods. Jane Ellery raised the need to consider protection of the front buttons on the LCD control screen and the need to protect the wiring ports under that screen to prevent the public from pulling out the cables.

02.] **Report on design progress: Sourcing production light fixtures for the Screen Lounge Pods**

24.04.03 On Thursday 24 April Crowd discussed track lighting technologies and options with Stephen Gallagher from Selux that would be suitable for the Screen Lounge pods. We have a sample of the Eutrac 3 Surface Track, which is being used through out ACMI along with a range of compatible lighting units. Within the Screen Lounge pods we wish to ensure that the production lighting system is fully compatible with other existing ACMI systems, to reduce maintenance and inventory costs. Our initial concept was to use a section of Eutrac 3 track attached to the Screen Lounge pod wall. On examination of the track sample it was clear that to include this in the Screen Lounge would be a cumbersome and unsightly detail. In response to this problem Selux have proposed another product: Eutrac 3 Monopoint. This circular mounting pod is essentially a short section of the Eutrac 3 mounting track embedded in a circular plate. It has been especially designed for the kind of installation situation we are designing for. It is fully compatible with any of the Eutrac light fittings. We are having a sample sent down to us for appraisal. It appears to be an ideal solution. The size is smaller and the finish is much higher than the 3 track.

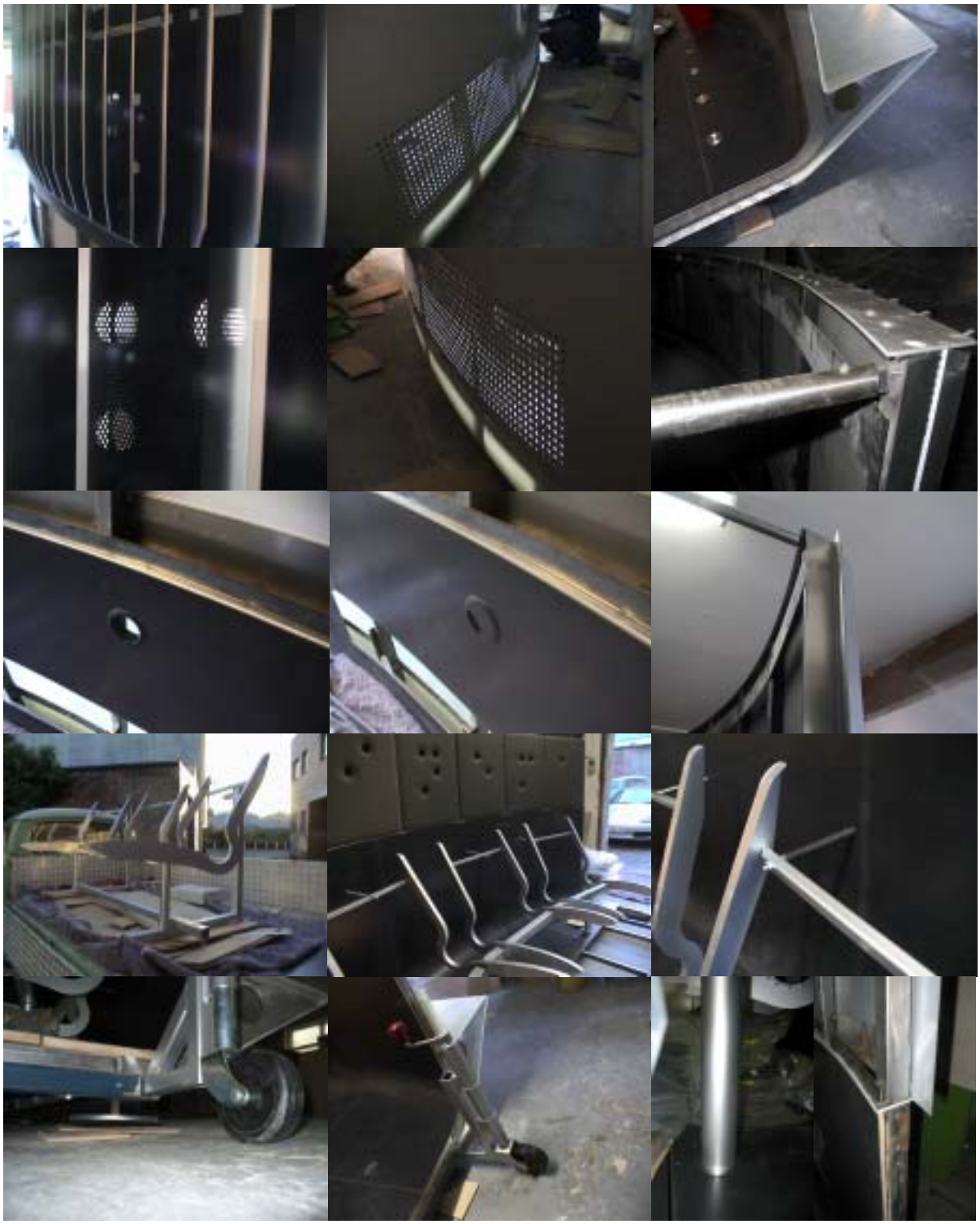
Above from left: Images of Eutrac lighting modules, 3 Track Monopoint, Mini Track Monopoint and Eutrac lighting track.

03.] **Report on construction progress: Fixing the aluminium skin to the Screen lounge pod frame.**

23.04.03 On Wednesday 23 April the first of the Aluminium panels was fixed to the frame of Screen Lounge pod 01 using the 3m metal panel fixing tape, used in the automotive and truck manufacturing industries. We have carefully researched the use and application of this product. For this project the use of this fixing tape has significant advantages. The external skin can be bonded to the frame without there being any visible connection points or deformations in the surface that result from any form of welding. Once this tape has been applied and the panel fixed it can not be removed. The tape and bonding agents are so strong tat to attempt to remove the panel it would have to be torn from the frame, destroying the panel, and leaving the bond in tact. This technology is not used in the architectural construction industries yet.

04.] **Report on construction progress: fitting the final fixtures into the Screen Lounge pod interiors.**

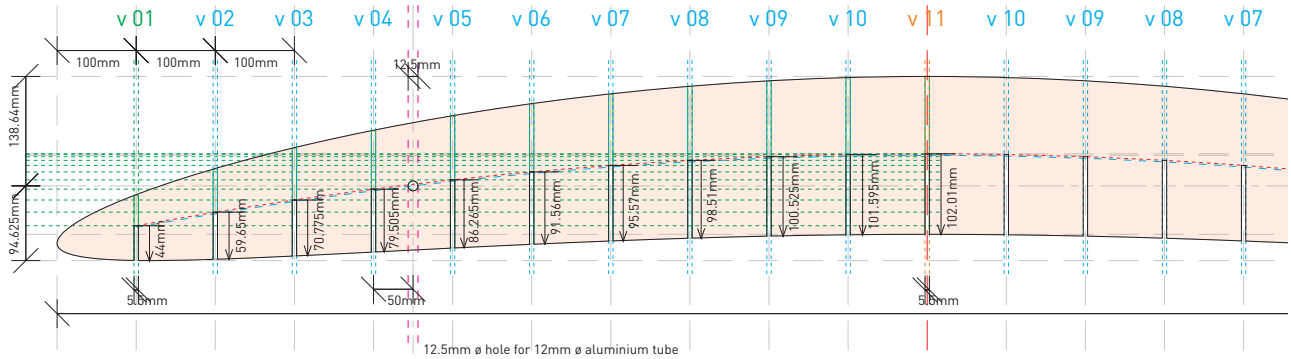
03.05.03. On Saturday 05 April the first fibre optic driven floor light was installed and tested. This system has been designed to improve safety by reducing electrical cabling, reducing maintenance by drastically reducing the number of light bulbs and finally allowing for easier change in the future [future proofing]. This fibre optic system is the same system that will drive the Blister Pack Memory Wall. Also fitted was the electrical cable port for the plasma monitor. This cable port has been installed to secure the power and data cables from the Mantle Boot computer storage area to the plasma screen. Additional details to come are the head phone jacks and the entry floor lighting units.



Above from top left: louvre wall fitted with interior panels, external aluminium skin with venting behind the Mantle Boot for the computers, end aluminium trim with internal lighting stainless steel cover plates, louvre wall fitted with interior panels, external aluminium skin with venting, top rail, cable port for the plasma monitor, top rail and stainless steel end trim, painted seating chassis, seating chassis installed, detail of seat chassis anchor, trolley wheels in place, seat chassis anchor, extruded skin detail

05.] Report on design progress: Developing construction details for the acrylic partition screens.

Work has begun on final detailing of the acrylic partition screens. Internal construction details and connection points have been finalised. The top and bottom plates are now to be fabricated in 3mm mild steel, finished in a silver to enhance reflectivity and blend in with the vocabulary of colours and finishes used on the Screen Lounge pods.



06.] **Report on design progress: Developing the content for the Blister Pack/Memory wall.**

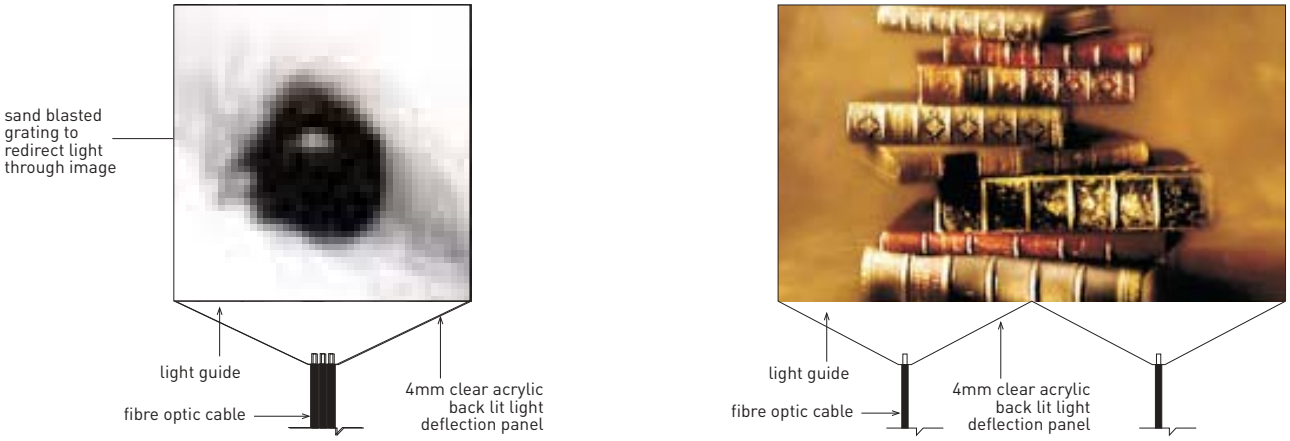
15.04.03. On Tuesday 15 April Crowd and photographer Peter Clarke met with Victoria Lynn from ACMI to discuss the proposed content for the Blister Pack /Memory Wall. In discussion with Victoria we delineated the following brief. Our desire is to create the sense of a domestic, informal intimacy within and around the Screen Lounge pods. We wish to create a series of images, details taken from photographs supplied from the 'family' of collaborators and fabricators who have contributed to the creation of the Screen Lounge pods. These image details will be collected and displayed within a clear acrylic display wall, lit by fiber optics. This collection of fragments is intended to read like a mosaic wall, inviting a participatory and involved viewing. It should be ambiguous, evocative and intimate.

Our idea is to ask participants to provide between three and six favorite photographs that capture either for them a sense of their identity or their home. The images could be of themselves, at any age, other family members, either singularly or in a group, a pet, object or place. The important matter is that the image is special and conveys to the contributor a sense of history, belonging or identity, for them what their sense of home is all about or where they most feel at home. That home might be a bush camp or a particular chair or a favorite uncle. Crowd has prepared a list of people who will be contacted for this material. The development of this project will be undertaken in consultation with Victoria.

28.04.03. On Monday 28 April Crowd met with Peter Clarke and Veronica Saunders to discuss both the strategies for contacting the people on the list and how we will collect and then process the images. With Peter we discussed the possible techniques for capturing and combining the images for the wall display blisters. We are keen to use both chemical and digital processes and both motion and still techniques as a reference to the processes inherent in ACMI's own collection. Notions of image decomposition and slow shutter

Images above: reference image from our early reseach of family images cemented into wall of a family home in a Moroccan village, painting by Sydney painter Matthew Johnson and installation by the Starn Twins

capture were discussed. The intention with our processing of the images is to avoid the suggestion of a corporate or commercial laboratory intervention, which would be counter to the idea of an informal intimate recording of life and identity. As a source image we are constantly drawn to one of our early reference images of photos cemented into a family home in a Moroccan village. Here the images are also worn and frayed, expressing the idea of use, even if that use is an emotional one not a physical one. The collage like and fragmented appearance seems apposite for our intentions. This is shown. Also shown are some initial image-experiments testing the presence of pixels from still and video capture processes, enlarged to different degrees, to examine the effects. This has lead us to favour a more composite technique using both chemical and digital reproduction to create a more complex surface. We are also looking at the work of installation artists using photography, such as the American Starn Twins, and painters like Matthew Johnson from Sydey with an interest in deconstructed surfaces.



Above: arrangement of images in acrylic light guide sandwichs detailing our initial considerations in relation to image degeneration.

07.] Report on design progress: Developing a storage space under the seating within the Screen Lounge pods.

John Smithies has requested that we develop a storage facility under the seats within the Screen Lounge pods to house games units and other possible computing hardware. In response we have looked at the space available and propose in the accompanying drawings a perforated black metal box 1300mm long by 230mm high by 600mm deep. This space would service all three seats and sits over cable ports in the floor. From our initial discussions with John we believe this spatial volume should be appropriate to house the required hardware.

08.] Report on construction progress: Meeting with Riva Fab on the Scissor Arm

30.04.03. On Wednesday 30 April Crowd met with Riva Fab, the principal fabricator of the Screen Lounge pods to discuss fabrication of production Scissor Arms. With Riva we studied and revised design details of the second Scissor Arm prototype in order to refine it appropriately for the production models. We discussed the fixing of the Spacedec knuckle unit onto the Scissor Arm to support the LCD screen and provide the desired tilt motion. From this discussion Crowd has prepared a final set of drawings incorporating all of the revisions. These drawings are laser-cutting templates that will be used to produce the mild steel patterns folded to make each arm. On Monday 28n April we met with Barry Russenberg from Spacedec to discuss all details necessary to fix the Spacedec knuckle onto the Scissor Arm. A crucial feature of the final design is the castellation of the stainless steel arms to reduce the overall weight by 20%. This will improve use and performance with no loss of strength. The drawings are currently being reviewed by a structural engineer to check our calculations with regard to strength.

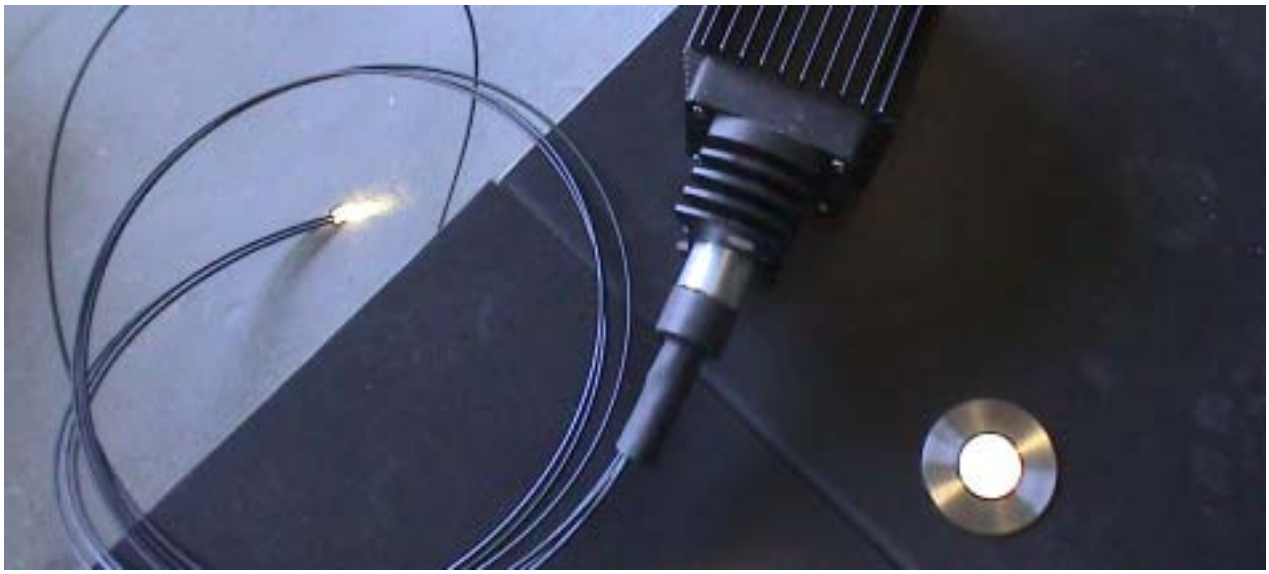
09.] Report on construction progress: Delivery of the first Screen Lounge pod to ACMI at Federation Square.

Crowd will deliver the first Screen lounge pod to ACMI at Federation Square on Friday 09 May. The completion of the Mantle Boot has been delayed due to delays in selection of the LCD touch screen delivery system but we hope to have it ready next week.

09.] **Report on construction progress: Final drawings and detailing for the inflatable ceiling.**

Crowd has prepared final drawings for the required envelope for the inflatable ceiling. These drawings have been sent to Tensys for final pattern making. In discussion with the fabricator Bedggood Canvas we have agreed on the inflation valves that will be used on the ceilings. These conformal valves will be located on the underside of the inflatable ceilings, located in the back corner behind the seating, so as not to clutter the visual field. The selected valves are shown.

Above: images of conformal boat valves sourced by Bedggood canvas for the inflatable ceiling from Halkey-Roberts in the United states.



Above: Image of our first insitu fibre optic lighting test of installed floor lighting. Light driver shown will be mounted in the Mantle Boot.

10.] **A current timeline for prototyping and fabricating the Screen Lounges.**

Here is an updated time line for production of ACMI Screen Lounges from Crowd productions in response to a request for an amended job schedule on 23.04.03 by CMR. **This manufacturing and fabrication schedule is predicated on availability of technology packages and decisions by ACMI with regard to technology and design issues**.

NB: All dates subject to change based on client approval and subcontractor availability.

Time line /Job Schedule for ACMI Screen Lounges at 07.04.03

09.] Crowd completes build fitout of production Screen Lounge 01:	Friday 09.04.03
09.] Crowd completes build fitout of production Screen Lounge 02 [Memory Grid]:	Friday 06.06.03
10.] Crowd completes build fitout of production Screen Lounge 03 [Open Screen Lounge]:	Friday 27.06.03
11.] Crowd completes build fitout of production Screen Lounge 04 [Memory Grid]:	Friday 18.07.03
12.] Crowd completes build fitout of production Screen Lounge 05 [Open Screen Lounge]:	Friday 08.08.03