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Latest Building Technology A Step Towards Assisting FIFO Worker Mental Health

This year, millions of dollars worth of mine site sporting and entertainment infrastructure will go unused because of the harsh Australian climate. Worse, this unused infrastructure is probably having a negative effect on FIFO worker mental health.

“Research suggests that FIFO workers are more prone to mental health problems and physical activity helps negate any issues”, says Todd Bowden, director of SportPM. “The problem in these mine sites is the facilities are almost normally outside and nobody can enjoy these facilities when the temperature gets over 30 degrees”.

“It’s a total waste! Millions of dollars of infrastructure are not getting used and much of it is going to rack and ruin”, says Mr. Bowden. “The solution is the use of **air supported domes** which regulate the temperature (to around 21 degrees) and provide a safe sporting environment 24/7 for a range of activities”.

These air supported domes offer many benefits, but most importantly, they contribute to enhanced mental health for all workers at these remote mining sites.

Some facts about air supported domes:

- Cost about the third of traditional brick and mortar infrastructure
- Can be erected more quickly than normal infrastructure
- Adapted easily to existing infrastructure
- Fully climate-controlled environments
- Come fully equipped with lightning for 24-hour use
- Ideal for all popular sports (tennis, cricket, basketball, football etc)
- Works perfectly for non-traditional sports (but fast growing) like, pickleball tennis, mini golf and 3 x 3 basketball
- Protects internal infrastructure from damaging UV, further increasing lifespan of facilities.
- Can be deconstructed quickly and even moved to new locations.

Todd Bowden is the founder and director of SportPM, an organisation that is helping bring the magic of sports to all Australians. Todd first installed an air inflated sports dome in the 1990’s in the New York. He can be contacted on the details below and provides an interesting and entertaining interview.

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