SNOW MAKING INSIGHTS

AUSTRALIA I EDITION 02 I MAY 2026

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CONTENT

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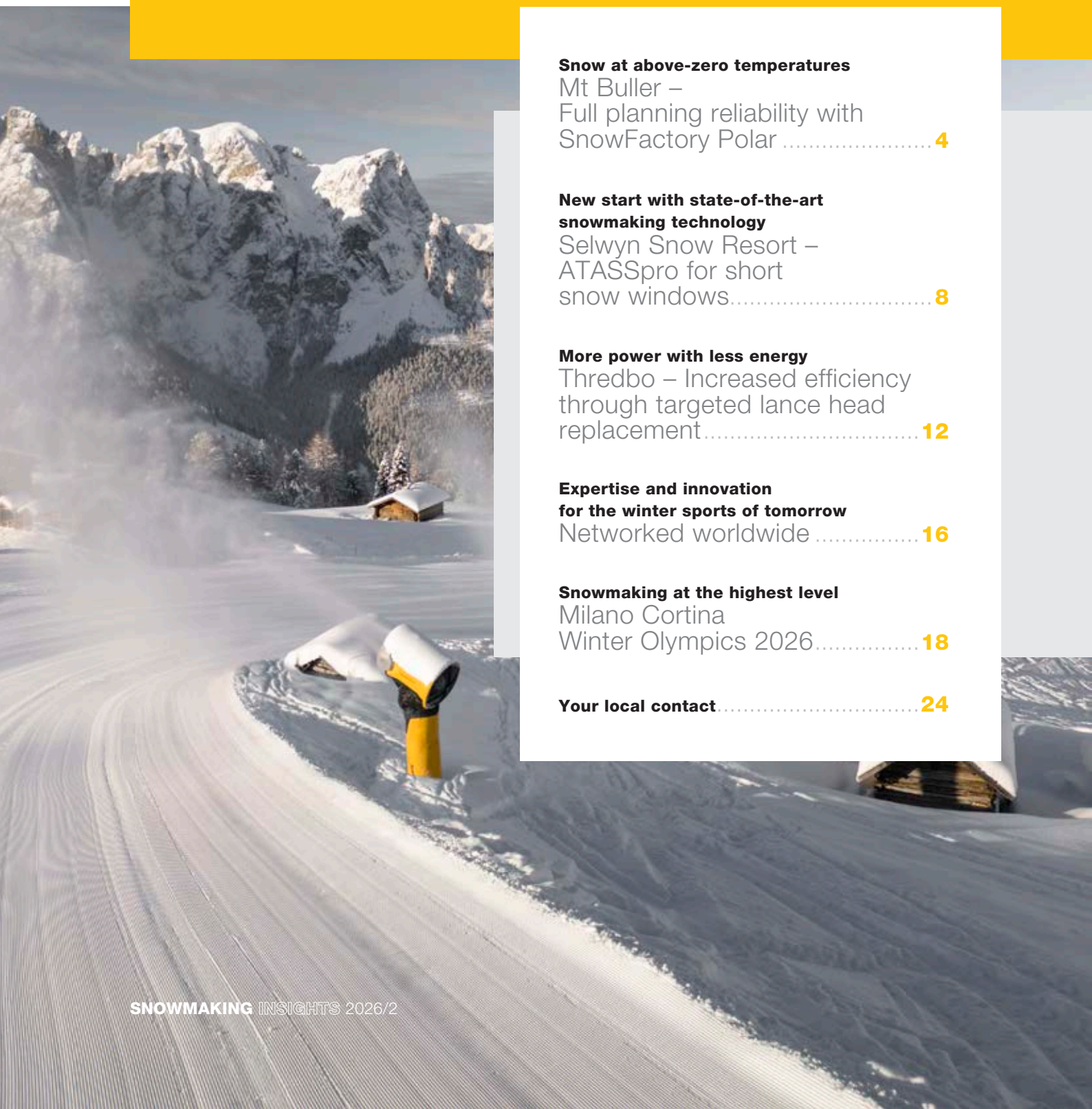

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Dear readers

Australia poses particular challenges for snowmaking: short cold temperature windows, high efficiency requirements, and a growing focus on sustainability.

These conditions clearly highlight how essential state-of-the-art technologies and strong partnerships are for the long-term success of ski areas.

In this edition of *Snowmaking Insights Australia*, we aim to offer you a closer look at current projects that exemplify this very trend. Whether it's the strategic addition of SnowFactory technology to existing systems at Mt Buller, enhanced efficiency through lance head replacement at Thredbo, or the impressive reconstruction of the Selwyn Snow Resort with fully automated control by ATASSpro – all examples show how customized solutions can make a lasting difference.

As TechnoAlpin, we strive not only to support our customers with innovative technology, but also to stand by them as a dependable partner as they navigate an increasingly demanding future.

Enjoy the read – I hope you find it inspiring and insightful.

Samuel Ventura
Area Manager TechnoAlpin Australia

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SNOW AT ABOVE-ZERO TEMPERATURES

MT BULLER
FULL PLANNING RELIABILITY WITH SNOWFACTORY POLAR

In Australia in particular, it is not only the quality of the winter that determines the success of the season, but above all the ability to plan. Fluctuating temperatures, unstable weather conditions, and short cold windows are increasingly presenting ski areas with operational challenges. So, for Mt Buller – one of Victoria's leading ski areas – there's only one thing that matters: reliability.

With the installation of two new SnowFactory Polar units in 2024, the resort has consistently developed its strategy for a reliable and predictable start of the season.

SNOWMAKING WITHOUT TEMPERATURE CONSTRAINTS

With over 300 hectares of skiable terrain, 19 lifts – the largest range of lifts in Victoria – and two dedicated toboggan parks, Mt Buller offers a diverse and well rounded winter sports experience suitable for visitors of all ages and skill levels. To guarantee this claim at the start of the season, the resort has been relying on its partnership with TechnoAlpin for years.

The SnowFactory was developed with one clear goal: Snow production independent of air temperature. Unlike conventional snowmaking, the SnowFactory is not reliant on natural cold temperature windows. The machines produce snow around the clock – in above-zero temperatures, and in extreme conditions above 25°C.

SNOW AT ABOVE-ZERO TEMPERATURES

This is a key advantage, especially at the start of the season: Slopes, connecting paths, and high traffic areas can be systematically prepared long before conventional snow producers can be used.

FUTURE READY SNOWMAKING, PROVEN WORLDWIDE

Over 120 SnowFactory units are in service worldwide. The range of applications extends from mobile units to large-scale projects involving snow production of up to 1,000 m^3 per day. This flexibility enables customized solutions for a wide range of requirements – from smaller ski areas to complex, top-performing destinations.

Mt Buller leverages the highest capacity SnowFactory model – the Polar – which is a solution designed specifically to ensure maximum production reliability and efficiency.

› PARTNERSHIP ON EQUAL TERMS

Mt Buller and TechnoAlpin have been working together for years. Since 2017, we have collaborated particularly closely to continuously develop SnowFactory. The ski area now has five plants, three of which are designed as mobile units that can be positioned anywhere around the ski area as required, wherever there is access to water and power connection.

The latest installation in 2024 once again shows how partnership-based development drives innovation. Snowmaking Manager Paul Richmond emphasizes: “I really appreciated how quickly the parts we needed during commissioning were delivered, and how the new machine design already incorporated improvements based on Mt Buller’s feedback.”

The investment in TechnoAlpin’s snowmaking technology represents more than just a technical expansion: it is a clear commitment to innovation, partnership, and long-term reliable operation.

ATASSPRO

NEW START WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART SNOWMAKING TECHNOLOGY

SELWYN SNOW RESORT

ATASSPRO FOR SHORT SNOW WINDOWS

Mt Selwyn Snow Resort, a family-run ski area in the NSW Snowy Mountains, boasts a rich history. Since its beginnings in 1966, the resort developed continuously – until the devastating Black Summer Bushfires of 2019/2020 destroyed almost the entire infrastructure and left deep scars in the region.

But instead of just rebuilding, the operator– the Blyton Group – decided to take a bold step forward: Selwyn has been reimagined – more contemporary, efficient, and future-proof. A new chapter began with the reopening in winter 2023.

› POWERFUL MACHINES AS A FOUNDATION

A key component of the reconstruction was the complete redesign of the snowmaking system. In collaboration with TechnoAlpin, Selwyn chose a high-performance, future-ready solution: 16 fan-based snow producers from the TT, TR and TF series for maximum efficiency, especially in marginal temperature conditions.

ATASSPRO

NEW START WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART SNOWMAKING TECHNOLOGY

ATASSPRO: AUTOMATION AS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

A pivotal strategic decision was the full implementation of ATASSpro, TechnoAlpin's fully automated control system. **The goal:** to ensure every snowmaking opportunity is fully maximized.

Especially in Australia, where cold temperature windows are often short and unpredictable, speed makes all the difference. Automation allows the system to ramp up operations quickly and respond optimally to changing conditions.

The result: Compared with their previous snowmaking system, Selwyn can now produce snow at temperatures up to two degrees higher – a decisive advantage for a reliable start to the season.

MAXIMUM CONTROL – ANYTIME AND ANYWHERE

Mountain Operations Manager Nic Wilke highlights the flexibility and ease of use:

"When temperature drops into range, ATASSpro sends an alert straight to my phone. From there, I can remotely charge the pumps through the app. Once pressures are right, the automated guns come online and production starts almost immediately.

While the system is running, we monitor via webcams and live data. Wind shifts? We adjust gun direction. Conditions improve? We ramp up. If the window tightens, we wind back. It's responsive, fast, and built to take advantage of every viable minute."

Remote control and real-time monitoring ensure that every available minute of production is fully utilized – a critical factor under marginal conditions.

A SUCCESS STORY OF NEW BEGINNINGS

The Selwyn rebuild goes beyond a mere technical upgrade – it exemplifies how innovation, partnership, and determination can overcome even the greatest challenges.

In collaboration with TechnoAlpin, a cutting-edge snowmaking solution was developed that not only guarantees reliable operations but also sets new industry standards.

> “If you can start within minutes instead of hours, you can capture cold air that would otherwise be wasted.”
>
> Nic Wilke, Mountain Operations Manager

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MORE POWER WITH
LESS ENERGY CONSUMPTION

THREDBO
INCREASED EFFI-CIENCY THROUGH TARGETED LANCE HEAD REPLACEMENT

MODERNIZATION OF THE SNOWMAKING SYSTEM

Having been ranked *Australia's Best Ski Resort* at the World Ski Awards, Thredbo consistently prioritizes quality – both in the guest experience and in its technical infrastructure. Boasting Australia's longest runs and a wide range of offerings for all ages and skill levels, efficient and reliable snowmaking is essential.

To further boost the efficiency of the existing system, Thredbo chose a targeted lance head replacement – a measure that delivers significant results at a relatively low investment.

A CLEAR GOAL: REDUCE AIR CONSUMPTION

The challenge was clearly defined: Reduction of compressed air consumption on the slope to operate the system more efficiently and free up electric power for other technologies.

Instead of replacing the entire lance infrastructure, Thredbo chose to gradually upgrade its existing fleet.

- **2024:** Replacement of 8 lance heads (mainly upgrading from V3 and Borax models to TL8)
- **2025:** Replacement of 8 additional lance heads
- **Spring 2026:** Planned replacement of 7 Borax lance heads with the newer TL8 model and 5 Rubis lance heads with the newer TL4 model

By keeping the lance pipe and pit valve, the investment remains manageable while delivering a significant boost in efficiency.

MORE POWER WITH LESS ENERGY CONSUMPTION

MORE POWER WITH LESS ENERGY CONSUMPTION

The latest TL lance generation delivers key advantages for operation:

- Up to 30 % higher snow production
- Up to 25 % energy savings through optimized water and nozzle control
- Production starting at a wet bulb temperature of -2.5 °C
- Consistently high-quality snow across the entire temperature range

In Australia's climate, where cold-temperature windows are limited, this translates into a major operational benefit. Every available hour of production can be used more efficiently – while consuming fewer resources.

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE OVERALL SYSTEM

For Thredbo, the lance head replacement is part of a long-term strategy to modernize the entire snowmaking process.

Snowmaking Manager Jonathan Batson explains:

"Satisfied with the performance of the new TL lance heads, this year we will try the TL with double head. The idea in the long term is to change out the old lance heads in order to have a more efficient snowmaking system and free up some electric power for some other snowmaking technologies."

SUSTAINABILITY AS ADDED VALUE

Beyond efficiency and enhanced performance, sustainability is a key consideration. The replaced lance heads are primarily made of aluminum, collected, and fully recycled.

This approach not only reduces energy consumption but also actively supports resource conservation.

SMALL MEASURE – BIG IMPACT

Thredbo's lance head replacement demonstrates how a targeted modernization can bring an existing snowmaking system up to the latest state of the art – without a full system overhaul.

The result: more snow with lower air and energy consumption, earlier production starts, and long-term system optimization.

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EXPERTISE AND INNOVATION FOR THE WINTER SPORTS OF TOMORROW

NETWORKED WORLDWIDE

The TechnoAlpin Group represents technological leadership, innovation, and the highest quality in snowmaking worldwide. Today, the company employs over 700 people, operates 17 branches in 14 countries, and collaborates with 16 trading partners around the globe. Headquartered in Bolzano, Italy, TechnoAlpin is the origin of a success story that has made a lasting impact on winter sports.

With a market share exceeding 60%, TechnoAlpin is the global leader in snowmaking system manufacturing. More than 2,400 customers in 55 countries rely on Italian technology. Around 130,000 snow guns have now been installed worldwide – a striking testament to the company's international significance.


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SNOWMAKING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

MILANO CORTINA WINTER OLYMPICS 2026

Italy, home to TechnoAlpin's headquarters, hosted the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milano Cortina. This makes it all the more significant that TechnoAlpin was entrusted with installing the snowmaking systems at five key venues for this major sporting event: Cortina d'Ampezzo, Bormio, Livigno, Antholz and Tesero.

PERFECT SNOW
FOR OLYMPIC
PERFORMANCE

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Host venue for the women's alpine skiing competitions and previously the site of the 2021 World Ski Championships, the existing TechnoAlpin snowmaking system was extensively modernized for this major event. In the years that followed, the infrastructure was further expanded to meet the even higher demands of the Olympic Games – with a clear focus on sustainability and long-term use beyond the Games.

MILANO CORTINA WINTER OLYMPICS 2026

BORMIO

In Bormio, the venue for the men's alpine competitions, TechnoAlpin was awarded a public tender in spring 2025. Despite a very tight schedule, the system was completed within just a few months. Two new pumping stations, along with 38 TR10 fan-based snow producers and 44 TT10 tower machines, now guarantee top-quality snow and efficient resource use. With an investment volume of 11 million euros, Bormio is the largest TechnoAlpin project in the context of the Winter Olympics.

LIVIGNO

The Olympic freestyle skiing and snowboarding competitions took place in Livigno. Here, TechnoAlpin was carrying out a comprehensive expansion of the snowmaking system, the centerpiece of which is a 200,000 m^3 reservoir at 2,530 meters above sea level – one of the largest in Italy. The system was supplemented by a 2,000 kW pumping station, 74 new pits, and eight TT tower machines. The project was implemented under challenging conditions in high alpine terrain and in parallel with other major construction projects in the ski area.

MILANO CORTINA WINTER OLYMPICS 2026

ANTHOLZ

The biathlon center in Antholz was equipped with a state-of-the-art snowmaking system, including a water catchment system, in the lead-up to the Games. Along the trails, 18 TR fan-based snow producers and 22 TL8 lances ensure optimum snow conditions. The system was further enhanced by a SnowFactory Polar 100, which produces high-quality snow regardless of air temperature – a crucial factor for maximum snow reliability at 1,600 meters above sea level.

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TESERO

The Olympic cross-country skiing competitions were held in Tesero. TechnoAlpin fully modernized the existing system to guarantee long-term snowmaking reliability. 31 pits, several kilometers of cast iron pipes and electric cables were renewed. A supplementary six TR10s, two TR9s and six TL8 lances were used. The new equipment delivers high performance even at marginal temperatures while increasing the overall energy efficiency of the entire system.

YOUR LOCAL CONTACT

TechnoAlpin Australia Pty Limited
Suite 201, Level 2, 65 York Street
Sydney NSW 2001, Australia
Phone +39 334 608 5961
australia@technoalpin.com

SALES

Samuel Ventura
+39 334 610 0756
samuel.ventura@technoalpin.com

SERVICE

International Service Center
+39 0471 550 534
service@technoalpin.com

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