

# Preserving the Federated Society of Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders of Australia trade union banner

Lang Ngo

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*In 2009 a team of State Library of New South Wales conservators preserved a trade union banner for display in ONE hundred, the Mitchell Library centenary exhibition.*

*The trade union banner created for the Sydney branch of the Federated Society of Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders of Australia was treated to reveal its original colour and detail, and to stop further damage. Conservators worked over several months to ensure that the banner, a symbol of the solidarity movement in NSW, could take its place in the exhibition.*

*The banner has painted panels on both sides and is three metres square. Its sheer weight and size required some lateral thinking from conservators to display the banner. Rare earth magnets were used to position and hold the banner at 60 degrees on the support created by the exhibition designer.*

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## Author biography

**Lang Ngo** graduated from the University of Canberra in 1999 with a Bachelor of Applied Science in the Conservation of Cultural Materials, specialising in paper conservation. Lang worked at the State Library of Victoria and the Adelaide City Archives before taking up a position in 2001 at the State Library of New South Wales, where she has been since.

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