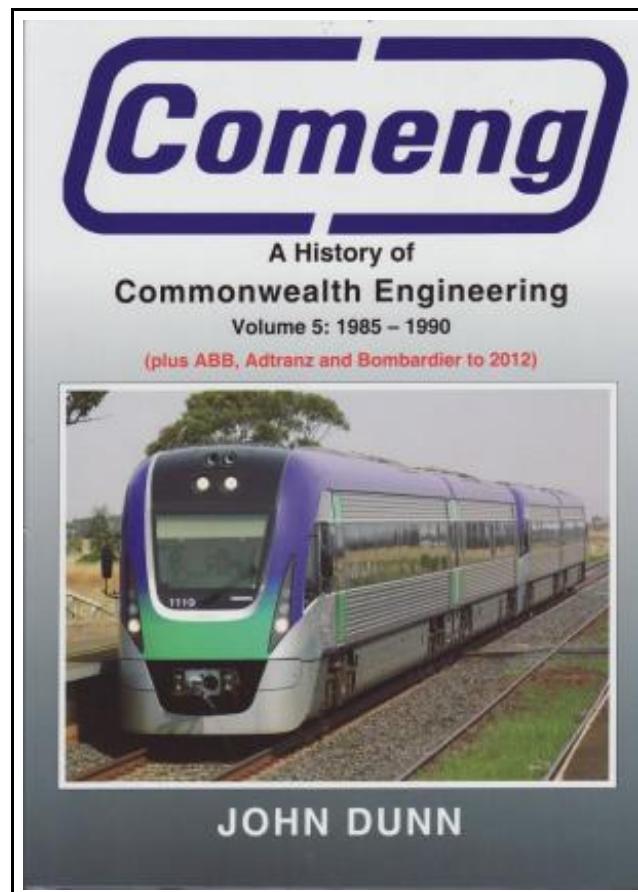


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Rosenberg Publishing, New South Wales Australia, 2013. Hard Cover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Edition. 304 pages 500 colour plates and 500 b&w illustrations - This volume takes up the account of Comeng's history from 1985 and carries the story through to 1990-and then on into the post-Comeng era at Dandenong of ASEA Brown Boveri (ABB), Adtranz and Bombardier. In 1985, and under the most difficult of circumstances, the Dandenong plant in Victoria won a contract for new light rail vehicles for Hong Kong-their first export order. Though this potentially opened the door for further export work for Comeng in South-East Asia, the ANI directors were unprepared to follow up such opportunities. By 1986 railway rolling stock contracts were drying up in Australia, and the Comeng management was looking for other opportunities overseas. Bids were made on a score of fronts, though without any success. This was largely because the Australian Government was unwilling to financially support Comeng in the same way that foreign governments backed their own manufactures. Comeng just could not compete under those circumstances. There was a ray of hope in 1986 when an inquiry came from North America for Comeng to tender on new commuter trains for the Long Island Rail Road in New York. The project was pursued with vigor, and Comeng became the preferred bidder against world wide competition. The contract was virtually 'in the bag' when, at the eleventh hour, ANI pulled the plug and so the project collapsed. When ANI pulled out, this symbolically signified the end of Comeng. Behind the scenes ANI was in trouble financially and Comeng became one of the causalities. All the plants (except that in Dandenong) were progressively wound down and closed. By this time the highly successful and...

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