

NATSPEC

Product Partners
Quality Reputation Support



Case Studies and Technical Articles 2025 - 2026

Welcome



As NATSPEC celebrates 50 years of supporting the Australian construction industry, this special anniversary edition of the magazine highlights the enduring value NATSPEC delivers to professionals and projects nationwide. Through a selection of Product Partner and subscriber case studies, this edition showcases how NATSPEC's trusted, standardised specification system continues to play a vital role in achieving successful project outcomes across a range of sectors.

For five decades, NATSPEC has simplified the specification writing process, ensured consistency across documentation and has supported the building and construction industry. Its flexibility enables clear communication and seamless collaboration between stakeholders, helping to uphold compliance with national standards while maintaining high-quality construction practices and reducing the risk of errors or delays.

Subscribers also benefit from the ability to customise branded worksections, aligning documentation with specific design and functional requirements, often within tight budgets. These features remain central to NATSPEC's value and reinforce why it continues to be the preferred choice for those committed to excellence in the built environment.

We encourage you to support NATSPEC Product Partners by selecting branded worksections in SPECbuilder or downloading them for free at www.natspec.com.au.

Richard Choy
Chief Executive Officer
NATSPEC//Construction Information

Product Partners Program

The NATSPEC Product Partners program is a service providing manufacturers with the opportunity to place their product information in the National Building Specification with a Branded Worksection. This gives design and construction industry professionals ready access to a proprietary specification from manufacturers, offering reputation, support, and quality in line with Australian Standards. Product selection is easier, which saves specifiers time and reduces risk.

NATSPEC is the trading name of Construction Information Systems Limited, ABN 20 117 574 606.

NATSPEC, founded in 1975, is a not-for-profit organisation owned by the design, build, construct and property industry through professional associations and Government property groups. It is impartial and is not involved in advocacy or policy development. NATSPEC's objective is to improve the construction quality and productivity of the sustainable built environment through leadership of information.

NATSPEC's major service is the comprehensive national specification system endorsed by Government and professional bodies. NATSPEC, the National Building Specification, is for all building structures, with specialist packages for architects, interior designers, landscape architects, structural engineers, services engineers, and domestic owners. AUS-SPEC is the local government specification system for the life cycle management of assets. Packages include Urban and Open Spaces, Buildings, Roadworks and Bridges, Public Utilities, Maintenance, and Rural Roads. NATSPEC is also responsible for the National BIM Guide and its associated documents.

Stakeholders

Air Conditioning and Mechanical Contractors' Association of Australia
Australian Elevator Association
Australian Institute of Architects
Australian Institute of Building
Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors
Construction Industry Engineering Services Group
Consult Australia
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (SA)
Department of Finance (Federal)
Department of Housing and Public Works (QLD)
Department of Housing and Works (WA)
Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (NT)
Department of Treasury and Finance (TAS)
Department of Treasury and Finance (VIC)
Engineers Australia
Infrastructure Canberra
Master Builders Australia
NSW Public Works
Standards Australia

Front cover credits:

Project: Queens Wharf Precinct
Architect: Cottee Parker
Builder: Multiplex
Fabricator: Yuanda Australia and SRG Global
Photography: Brit in Brisbane

"Queen's Wharf Brisbane is proud to be the first development in Brisbane to be awarded the coveted 6-Star Green Star Communities rating."

Reference: www.queenswharfbrisbane.com.au



NATSPEC//ProductPartner



Branded Worksections have been compiled by NATSPEC and our Product Partners using the latest regulations and standards. Download for free at www.natspec.com.au



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0184p TERMSHIELD termite management
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NATSPEC Product Partners support you. Support them and their products in your next project by selecting Branded Worksections in SPECbuilder or downloading them for free from www.natspec.com.au.

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Enhancing Specification Efficiency

By Phillip Spence BDM NATSPEC

"In a field where every detail counts, branded worksections deliver clarity, confidence, and results."

The Specification Challenge

In the dynamic and intricate world of architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC), specifications are the backbone that translate visionary designs into tangible outcomes. They define standards for materials, components, and workmanship, yet crafting them is no small feat.

Specifiers must juggle creative freedom, compliance, and technical accuracy across hundreds of materials and options. An unsuitable product could delay construction, inflate costs, or spark legal disputes in an already risk-sensitive industry.

NATSPEC: Paving the Way for Clarity

For over 50 years, NATSPEC has brought structure to complexity through its trusted, standardised specification system. It serves as both compass and map, helping AEC professionals reduce ambiguity, streamline documentation, and ensure every element aligns with performance and aesthetic expectations.

What Makes Branded Worksections Stand Out?

"Imagine a roofing or glazing worksection where the options listed are already vetted for compliance and quality."

These tailored sections embed pre-approved products within the specification framework, giving specifiers access to trusted options that align with Australian standards. It's precision meets productivity.

Why It Matters for AEC Professionals

- Time saved on researching and verifying products
- Reduced risk of non-compliance or substandard substitutions
- Confidence in selecting products with strong support and proven reliability

Project Impact in Case Studies

In the 2025-2026 edition, case studies from NATSPEC Product Partners reveal how these branded worksections have influenced national building projects, streamlining specifications, improving performance, and delivering tangible results.

"These stories are more than success snapshots; they're blueprints for what's possible when specification meets innovation."

A Collaborative Edge

For manufacturers, inclusion in NATSPEC's branded worksections represents a seal of trust. For specifiers, it means access to curated, compliant, and credible options.

This reciprocal relationship creates a virtuous cycle, upholding industry standards, fostering innovation, and driving better outcomes across the built environment.

Looking Ahead

- A faster route through complexity
- A safeguard against costly errors
- A platform to elevate project outcomes



with NATSPEC Branded Worksections

"In a world of fine margins, branded worksections are the foundation for assured, high-performance decision-making."



5 Disruptive Advantages That Redefine Branded Worksections

1. Radically Streamlines Workflow

Disrupts traditional specification processes with pre-vetted, high-quality choices, saving hours of research and admin.

2. Turns Compliance into a Competitive Edge

Transforms compliance from a tick-box task into a strategic differentiator, every product is rigorously assessed to minimise risk.

3. Preserves and Enhances Design Intent

Protects creative vision from dilution by locking trusted selections into the design blueprint.

4. Delivers Exponential Project Impact

Enables projects to shift from reactive troubleshooting to proactive success, reducing delays, increasing performance.

5. Establishes a Collaborative Innovation Ecosystem

Links specifiers with cutting-edge manufacturers, fostering transparency, innovation, and trust across the industry.

Branded worksections aren't just specification tools, they're catalysts for progress. By connecting compliance, quality, and creativity, NATSPEC and its Product Partners continue to raise the bar for what's possible in Australian construction.





“Quality documentation is one of the most important aspects for ensuring a project finishes on time, on budget, and meets the client’s expectations of quality.

“Without the guidance of NATSPEC and the inclusion of quality project specifications, there is an increased risk that projects will not achieve positive outcomes in terms of cost, quality, effectiveness, and timeliness of construction.

“The NATSPEC Open BIM Object Standard for Building Information Modelling represents another key contribution to the construction industry.”

James Cameron, Chief Executive Officer, AIQS



AMETALIN is a leading Australian manufacturer of reflective, non-reflective and non-combustible air-vapour-water-thermal control building membranes for weatherproofing, insulating and condensation management in residential, commercial, industrial, and non-combustible building systems. Products are designed for Australian climate zones for year-round thermal comfort, while reducing energy consumption, heating/cooling costs.

AMETALIN is proactively driving the industry to design and build passive Net Zero-ready and high-performance constructions. www.ametalin.com



ASKIN® is an Australian-owned manufacturer and installer of facade systems, roofing systems and temperature-controlled facilities in Australasia. ASKIN® embraces a customer first approach in delivering sustainable, lifetime value. With a network of 12 sites throughout Australia and New Zealand, ASKIN®’s vast experience built upon a strong foundation dating back to 1964. ASKIN®’s culture of constant improvement, quality and safety assurance is supported by our technical expertise and ISO 9001 (2015) and ISO 14001 (2015) accreditation. www.askin.net.au



ASSA ABLOY is the global leader in door opening solutions, dedicated to satisfying end-user needs for security, safety and convenience. Under the iconic brands such as Interlock, Lockwood, Whitco, Yale, Record and Austral Monsoon Building Products, ASSA ABLOY Australia has long been developing innovative products. In the growing electromechanical security sector, the Group has a leading position in access control, identification technology, automatic doors and security. www.assaabloy.com/au/en



Architectural Window Systems (AWS) is one of Australia’s leading suppliers of aluminium window and door systems. AWS offers an extensive range of Australian designed aluminium window and door suites for residential and commercial applications. AWS designs, tests, finishes and supplies aluminium window and door systems under the Vantage and Elevate™ and ThermalHEART™ brands to more than 200 licenced manufacturers throughout Australia. www.awsaustralia.com.au



Bluedog Fences Australia is an industry leading manufacturer of Australian tubular steel fencing systems; They are 100% Australian owned & operated and distribute products nationally to local and state government agencies, commercial and private organisations. They provide a large range of commercial and security fencing systems manufactured in regional Australia compliant with relevant Australian Standards. They fabricate, chemically clean and powder coat wholly in-house at their state-of-the-art, Lean manufacturing facility in Tamworth NSW. www.bluedogfences.com.au



RMIT Trades & Innovation Centre, Bundoora East, VIC



The new Trades & Innovation Centre at RMIT's Bundoora East campus is a landmark development in the expansion of the College of Vocational Education. As demand surges for contemporary trades and clean economy skills, this purpose-built facility supports the delivery of next-generation vocational training in Melbourne's growing northern corridor.

Requirements

Foreground Architecture and project lead James Kazalac sought a non-combustible building envelope solution that could meet the stringent performance and compliance standards required for educational infrastructure. The key priorities for the project included fire performance compliance, thermal efficiency, effective weatherproofing and airtightness, strong acoustic performance suitable for teaching environments, and seamless aesthetic integration with the building's industrial design.

Solution

ASKIN Performance Panels provided the Volcore Metric Roof and Wall System, a fully integrated solution that exceeded expectations across all performance areas. Volcore's non-combustible core ensures fire safety compliance, while its high thermal performance and sealed system contribute to energy efficiency and interior comfort. The system also included perforated internal linings specifically tailored to meet the project's Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) targets.

The Alchemy Team lead by Project Manager Sean Kelly worked closely

with roofing and façade contractor Proline. This partnership resulted in an innovative roofing and walling solution that provided RMIT with an architecturally striking building, aligning with their overall brief for a practical vocational training facility.

"ASKIN's panels were a standout on the RMIT Trade Hub project. The system was fast and efficient to install, allowing our team to stay ahead of program while delivering a clean, high-performance finish. From a safety and handling perspective, the panels were easy to work with and well suited to a live education environment. As a large-scale cladding and façade contractor, we install a wide range of systems across commercial builds, ASKIN remains a preferred option for its consistency, speed, and reliability on site." — Jake Gorry, Director, Proline

The dual thermal and acoustic performance of the Askin panels were a key contributor to the design and construction of the Trades Hub. The ability to combine these two critical project elements into a single lining reduced cost, construction detailing and installation time. The added detail of the Rosanna Rib extrusion allowed for a subtle yet striking façade feature. — James Kazalac, Associate Director, ForeGround Architecture

Results

The building's standout feature is its west-facing façade, which incorporates a custom steel awning rolled to mirror the building's intricate window profiles. The façade's material palette, exposed concrete and steel, delivers

a contemporary industrial aesthetic, aligning with the Centre's technical training purpose. The integration of the Volcore ViviD Architectural Panel with the ASKIN Standing Seam Rosanna Rib façade system enabled James and the Foreground team to bring the project's architectural design concept to life. The two-piece aluminium extrusion offered a customisable aesthetic appeal, enhancing the overall look of the façade.



RMIT Trade Innovation Hub - Interior

Benefits

The facility is designed not only as a space for learning but also as a hands-on demonstration tool. Exposed mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic services throughout the building offer students and educators a direct view into how modern building systems operate, supporting immersive, real-world learning experiences. The acoustic properties of the Volcore Perforated Panel aligned perfectly with the design requirements of the project. Key outcomes included a fully compliant, non-combustible roofing and wall solution; enhanced learning environments through integrated acoustic and thermal performance; and an architecturally aligned system that balanced both function and form. The project was delivered in collaboration with Foreground Architecture, Alchemy, and RMIT.

Architect: Foreground Architecture

Contractor: Proline

Client: RMIT

Project Manager: Alchemy Project Management

Photographer: Veeral Patel



RMIT Trade Innovation Hub - Facade



0428p ASKIN® VOLCORE performance panel roofing; 0428p ASKIN® XFLAM roofing system
0437p ASKIN® VOLCORE performance panel cladding; 0437p ASKIN® XFLAM performance panel cladding
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www.askin.net.au

Monarto Safari Resort, Monarto, SA

ASSA ABLOY
Opening Solutions

ASSA ABLOY Opening Solutions collaborated with INTRO Architecture and studio gram on the Monarto Safari Resort, located within South Australia's Monarto Safari Park—the world's largest zoological park. This unique, safari-themed resort offers an immersive experience with breathtaking views of African wildlife such as lions, cheetahs, and rhinos.



Spacious & thoughtfully designed suites, the Monarto Safari Resort caters to those seeking an escape and be immersed in nature



Lockwood/ASSA ABLOY Brass Core Range. A sustainable, compliant yet aesthetic addition to any build

The three-story resort includes 78 guest rooms, a restaurant, day spa, and pool deck, designed to provide a tranquil escape that connects visitors to both nature and the spirit of Africa. Thoughtfully designed by INTRO Architecture, with interiors by studio gram, the resort incorporates natural colours, textures, and forms inspired by African vernacular architecture.

Requirements

Sustainability played a central role in the design. ASSA ABLOY contributed its environmentally friendly Brass Core hardware range, chosen for its recyclability and alignment with the project's eco-conscious goals. The team used ASSA ABLOY Openings Studio (AAOS) to manage scheduling and ensure seamless collaboration across stakeholders, including architects, builders, and distributors.

Results

This project showcases ASSA ABLOY's commitment to delivering innovative and sustainable hardware solutions. The Monarto Safari Resort stands as a landmark development, blending conservation, immersive design, and world-class guest experiences—all

while highlighting the natural beauty of South Australia.

The Monarto Safari Resort is a standout example of innovation, sustainability, and architectural excellence.

Architect: INTRO Architecture & Studio Gram

Builder: Mossop Construction + Interiors

Door Opening Solution Supplier: ASSA ABLOY Australia

Photographer/renderers: INTRO Architecture & Studio Gram



Nestled in the heart of pristine wilderness, Monarto Safari Resort offers an unparalleled escape into nature's embrace



0455p ASSA ABLOY door hardware
0456p ASSA ABLOY louvre windows
0458p ASSA ABLOY automatic doors

www.assaabloy.com/au/en

The Narm Ngarrgu Library and Family Services, Melbourne, VIC



Part of the City of Melbourne's Munro Development, the Narm Ngarrgu Library and Family Services sits at the edge of Queen Victoria Market as a symbol of inclusive, environmentally conscious design. Designed by Six Degrees and shaped by deep influence of the Wurundjeri people, the building's name – translating to 'Melbourne knowledge' in Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language – reflects a deep respect for Indigenous culture. This commitment is visible throughout the eleven-story structure, from culturally significant materials and artworks to the design of floor coverings.



Bird's-eye view of Munro Library

The facility houses over 30,000 books, cutting-edge technology and a variety of community-focused amenities, including a rooftop terrace illuminated by a striking skylight. Emphasising sustainability, inclusivity, and cultural storytelling, the library plays a central role in the \$250 million Queen Victoria Market Renewal, offering a modern yet

grounded architectural response to the community's evolving needs.

Challenge

Realising such an ambitious and meaningful design came with several challenges. The structure needed to honour Indigenous culture while blending seamlessly into Melbourne's multi-cultural urban context. A key focus was to specify architectural products that were not only visually appealing but also high performing and sustainable.

One of the main technical challenges was the design and specification of glazing systems for the internal glass doors and the large skylight. These elements were crucial for maximising natural light, enhancing thermal performance, and creating a strong visual and physical connection with the surrounding city. The architectural language needed to reflect both the industrial aesthetic through bold forms and dark finishes, and the organic, layered stories of the local Indigenous community. Achieving this delicate balance – between environmental efficiency, cultural representation, and architectural clarity – was a central challenge in the project's realisation.

Solution

To achieve this complex vision, Six Degrees and Buildcorp partnered with SMB Windows and Doors to implement a suite of high-performance Architectural Window Systems (AWS)

solutions. These systems did more than provide functionality – they played a key role in the design intent.



Library Check-in counter

A standout feature is the skylight, glazed in AWS Series 626 Double Glazed FrontGLAZE™, complete with automated louvres. Rising from the rooftop terrace, the angular aluminium and glass structure introduces natural light while offering strong wind-load resilience through reinforced glazing. The design invites daylight deep into the building, creating a sense of openness and serenity, further elevated by a bold yellow staircase that encourages engagement and creativity.

The framing supports 24mm Insulated Glass Units (IGU), enhancing thermal efficiency, while the louvres assist in heat regulation, improving comfort for users. Inside, the library features AWS Series 50 Sliding Doors and Series 52 Hinged Doors, continuing the theme of robust industrial design softened by transparency and warmth. These elements help create quiet, welcoming spaces filled with natural light and cultural resonance.

Ultimately, the Narm Ngarrgu Library exemplifies inclusive, sustainable design. It weaves indigenous story telling into the built environment, meets modern performance standards, and fosters a deep sense of community connection – offering a meaningful new chapter in Melbourne's architectural story.

Architect: Six Degrees

Builder: Buildcorp

Fabricator: SMB Windows and Doors

Photographer: Kane Multimedia



Shared Learning spaces



0451p AWS aluminium windows and doors

www.awsaustralia.com.au

DXC Arena Fencing Upgrade, Marrara, NT



Northern Territory Cricket recently identified the need to upgrade the fencing at its premier facility, DXC Arena in Darwin. The existing fence was a chain mesh type and a project was developed to upgrade this to a style more identifiable with a cricket ground and to enhance the overall presentation of the ground. The decision was made to select a durable picket style fence to deliver on these requirements.



Darwin's Harsh Environment is a test for any product

Requirement

Picket style fencing is available in timber, PVC, recycled poly and steel and each of these options was assessed by NT Cricket against their key requirements of aesthetic nature, durability, asset life, availability and cost. The harsh environment of Darwin's weather and

climatic conditions was also a major consideration when assessing possible options.

Approach

Bluedog Fences Australia Headingly Steel picket product has been installed on a number of similar standing ovals. NT Cricket undertook site inspections to 2 of these being, Alan Border Field in Brisbane and the Junction Oval in Melbourne to further assess the suitability of this style of product.

Results

Bluedog Fences Headingly picket fence was assessed as the preferred option against all key criteria and nominated in the tender process as the fence to be installed, this tender was won by Trojon Contracting who undertook and completed works earlier this year.

Benefits

NT Cricket's home now has a high-quality enclosure to its premier ground and the amenity aesthetic is significantly enhanced by being identifiable as a cricket oval. The tubular steel picket design retains a heritage feel but is much stronger and more durable than timber or plastic options. Commercially the benefits include savings by way

of greater vandal resistance, reduced maintenance costs and extended product life resulting from using highest quality Australian steel. To close the innings out Headingly also comes with a 10-year manufacturing and powder coating warranty ensuring a match winning performance every time.



Installation of Headingly Picket Fence DXC Arena Darwin

Contractor: Trojon Contracting

Photography: NT Cricket



Bluedog Fences Headingly Picket Fence - DXC Arena Darwin



BlueScope is Australia's largest manufacturer of steel. Steel products manufactured by BlueScope include value-added metal coated and painted steel products such as COLORBOND® steel, ZINCALUME® steel, GALVASPAN® steel and TRUECORE® steel. These products are supplied in coil form then further processed by other manufacturers into products such as roof and wall cladding, insulated panels, rainwater goods, light structural/framing sections and fencing for use in both residential and non-residential construction. www.bluescope.com



Breezway is the leading Australian manufacturer of high performance, energy rated, Altair Louvre Windows. Fully compliant with AS 2047 (2014), Altair Louvres are designed to open twice as wide as other windows to provide maximum light and ventilation into sustainable buildings. Altair Louvres are cyclone rated, offering automation with the award winning Powerlouvre System. Extra strength and safety can be provided to windows using the Stronghold System. Double glazing is also available using the IGLU System. www.breezway.com.au



Capral Aluminium, established in 1936, is Australia's largest manufacturer and distributor of aluminium profiles. Our comprehensive range of commercial, residential, security and industrial products has an enviable reputation for quality, style and high performance. As a local systems designer, NATA-accredited testing authority, and with innovative R&D capabilities, we are well-positioned to take advantage of changing building regulations in Australia and technically support our brands, including Artisan Architectural, AGS Commercial, Urban Plus, Futureline Thermal and Amplimesh. www.capral.com.au



CS Cavity Sliders sets the standard for cavity sliding door systems. Their mission is to create innovative, high-quality solutions that maximize space and enhance the aesthetics of any room. Founded in 1986, CS Cavity Sliders set out to revolutionize sliding door design and manufacturing. From humble beginnings in a small workshop, the company has grown into an industry leader, renowned for its innovation and commitment to excellence. www.cavitysliders.com.au



DANPALON is a patented glazing snap-connection system with concealed fasteners that provides for 100% watertightness; free structural and thermal movement within a flexible system; structural properties that allow for a significantly reduced substructure; quick and easy installation; the elimination of gaskets and sealants; the elimination of fixing penetrations through the sheet and 99.9% UV protection with the protection coating co-extruded with the sheeting, eliminating any chance of delamination. www.danpal.com.au



DELTA PANELS is a 100% Australian owned and operated manufacturer of insulated panels. Its range of products includes roof, wall and patio systems, plus a wide range of accessories. The range of panels, in various styles and colours, has been engineered for enhanced performance in Australia's harsh environment. www.deltapanel.com.au



Sunkids Childcare Centre, Mermaid Waters, QLD



Architect Hooman Jaffar from Realspace Creative had a clear objective when designing this benchmark childcare facility. He set out to create a space with a sense of gathering and community where families and staff can come together in a shared environment to support and encourage early childhood development.

This design vision for the Sunkids Childcare Centre would be physically represented by two sweeping curves, which Hooman suggests take their cues from human notions of embrace and nurturing. These curved structures would house the centre's learning areas, activity rooms, amenities and encircle the central courtyard's global village, a playscape that would introduce 'the world' to these young, curious minds.

Requirement

The centre was initially designed to be constructed with concrete blocks as the predominant walling material and a suspended concrete slab for the roof. However, when Riaz Rezvani from 9 Constructions suggested an alternative, Realspace Creative and the client were keen to explore other options.

9 Constructions had extensive building experience using light gauge steel (LGS) framing made from TRUECORE® steel and believed there was an opportunity to incorporate prefabricated LGS frames in the build without compromising the design and still maintain the building's thermal, acoustic, and structural integrity.

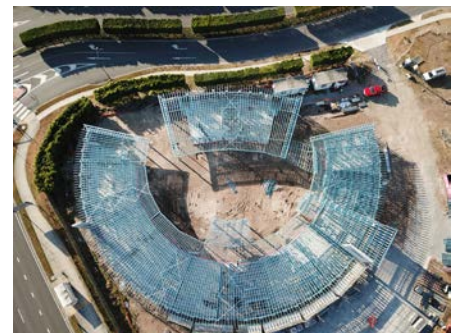
Using prefabricated LGS framing also helped minimise on-site waste and create a safer work environment. Framing was delivered to the site in packages, which reduced worksite congestion and supported the meticulously planned delivery and installation schedule.

Approach

A collaborative team was then formed with Australian Framing Solutions (AFS). They provided engineering and design expertise using their 3D modelling software to develop a prefabricated solution that delivered tangible benefits to the project, including an increase in floor area due to the smaller footprint offered by LGS framing.

Results

Riaz Rezvani, founder of 9 Constructions, said, "By using prefabricated LGS framing made from TRUECORE® steel to replace the suspended roof slab and masonry walls, we achieved significant cost savings on the project. Furthermore, we could reduce the overall construction timeline by at least two months, ensuring the project was completed on time, efficiently and cost effectively".



As an end-to-end design, engineering, manufacturing, and installation company, Australian Framing Solutions (AFS) was an integral partner in the development and construction of this project.

Jake Gundry, Managing Director of AFS, said "Undoubtedly, this has been one of the most exciting early learning centre projects we have ever participated in. The structure featured five zones and incorporated over 300 trusses, each spanning more than 14 metres. The frame for these 2,000 square metre facilities was constructed entirely out of TRUECORE® steel in just 25 days by a team of five dedicated individuals. Collaboration was key to its success."

Benefits

- Prefabricated for fast installation
- Maintain architectural intent
- Light-weight yet strong
- Precision engineered solution

Architect: Realspace Creative

Builder: 9 Constructions

Steel Fabricator: Australian Framing Solutions (AFS)

Photography: Images supplied by AFS



Townhouses also marking the banks of the nearby lakeside development have also embraced the benefits of light weight framing



0341p GALVSPAN® steel purlins and girts in structural steelwork 0342p TRUECORE® steel light steel framing
0423p COLORBOND® steel and ZINCALUME® steel in roofing
0436p COLORBOND® steel and ZINCALUME® steel in cladding

www.bluescope.com

Clifton Springs Primary School, Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria



Minx Architecture and Thomas Consulting were engaged to deliver a new building at Clifton Springs in Victoria that would satisfy the requirements of the National Construction Code and meet the minimum standards for construction and design as set out in the Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH) issued by the Victorian School Building Authority.



Breezway Powerlouvre System installed in the Clifton Springs Primary School

Naturally ventilated classrooms have been demonstrated in numerous studies to provide improved academic outcomes, and in more recent times utilised as one of the best defences to improve air quality against airborne viruses. This was achieved by maximising natural ventilation while reducing the building's reliance on mechanical systems to deliver a more sustainable design.

Challenges

The Breezway® Powerlouvre™ System is the ideal automated window option to maximise natural ventilation and

improve air quality. Determining suitable external conditions for Powerlouvre Windows to be opened can be a challenge for teachers. Whilst the VSBA guidelines require wall mounted CO2 sensors to be installed in classrooms, this approach can be intrusive, requiring teachers to monitor sensors whilst delivering lessons.

This was a fundamental challenge facing the design team: how to design a system that maximises natural ventilation, while alleviating the need for human intervention, but also providing occupants flexibility to manually override the system when needed.



EBSA Control System for managing air quality in classrooms

Solutions

The consultants engaged EBSA Pty Ltd to design a solution that balanced performance with operational simplicity. At the core was the CPS-M ventilation controller, enabling customised functionality to suit the building's needs. To improve indoor air quality naturally, external temperature, wind, and rain sensors were installed to monitor

conditions and automatically operate the Breezway Powerlouvre System. Windows open or close based on favourable conditions, ensuring energy-efficient comfort.

CO2 sensors were also integrated with the CPS-M. When carbon dioxide levels rise above safe limits, the system opens the Powerlouvre Windows and deactivates the mechanical plant, eliminating the need for teachers to monitor air quality.

Teachers can override automatic settings using a wall-mounted switch, maintaining user control when needed. A key EBSA innovation, now widely used by the Victorian School Building Authority, is the CPS-M's integration with the school's security system. When the building is alarmed, all windows close automatically, ensuring any left open after hours are secured. The system also closes windows during a power outage, adding extra protection. To simplify installation and boost sustainability, custom Satellite modules were added. These provide digital control to each Powerlouvre motor and reduce field cabling by up to 50%, enhancing efficiency and reducing environmental impact.

The consultants approached EBSA Pty Ltd to design a solution whilst maintaining simplicity of operation. The key component to the design is the use of a CPS-M ventilation controller which allows customised functionality.

EBSA in collaboration with Breezway have delivered a control system that is fully automated while retaining the ability for the user to manually control the windows. It has superior sustainability credentials due to significantly reduced field cabling requirements and maximises the use of natural ventilation whilst minimising the impact on the mechanical system.

Architect: Minx Architecture
Engineer: Thomas Consulting
Photography: Supplied Courtesy of EBSA



Breezway Powerlouvre Windows can automatically open for natural ventilation



Song Bird Restaurant, Double Bay, NSW



The harbour-side suburb of Double Bay has long been a symbol of elegance, and now, it's home to a new culinary landmark. Song Bird, the latest restaurant by acclaimed chef Neil Perry, brings together refined Cantonese flavours and modern Australian influences in a heritage-listed setting designed to elevate Sydney's fine dining scene.

Requirement

Located in Gaden House, a 1960s architectural gem by Neville Gruzman, the restaurant has been transformed by architect Peter Hurley into a space where history meets modern sophistication. A key component of this transformation was the integration of advanced Capral Aluminium systems, delivering both aesthetic appeal and high performance.

Perry's philosophy at Song Bird centres on premium, locally sourced ingredients and a style of cooking that highlights clean, delicate flavours. From intricately prepared seafood to artful dim sum, each dish embodies his culinary legacy.

Approach

The restaurant's design capitalises on natural light and breathtaking views of Double Bay. Floor-to-ceiling glazing, made possible by Capral AGS 629 and 429 Double Glazed Flushline systems,

seamlessly connects the interior and exterior, fostering a strong sense of openness while ensuring thermal and acoustic comfort for diners.



Integrated 45mm Internal Sunshade Louvre Capral System featured in the Song Bird Restaurant

To further enhance this open, airy atmosphere, the project incorporated the Capral AGS Commercial 900 High-Performance Sliding Door. Engineered for durability in coastal environments, this system features marine-grade stainless steel rollers and weatherproof

seals, delivering smooth operation without compromising on security or performance.

Controlling sunlight and heat was also key to the dining experience. The integration of Capral's 45mm Sunshade box louvre system adds both functional and visual sophistication. These adjustable louvres provide precise control of natural light, creating an adaptable, energy-efficient environment that maintains guest comfort throughout the day—indoors and out.



Song Bird Restaurant featuring Capral Aluminium window and door systems

Results

The execution of these systems was entrusted to Arch Systems Fabrication, whose collaboration with Capral ensured every detail aligned with Hurley's architectural vision. Their craftsmanship and precision were essential in delivering a restaurant space that feels both timeless and contemporary.

Benefits

In summary, Song Bird is a harmonious blend of culinary innovation and architectural excellence. Neil Perry's refined take on Cantonese cuisine is beautifully supported by the carefully restored Gaden House, enhanced by Capral Aluminium's high-performance window, door, and shading systems. This collaborative achievement not only elevates the restaurant's ambience but also sets a new benchmark in design-led dining in Sydney.

Architect: Peter Hurley

Installer: Arch Systems Fabrication

Client: Song Bird Restaurant

Photographer: Tyrone Branigan



Capral AGS 629 Flushline Double Glazed featured in the Song Bird Restaurant



0451p CAPRAL ALUMINIUM windows and doors
0456p CAPRAL VENTUS louvre windows

www.capral.com.au

Custom Beachside Living, Solstice Cronulla, NSW



Solstice Cronulla is a boutique multi-residential development nestled along Prince Street, Cronulla, steps away from the beach. EMK Architects and Main Sheet Builders envisioned a luxury, resort-style community that blends sophisticated design with a relaxed coastal lifestyle. To achieve the custom details and high-end finish they required, the team chose CS Cavity Sliders to supply custom cavity sliding door solutions throughout the complex's private residences and shared spaces.

The project centered around custom architrave details and a unique glass closing jamb solution. Many openings called for two different wall finishes: the CS ShadowLine detail on one side and the CS SquareStop detail on the other. In addition, the architects required a highly specialised solution to achieve streamlined transitions between the interior spaces and the stunning outdoor views.



CS ShadowLine Detail

Requirements

The team at EMK Architects required flexibility without compromising design aesthetics. Many of the cavity sliders had to support dual finishes to maintain a seamless flow throughout the units. The team selected the CS ShadowLine detail on one side for a recessed, minimalist look, and the CS SquareStop detail on the other to match the walls without visible jamb liners.

Another key requirement was a custom glass closing jamb solution that could

seamlessly connect to the wraparound windows—balancing privacy with uninterrupted courtyard views.

Approach

CS Cavity Sliders worked closely with EMK Architects and Main Sheet Builders to create specialised cavity units that matched their intricate specifications. To achieve the custom SquareStop detail, the team reduced the pelmet depth on one side of the cavity slider, allowing the head jambs to sit higher and creating a full-height appearance. On the opposite side, the architrave detail was added, balancing modern design with functionality.



CS SquareStop Detail

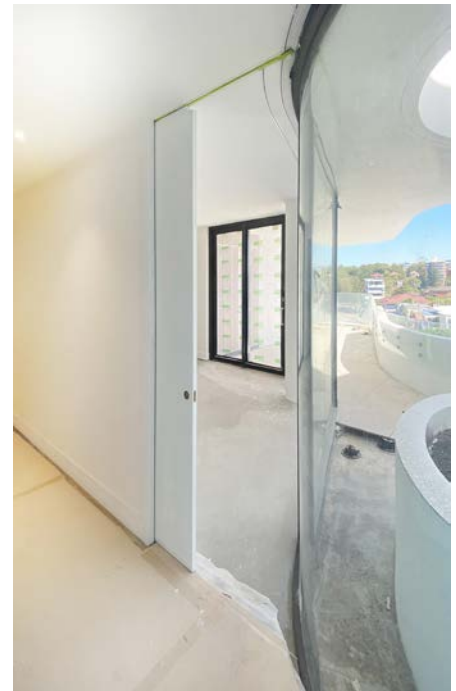
For the custom glass closing jamb, CS Cavity Sliders engineered a solution that aligned precisely with the adjacent floor-to-ceiling window system. This custom solution created a smooth visual flow between indoor and outdoor spaces, maximised natural light, and preserved unobstructed ocean views.

Results

By partnering with CS Cavity Sliders, the team at EMK Architects brought their vision of coastal living to life with high-quality, reliable, and highly customizable hardware. CS Cavity Sliders' custom solutions played an essential role in making Solstice Cronulla a reality.

Inside, the floor-to-ceiling glass doors,

framed by CS Cavity Sliders' hardware, serve as stunning focal points—blurring the line between indoor living and the stunning waterfront views. The custom cavity sliders further allowed for flexible spaces, whether for entertaining, relaxing, or enjoying the waterfront views.



CS Cavity Sliders Custom Glass Closing Jamb

Benefits

CS Cavity Sliders supplied a range of custom cavity sliders and glass jamb solutions for this luxury 15-unit coastal apartment development. Since the project began in 2022, the team at EMK Architects relied on CS Cavity Sliders for trusted service, technical expertise, and proven ability to deliver tailored configurations. More than just a supplier, the CS team takes a hands-on approach—visiting job sites to ensure every element is executed to perfection. CS Cavity Sliders is the go-to choice for projects that demand customisability, durability, and precision in luxury construction.

Architect: EMK Architects

Builder: Main Sheet Builders

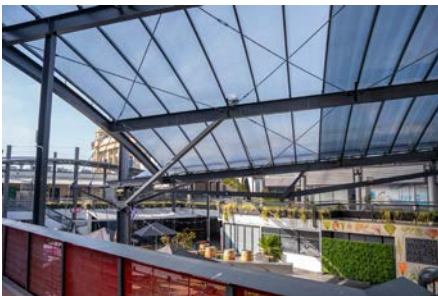
Photography: supplied by CS Cavity Sliders



Prahran Market, South Yarra, VIC



Famous for outstanding food and hard-to-find speciality items, Prahran Market is proud to be Australia's premier food market. Having operated since 1864, it is also Australia's oldest continuously running food market. In 2023, Foursight Architects sought the industry-leading expertise of Danpal Australia to specify premium quality translucent roofing systems over a series of large complex outdoor canopies.



Prahran Market Revitalized with Danpal's Innovative Translucent Roofing Solution

Requirement

Foursight's brief was to co-ordinate the safe replacement of 12mm laminated glazing installed in the 1990s that was starting to crack and delaminate on a steel frame that was no longer structurally suitable for supporting it.

The scope of the project involved approximately 830 square metres of

material over multiple outdoor canopies featuring several geometric and logistical challenges. Drainage and roof penetration issues had to be resolved, along with the co-ordination of a precise delivery schedule and a safe working environment within a functioning retail environment.

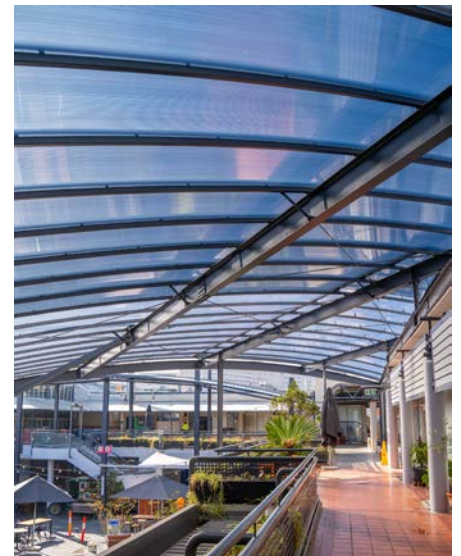
Approach

The solution to all these problems was a 30mm thick Danpalon roofing system manufactured in Foursight's preferred colour scheme of clear, grey and bronze at a width that aligned with the spacing of the existing steel framing members. This replacement polycarbonate roofing system weighed less than one-fifth of the glass that it was replacing. This resolved the issue of the structurally overstressed steel framework and allowed the installation to be completed within the accelerated timeframes required by the client.

Results

Danpal worked with project stakeholders to resolve concerns around fire engineering and impact resistance, as well as providing a complete set of project-specific installation documents for the benefit of the installation contractor. The result is a more colourful and practical outdoor

environment with reduced heat loads, delivered at a cost significantly less than that of conventional glazing. Danpal's comprehensive project consultation ensured the resultant solution adequately addressed all the complex design criteria, while simultaneously providing a visually spectacular and cost-effective project outcome.



Prahran Market Revitalized with Danpal's Innovative Translucent Roofing Solution

Architect: fourSIGHT

Installer: Flowmorion Plumbing & Roofing Pty Ltd

Photographer: submitted by DANPAL



Prahran Market Revitalized with Danpal's Innovative Translucent Roofing Solution



0429p DANPALON roofing - glazed
0434p DANPALON translucent facade cladding

www.danpal.com.au

Dual-Site Industrial Development, Prestons, NSW



Prestons Industrial Estate in NSW is a significant industrial area in Western Sydney, offering a variety of industrial and warehousing facilities. It's known for its strategic location, good transport links, and availability of space, attracting both businesses and investment.



Beginning of installation

Requirements

This new industrial precinct required the concept and completion of over 18,000m² of industrial facilities across two sites. JCP Construction had successfully taken both sites from concept, through Land & Environment Court for the approvals process and developed the detailed design for construction. Speed and quality were important factors, with a 15 month timeline to deliver both sites. Site 1 comprised of 36 industrial warehouses, and 90 mini warehouses constructed about a 6,000m² basement, while Site 2 consisted of a 3-lot land subdivision, 14 industrial warehouses, and a 3-level self storage complex spanning

6,600m², featuring 550 individual storage units. Delta Panels supplied an extensive amount of Delta Trim™ Panels throughout both sites, and were able to support the tight timelines faced to complete the projects.

Solution

To meet the unique demands of the Prestons development, Delta Panels supplied a comprehensive range of DeltaTrim™ insulated panel systems across both sites. Our solutions were specifically chosen for their rapid installation capabilities, the superior thermal performance meeting strict NCC (National Construction Code) and BCA (Building Code of Australia) requirements, structural integrity and durability which is most ideal for large-scale industrial use, and finally, sleek and clean finishes, essential for both commercial warehousing and customer-facing storage facilities.

In addition, the ability of Delta Panels to supply Codemark Certified panels (Certificate number CM40309-I02-R02) within tight timeframes ensured the project could proceed without redesigns or compliance delays — an essential factor in the high-paced program.

Benefits

The DeltaTrim™ panels were able to meet all NCC and BCA roof compliance requirements without any need for modifications to the project's original design. Fast installation of the insulated

panels helped JCP Construction maintain an aggressive build schedule across both sites. The robust panel systems minimized the need for ongoing maintenance, ensuring the long-term integrity of the warehouses and storage facilities.

Outcomes

Through close collaboration with JCP Construction, Delta Panels helped bring this large-scale industrial precinct to life efficiently, meeting all performance, timing, and regulatory targets. Both



Inside one industrial warehouse

sites now stand as a showcase of modern industrial design, setting a new standard for industrial estates in the Western Sydney region.

This successful delivery reinforces Delta Panels' reputation as a trusted partner for high-performance, time-sensitive construction projects across Australia.

Contractor/Builder: JCP Construction

Photographer: Delta Panels



Aerial view of completed site 2



0428p DELTA PANELS insulated roofing systems
0762p DELTA PANELS in cool rooms

www.deltapanel.com.au



"NATSPEC fulfils an important role in the building and construction industry.

"NATSPEC not only assists those in the supply chain to conduct their day to day activities, but also contributes to the standardisation of practices across the industry to produce better building quality outcomes. Consult Australia is proud of our founding membership of NATSPEC and highly recommends NATSPEC documents to our industry."

Jonathan Cartledge, Chief Executive Officer, Consult Australia



Dribond Construction Chemicals, in business since 1974, is one of the most respected manufacturers of acoustic membranes, tile adhesives, waterproofing, grouts, sealers, repair products and other solutions for the building industry in the Asia-Pacific region. A multinational, family-owned and operated business that focuses on quality and service, Dribond Construction Chemicals has factories in Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia, with locations in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Auckland and Kuala Lumpur. www.constructionchemicals.com.au



DTAC is an Australian company with over 15 years' experience in design and manufacturing excellence, all backed by industry leading support. DTAC comprises a specialist team of professionals that prides itself on offering aesthetically pleasing, BCA compliant, architectural tactile ground surface indicators, stair nosing and edging, urban landscape edge protection products and more. DTAC's unequalled attention to detail enables architects, designers and builders to make the right choice for aesthetic and functional conformance in every project. www.dtac.com.au



DUCTUS is Australia's leading lightweight pre-insulated duct supplier. Our partnership with ALP in Italy has gained worldwide recognition and has been used in tens of thousands of applications globally. The system replaces heavy, leaking, oxidising, lowperforming sheet metal duct. DUCTUS began operating in 2015, quickly becoming the leading pre-insulated duct provider in the region. "The Evolution of Air" is our aim in introducing the Australasian market to a sustainable, smarter, efficient, futuristic lightweight duct solution. www.ductus.com.au



At Dulux, we create market-leading products that protect, maintain and enhance the spaces and places in which we live, work and play.

We're proud to be home to some of Australia and New Zealand's most recognised and trusted brands, including Dulux, B&D, Fosroc, Porter's Paints and Cabot's.

Dulux supports Specifiers to bring their vision to life. Our world-class chemists ensure we continue to be first-to-market with products that respond to emerging construction and maintenance requirements. www.dulux.com.au/specifier

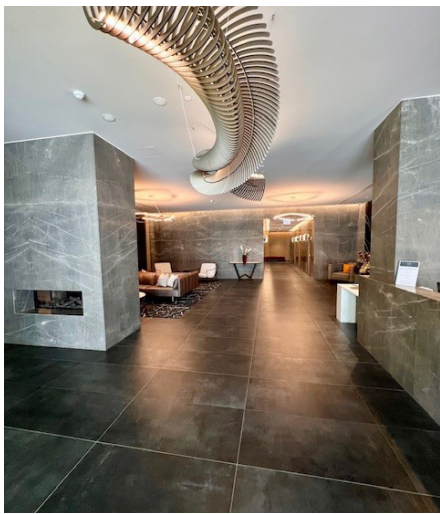


Edgesmith Ltd, founded in New Zealand in 2000 and expanded into Australia in 2023, is headquartered in Auckland (NZ) and Melbourne (AU). Specialising in vehicle and pedestrian access control, we supply gate automation solutions for trade professionals, backed by comprehensive technical support. Our mission is to provide energy-efficient brushless motors that operate quickly, quietly, and safely, enhancing the security of both property and individuals. www.edgesmith.com.au

Finbar Civic Heart, South Perth, WA



Finbar's Civic Heart is a landmark twin-tower development in South Perth, featuring 308 luxurious apartments and world-class amenities. With panoramic views of the Swan River and the Perth city skyline, the project exemplifies architectural sophistication and premium urban living. Designed by SS Chang Architects and constructed by Hanssen Builders for Finbar Developers, the development is a standout in Perth's high-rise landscape.



Main lobby of Civic Heart Towers, Tiled with Dribond Construction Chemicals tiling system

Requirements

To protect the longevity and visual appeal of this iconic development, Hanssen required a high-performance tiling system that could meet rigorous demands. The system needed to deliver exceptional durability and aesthetics while ensuring compliance

with stringent building codes and industry regulations. Given the scale and prominence of the project, the tiling solution also had to integrate seamlessly into the broader construction timeline without compromise.

Solution

Dribond Construction Chemicals provided a tailored, full system tiling solution that met the specific requirements of the Civic Heart project. This included primers, an acoustic tile adhesive, waterproof membranes, and high-strength tile adhesives. The adhesive technology used ensured superior bonding between tiles and substrates, effectively preventing slippage and contributing to the long-term durability of tiled surfaces. The waterproofing membrane offered critical protection from water ingress, safeguarding the structure from potential long-term damage. Ease of application across all products enabled a smoother installation process, which helped reduce time on site and associated labour costs. All components of the system were developed and tested to meet or exceed Australian Standards, ensuring full compliance with regulatory requirements.

Results

The implementation of Dribond's complete tiling system delivered excellent performance across all areas of the Civic Heart development. Visually, the expertly installed tiles elevated the luxury aesthetic throughout both towers. Technically, the solution delivered

durability and resilience, reducing the need for ongoing maintenance. The waterproofing element of the system effectively protected the structure, while the efficient installation process allowed the builder to meet key project milestones. Most importantly, the full system approach ensured peace of mind through reliable, code-compliant performance.



Mill Point Tower, in the heart of South Perth

Benefits

For the client and builder, the benefits of using Dribond's system were significant. A streamlined supply chain ensured that all materials were delivered on schedule, avoiding costly delays. The comprehensive nature of the system simplified both procurement and installation, supporting consistency across the project. The long-term durability of the products reduced the likelihood of repairs or replacement, resulting in ongoing cost savings. Above all, Dribond's solution supported the successful delivery of a premium development that is now a defining feature of South Perth.

Architect: SS Chang Architects

Builder: Hanssen Builders

Developer: Finbar Developers

Photography: Paul McIlhiney



Floor to ceiling tiling & waterproofing with the Dribond Construction Chemicals System



0473p DRIBOND CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS acoustic floor underlays
0621p DRIBOND CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS waterproofing - wet areas
0631p DRIBOND CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS in ceramic tiling

www.constructionchemicals.com.au

NAB, Docklands, VIC



DTAC Pty Ltd has been a trusted name in tactile indicator and stair edging systems for over a decade. For the 700 Bourke Street development in Melbourne, home to National Australia Bank, DTAC was engaged to supply and install compliant, visually appealing tactile and stair edging solutions across multiple parts of the site.



Stair nosing and tactiles

Requirements

The project required compliance with the National Construction Code (NCC), Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), and relevant Australian Standards. Given the high-profile nature of the development, product quality, durability,

and design aesthetics were also key considerations.

Late-stage substrate changes necessitated adaptable product alternatives that still met stringent safety and performance standards. All products and installation methods needed to align with industry compliance and complement the building's architectural finish.

Approach

DTAC provided a full-service solution through its accredited team of installers and technical experts. Classic stainless steel tactiles were installed in the building foyer, while urethane TGSIs were selected for stairwell landings to suit updated substrate conditions.

In total, four DTAC staff worked onsite throughout the project. Their ability to adapt to shifting requirements and deliver timely installations was essential to the build's success.

DTAC tactiles were also installed across rooftop terraces, podiums, car parks, and surrounding streetscapes. Every product was manufactured to DTAC's own certification standards and conformed with all national compliance requirements.



Main staircase – nosing and tactiles

Results

DTAC's solutions delivered seamless integration with the architectural design, while providing vital compliance with tactile and stair safety regulations. Their stainless and urethane tactiles supported the project's overall accessibility goals and offered a refined finish across public and internal areas. By responding effectively to last-minute construction changes, DTAC reinforced its reputation as a reliable and flexible project partner.

Benefits

Now part of the Raven Group of brands, DTAC continues to deliver innovative, compliant tactile and stair edging solutions for major projects across Australia.

The 700 Bourke Street development stands among many high-profile installations by DTAC, including the Melbourne Recital Centre, Ericsson Victoria Harbour, Cook and Phillip Park, Subiaco Arts Centre, and Tasmania's MONA.

This project highlights DTAC's ability to balance aesthetic appeal with safety and regulatory compliance, cementing their position as pioneers of architectural tactiles in Australia.

Architect: Woods Bagot

Client: National Australia Bank

Installer: DTAC Pty Ltd

Photography: Glenn Hester



NAB Docklands – Exterior View



0195p DTAC tactile indicators and stair edgings

www.dtac.com.au

Beenleigh Tavern and Retail Precinct, Beenleigh, QLD



Requirements

The Beenleigh Tavern and Retail Precinct redevelopment required a ducting solution that could deliver exceptional energy efficiency, support a clean and modern exposed aesthetic, and allow for rapid installation across multiple tenancies and tavern spaces. With open ceilings and large, high-traffic areas, the system also needed to minimise visible joints and maintain a high standard of finish throughout the project.



Aerial shot of the Beenleigh Tavern and Retail Precinct

Approach

Ductus proposed the use of Kingspan's pre-insulated 46mm and 30mm ductboard systems to meet the project's demanding requirements. Fabrication was expertly handled by our Brisbane partners, ACA Insulation, who ensured precision manufacturing and

the highest quality finish. To maximise onsite efficiency, ACA Insulation supplied factory-fitted grilles and delivered ductwork in extended four-metre lengths, significantly reducing the need for onsite fabrication and joining. Coordination between Ductus, ACA Insulation, and Snowdonia HVAC ensured a seamless installation across both the retail and tavern areas, maintaining full alignment with the project's architectural vision.

Results

The Kingspan KoolDuct ductboard system performed exceptionally across all stages of the project. Installation was completed faster than traditional sheet metal alternatives, with fewer joints improving both air-tightness and the final visual impact. The factory-fitted grilles contributed to a consistent, high-quality finish throughout the precinct, with exposed ducts becoming a feature rather than a compromise. The end result not only met the client's expectations but set a new benchmark for ducted services within exposed retail environments.

Benefits

The use of KoolDuct, combined with ACA Insulation's fabrication expertise, provided major advantages in time,

efficiency, and presentation. The lightweight nature of the system simplified handling and installation, while the reduced number of joints enhanced both thermal performance and air leakage control. Importantly, the sleek, seamless appearance of the finished ductwork enhanced the architectural character of the retail spaces, delivering an outcome that aligned with the high-end commercial vision. The client was highly satisfied, and the success of this project has strengthened Ductus's and ACA's ongoing relationship with Snowdonia, HVAC.



Wide shot of the retail precinct interior, highlighting the clean lines and minimal joints of the installed ductboard system

Solution

By leveraging factory-fitted grille technology, precision fabrication by ACA Insulation, and extended duct lengths, Ductus was able to eliminate many of the delays and complications traditionally associated with exposed ductwork installations. KoolDuct proved to be the ideal solution, balancing speed, performance, and aesthetic quality in a way that traditional systems could not match.

Client: Hutchinson Builders

Mechanical Contractor: Snowdonia HVAC (Adrian Beil)

Photographer: Snowdonia



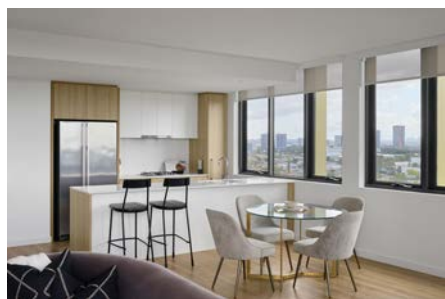
Close-up view of the exposed Kingspan ductboard system, showcasing precision fabrication and seamless integration with the open ceiling design for improved energy performance and aesthetics



Lidcombe Rise, Lidcombe, NSW



Lidcombe Rise is a community-focused development in Sydney, with four apartment towers featuring greenery, views, and convenience at the city's entertainment and education hub. Located near Lidcombe Town Centre and transportation hubs, it offers one-to-three-bedroom homes, a childcare centre, and retail spaces. Completed in late 2023, Lidcombe Rise sets a new standard for urban living in western Sydney, just 15 kilometres west of the CBD in the Cumberland Council area.



The internal broadwall surfaces were coated with Dulux Wash&Wear for its washability

Requirements

The construction of Lidcombe Rise faced unforeseen delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Timely product supply and efficient application were critical to keeping the project on track. Interior products with high washability and exterior coatings resistant to

UV fade and sunlight exposure were essential for long-term maintenance.

Solution

Billbergia Senior Project Manager, Chris Kang, explains that a rigorous process was undertaken to select an internal and external finishes partner.

"We followed a very careful selection methodology. We wanted to ensure the products specified could meet our preferred supply and application timings while also offering a high-quality finish and excellent warranty," Chris says.

The Dulux Commercial team collaborated with Billbergia to create a customised DuSpec+ paints and coatings project specification that precisely met the project's needs.

"Dulux were very proactive. They got involved quite early and got the specifications done for all internal and external finishes, which made it smooth sailing from the beginning."

Results

Given the size and scale of Lidcombe Rise and its proximity to a major train line, the system of products applied to the building's exterior masonry surfaces needed provide long term protection. They also needed to be able to

withstand and resist dirt and pollution pick up and be easy to maintain.

To protect the concrete walls, a Dulux Acratex system of Green Render Sealer and AcraShield Advance was applied. The application of a 2 coat AcraShield Advance topcoat was used as it is a high build, elastomeric performance coating that is weather resistant, has crack bridging capabilities and provides a 15-year warranty.

The building's soffits were coated in Dulux Acratex AcraSkin, a high-performance elastomeric membrane that delivers weatherproofing properties and crack bridging protection to ensure long term exterior durability.

Inside the apartments, new plasterboard ceilings were painted with Dulux Professional Fast Finish Undercoat and Ceiling Flat for efficiency and a premium finish. Broadwall surfaces were coated with Dulux Wash&Wear for its washability.

Benefits

Now complete, Chris says the Lidcombe Rise looks brilliant.

"Any problems with paint and coatings usually surface quite early, but we have had absolutely nothing of that sort with Dulux. It's reassuring to know that Dulux products have that integrity and durability we expect at Billbergia. We know and trust that the Dulux brand is synonymous with reliability and quality."

"Overall, we were impressed with Dulux's support throughout the project," he adds. "They delivered what they promised and worked with us to achieve the outcomes intended in the most efficient and effective way, from both a time and cost factor."

Architect: Plus Architecture

Client and Project Manager: Billbergia

Project Partners: NSW Land & Housing Corporation, Evolve Housing

Photography: supplied by Dulux



Lidcombe Rise exterior masonry facade coated in Dulux Acratex AcraShield for its high build, elastomeric performance



0345p DULUX protective coatings
0671p DULUX painting

www.dulux.com.au/specifier

Metroplex Westgate, Wacol, QLD



A commitment to sustainability is the common thread between Watson Young Architects, Douglas Construction, SecureFence and Edgesmith's Roger Gate Automation. The Metroplex at Westgate project, located in Wacol, QLD, is a significant development aimed at enhancing the industrial and commercial landscape of the area. This project is led by the Aliro Group, a prominent property developer who partnered with Watson Young Architects, a multidisciplinary firm with a holistic approach to design. Both, client and architect, have a strong focus on sustainable design and building, even down to the choice of gate automation.



Edgesmith Grande motor BG30-1504 for gates up to 1500kg with a compact 36v brushless motor

Requirements

Being a large commercial property there was a need for the site to be secured

both during and after business hours. Vehicle access control to monitor who is entering the property needs to be reliable while still meeting the sustainability brief. SecureFence have many years' experience in gate automation and have found the Edgesmith Roger automation to be a high quality, reliable motor which fit the brief of 100% duty cycle, low energy consumption and have the ability to accommodate multiple accessories to customise to the client's needs. Additionally, Roger automation is designed with energy efficiency in mind. All motors are brushless with an exceptionally low energy footprint using either 24V or 36V and as low 125W at the Bambino residential motor and up to 650W for the Grande Industrial motor. This is far less energy than boiling a jug of water which has a range of 1200W – 2000W.

Solution

So while using very low energy or solar power, the motors still maintain the high torque outputs to move heavy gates thanks to the onboard inverter and 3 phase motor. The Grande motors, designed to move gates up to 1500KG, has a thrust of 50-1000N and a speed of 25m per minute, while only using a maximum 650W of power.

These low-voltage solutions are engineered to operate on minimal power yet maintain high performance and security standards while meeting the following European standards for

safety and compliance.

- EN 61000-6 Electromagnetic Compatibility Standard.
- EN 60335-1 Safety standard of electrical appliances for household and similar purposes.
- EN 13241-1 2003 Industrial, commercial and garage doors and gates.

Benefits

Furthermore, Roger Technologies commitment to sustainability extends to the manufacturing processes. By utilizing energy-efficient production techniques and sourcing eco-friendly materials, ensure that products contribute to a greener planet right from the production stage.

The site required 7 gates with Grande motors and dual photocells to accommodate the control of cars and trucks. For easy exit, 7 underground loop detectors were installed and a gate timer is programmed to suit the daily opening and closing times of the tenants. Unlike other industrial gate motors the Grande gate motor is aesthetically pleasing, while still maintaining its industrial application and use status.

The Metroplex at Westgate project exemplifies a strong commitment to sustainability through its collaboration with Watson Young Architects, Douglas Construction, SecureFence, and Edgesmith's Roger Gate Automation. By integrating energy-efficient and eco-friendly solutions, the project is a great example for future developments in sustainable design and construction.

Architect: Watson Young Architects

Builder: Douglas Construction

Installation: SecureFence

Photographer: Sonya Ludlow, Edgesmith



Industrial gate with Edgesmith Grande motor, manufactured & installed by SecureFence



The Australian Institute of Architects is proud to be a founder and owner of NATSPEC and continues to endorse the NATSPEC National Building Specification. NATSPEC, a not-for-profit organisation, maintains the national and comprehensive master specification on behalf of the Australian industry, with input from many of the Institute's members, and reflects the latest national regulations and standards. NATSPEC's regularly updated information reduces the risk of expensive litigation for designers and improves the communication with builders.



**Australian
Institute of
Architects**



Envu was founded in 2022, a new company built on years of Bayer Environmental Science experience, for the sole purpose of advancing healthy environments for everyone, everywhere. We offer dedicated services in Professional Pest Management including our Kordon Termite Management System. For further information visit: www.au.envu.com



Evapco Australia, part of US-based Evapco Inc, is an industry-leading manufacturing company with global resources and solutions for worldwide heat transfer applications. Our wide range of cooling towers, closed-circuit coolers and evaporative condensers are high quality and have been engineered to be environmentally sustainable, reduce noise pollution and conserve natural resources in the commercial HVAC, Industrial process and Refrigeration market. Evapco Australia has a strong "Sales and Service" presence across Australia through our dedicated team. www.evapco.com.au



Fielders is a leading local manufacturer of a comprehensive range of roll-formed steel products supplied to commercial, industrial and domestic building markets throughout Australia.

Fielders' focus on innovation, breadth of product and extensive customer support offering, make it a preferred supplier for engineers, architects and construction companies around the country.

The Fielders range is supported by 10 branches nationwide, including manufacturing facilities at Novar Gardens, SA and Campbellfield, VIC, which also offer in-house processing capabilities. www.fielders.com.au



Fletcher Insulation is an industry leader in insulation solutions for the Australian building sector. Working closely with architects and specifiers in addressing the complex challenges in building design across the range of performance parameters including energy efficiency, thermal comfort, acoustic comfort, moisture control, indoor air quality, thermal bridging, fire resistance and air tightness. Fletcher Insulation continually invest in more sustainable manufacturing processes and look to ways of bringing innovative products and services to the Australian market. www.insulation.com.au



Custom Home, Coorparoo, QLD



Protecting new buildings from termite infestations is a mandatory requirement across Australia. However, not all termite protection systems are created equal. Ensuring that termite systems meet all necessary code requirements, both in terms of product quality and proper installation, is crucial for the long-term integrity of any structure.



The Kordon installation behind a timber pole plate positioned against a block wall, extending to the concrete slab. This setup ensures the pole plate compresses the barrier against the slab, effectively blocking termites.

This case study explores the exceptional work of a Queensland-based builder and a preconstruction termite barrier

specialist, highlighting the meticulous efforts put into termite protection for a high-end home.

Requirements

D Pearce Constructions, a premier home building company based in Brisbane, QLD, is renowned for crafting custom, high-end homes that blend craftsmanship with durability. Partnering with Aaron Wiles from Green Coast Building Design, they ensure that every structure they create is built to last. A crucial component of their longevity-focused approach is a robust termite management system that matches the quality and durability of their builds.

For nearly two decades, Alastair from Allure Pest Solutions has been a trusted partner in termite management, installing Kordon systems for D Pearce Constructions since 2007. His expertise was recently put to the test in an intricate and complex installation in the Brisbane suburb of Coorparoo.

Approach

In this project, Kordon was strategically installed in several critical areas to

ensure comprehensive protection. These included service penetrations, conduits, and cold joints, as well as perimeter zones involving cladding and brickwork. Additional applications included placement around pole plates in the subfloor and within block walls behind timber frames.



The above image illustrates Kordon's application on a brick pier, where it wraps around and seals a steel column before integrating into the perimeter barrier. Left untreated, such a pier could provide a concealed entry point for termites, making expert installation crucial.

Results

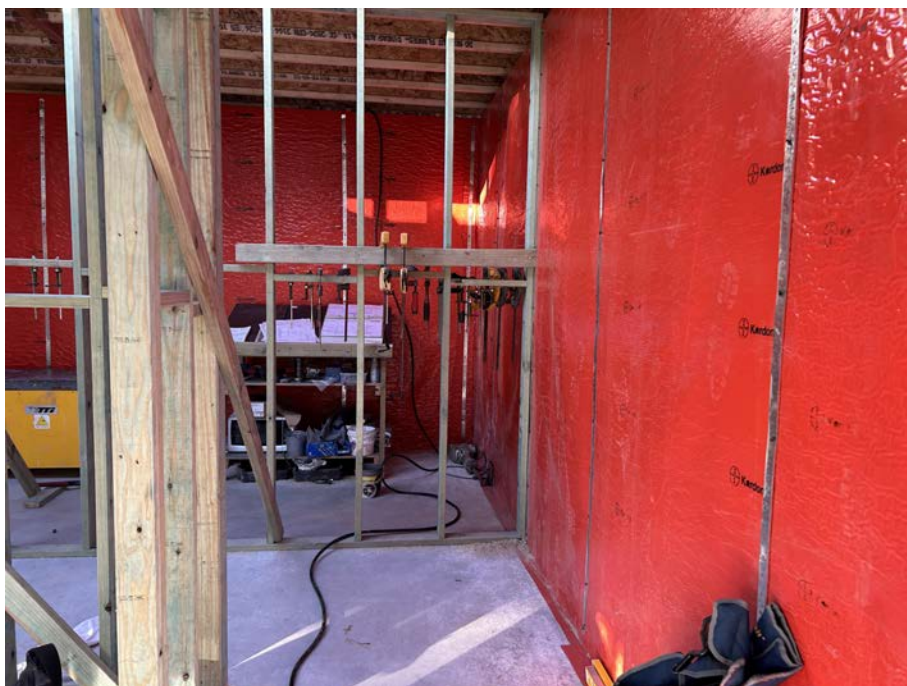
One unique aspect of this build was the treatment of a block wall where a timber frame was constructed in front to improve airflow and moisture management. To enhance termite resistance, bearers were placed atop the wall to support the second story. Since a concrete slab without joints or penetrations can function as part of a termite barrier, extra attention was given to areas where termite access could be concealed.

Architect: Green Coast Building Design

Builder: D Pearce Constructions

Installer: Allure Pest Solutions

Photography: Alistair Rogerson from Allure Pest Solutions



Since brick or block walls alone are not termite-proof, they must be treated when additional framing, tiling, or sheeting obscures visual inspections. As seen in the above image, the entire block wall was expertly sheeted with Kordon to prevent hidden termite access.



The Shed at UTAS, Launceston, TAS



The Shed is a landmark development within the University of Tasmania's (UTAS) Northern Transformation Program at the Inveresk Precinct. This purpose-built health and science facility marks the final stage of UTAS's \$304 million campus relocation from Newnham. Designed by Wardle and constructed by Fairbrother Construction, The Shed reflects UTAS's commitment to educational innovation, sustainability, and regional revitalisation. Drawing on the site's industrial heritage, the elongated twin-shed design incorporates a central atrium to create an open, people-centric environment. The building serves as both an architectural statement and a functional asset, offering state-of-the-art spaces for teaching, research, and community engagement.

Requirement

The client required a high-performance, architecturally distinct roofing and cladding solution that met several objectives. It needed to reflect the site's industrial character, support UTAS's sustainability goals, including reduced embodied carbon, and enable large clear spans for open, flexible interiors. It also had to accommodate complex geometries, reduce structural load, simplify installation, and ensure thermal comfort, acoustic performance, and safety for 1,500 students and 160 staff.



The Shed exemplifies sustainable design with Fielders ARAMAX®—20-metre spans, sculptural rooflines, and perforated cladding come together to create a dynamic, high-performance educational space

Approach

Fielders ARAMAX® structural aluminium cladding was selected for its structural strength, design flexibility, and sustainability. A total of 3,470 m² was used for the roof, with 2,035 m² of perforated panels for the façade. On-site rollforming enabled precise panel lengths and reduced transport needs. Perforated ARAMAX® enhanced natural

light diffusion and added visual texture. Close collaboration between architects and engineers pushed the material's limits through custom detailing, acoustic testing, and oblique cutting. The system also eliminated the need for secondary structure, streamlining construction and reducing materials.

Results

The Shed was delivered as a flagship educational facility, combining architectural impact with functional excellence. Its expansive roof creates a strong visual identity and symbolically links the city and campus. Perforated cladding adds visual dynamism and filters daylight for occupant comfort. ARAMAX® allowed for 20-metre clear spans, creating large, open interiors suitable for academic flexibility. The design met all acoustic, wind, and thermal performance requirements, ensuring resilience and longevity.

Benefits

The project achieved strong outcomes across architectural, environmental, and construction performance. ARAMAX® aluminium cladding enabled bold forms with simplified structure, while recyclable materials and reduced volume led to a 35% drop in embodied carbon. On-site rollforming and structural integration improved efficiency and reduced build time. The system's flexibility supported complex curves, perforations, and cuts to realise the full design vision. Today, the facility supports interdisciplinary health and science education through inspiring, collaborative spaces. The Shed exemplifies how ARAMAX®, combined with innovative design, can deliver sustainable, visually striking educational environments, setting a benchmark for future-ready architecture that fosters learning and community connection.

Architect: Wardle

Builder: Fairbrother Construction

Installer: Skyline Roofing & Sheetmetal

Construction Modelling: ModelTek

Photographer: Elesiha Photography - EM photograph



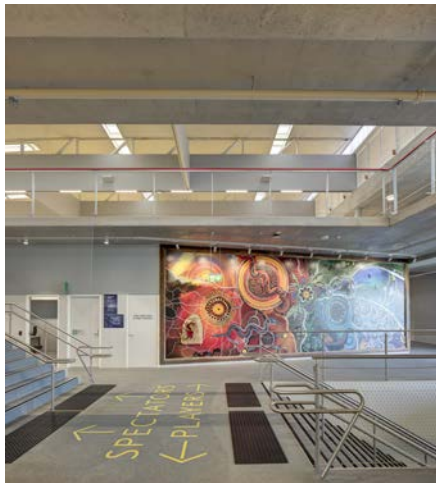
Fielders ARAMAX®, showcasing its bold architectural form and striking ribbed profile

Barker College, Hornsby, NSW

The Rosewood Centre at Barker College in Hornsby, NSW, is an innovative facility that exemplifies the integration of high-performance architecture with educational and sporting functionality. Designed by award-winning architects Neeson Murcutt + Neille, the three-storey complex provides a contemporary, co-educational space that supports both learning and sporting curriculum. It includes five multi-purpose courts, twelve classrooms, breakout spaces, staff areas, a fitness centre, a function room, and parking facilities. The building reflects Barker College's commitment to providing high-quality learning environments that foster wellbeing, performance, and community engagement.

Requirements

The design team faced the challenge of delivering a building that could function effectively as both a sports facility and a learning environment. This dual function of the building meant managing acoustics was critical. The space had to facilitate low noise levels for effective teaching, while also accommodating the noise levels associated with sporting events. Thermal comfort was another key consideration, with the goal of reducing energy usage without compromising indoor air quality or comfort levels for students and staff.



An entrance showcasing the internal view of The Rosewood Centre

Approach

To meet these requirements, Fletcher Insulation products were selected for the roofing system. Permastop® Building Blankets and Roof Razor® Insulation Spacer System both of which were specified for the Rosewood Centre.

Permastop® range of building blankets offer effective acoustic and thermal properties to reduce heat transfer and minimise the internal reverberation and flow of distracting noise, as well as their ability to manage condensation that can form under metal cladding.

Roof Razor®, an insulation spacer system designed for metal roof construction. Roof Razor creates a space for the insulation to fully recover to its full nominal thickness, whereby reducing thermal bridging in metal roofs and creating a continual thermal envelope.



Just one of the sporting areas at The Rosewood Centre demonstrating why quality roofing insulation and acoustics were paramount

Benefits

The insulation solutions provided by Fletcher Insulation enabled the architect to achieve high quality acoustic performance while optimising thermal efficiency. Permastop® building blankets minimised the internal noise and enhanced learning conditions, while Roof Razor® supported efficient installation and long-term performance.

Results

The final outcome is a high-performing, flexible environment that supports Barker College's educational goals. The Rosewood Centre's success was recognised with the 2021 AIA National Daryl Jackson Award for Educational Architecture.

"The Rosewood Centre represents the values of Barker College as a contemporary and empathetic learning place," said Project Co-ordinator Tamas Jones.

Architect: Neeson Murcutt + Neille
Photographer: Brett Boardman



Rosewood Barker External Aerial view showcasing the scale of the Rosewood Centre roofing system



"The National Building Specification (NATSPEC) has been a trusted voice for government, industry and professional bodies for more than 45 years; playing a critical role in improving the quality of construction in Australia.

"As a strong advocate for increased professional standards, Engineers Australia is proud to be a founding member of NATSPEC and strongly endorses their professional and special packages."

Romilly Madew AO, CEO Engineers Australia



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GETZNER was the first company in the world to effectively solve vibration engineering challenges using polyurethane materials. Headquartered in Austria, GETZNER, has been developing polyurethane-based solutions for the isolation of undesirable vibrations and noise for over 50 years. Its Sylomer, Sylodyn, Sylodamp and Isotop products were developed and manufactured at GETZNER'S own facility. They are used in the construction and industry sectors to reduce vibrations and noise to create a higher standard of living. www.vibrationsolutions.com.au



GRIFCO is part of Chamberlain Group International, the world's largest manufacturer of commercial and residential door operators. With over 100 years of Australian manufacturing, Grifco has won awards for Manufacturing and Excellence in sustainable operations.

Grifco door operators are easily integrated into Building, Dock or Fire Management Systems, coupled with a range of access control solutions, including myQ® smart technology, safety and warning systems to suit any application. www.grifco.com.au/specifier



Haymes Paint is Australia's largest locally owned and operated, NATA accredited paint manufacturer. Since 1935, the Haymes family have proudly crafted innovative colours and coatings that continue a tradition of never taking short cuts on quality.

The Haymes Paint range includes Green Star compliant surface coatings, providing a single source solution including sustainable protective coating, timber finishes, texture and render, on top of their nationally accredited Ultra-Premium paints. www.haymespaint.com.au



AkzoNobel Australia is a leading global paints and coatings manufacturer, providing innovative and sustainable solutions across industrial, architectural, automotive, marine, protective, and powder coating segments. Committed to excellence, sustainability, and customer collaboration, AkzoNobel leverages advanced technologies and extensive industry expertise to deliver durable, high-performance finishes tailored to meet diverse market needs. Dedicated to enhancing and protecting surfaces, AkzoNobel continuously sets industry benchmarks in quality, innovation, and environmental responsibility. www.interpon.com



Harbour Early Learning Centre, Vaucluse, NSW



'Nestled in the scenic harbourside suburb of Vaucluse, Harbour Early Learning is more than just an educational facility; it is a testament to innovative design seamlessly integrated with educational philosophy. Designed in collaboration with Danielle Brustman and Super Context, this project extends beyond typical educational design norms, offering a bespoke environment that enhances children's identities, expands learning potentials, and fosters a sense of well-being among educators and students alike.' – SJB

Requirements

The design strategy centres on connection to educators, nature, and the broader community. Across three carefully articulated levels, indoor and outdoor spaces are themed to reflect the natural surrounds: the ground floor draws on the harbour and sea, while the upper levels are inspired by sky, light and clouds deeply rooted in the natural beauty of the surrounding harbour.

Approach

The materials palette plays a critical role in bringing these ideas to life. Large windows open sightlines to the

outdoors, blurring boundaries between built environment and the natural world. Textures are raw with exposed concrete meets hand-painted murals and custom finishes that add warmth and personality.



Second level of Harbour Early Learning Centre, with Marmoleum cocoa 3584 white chocolate with custom inlay 3363 lilac

Results

Of particular note is the use of Marmoleum flooring, a natural, climate-positive material made from renewable raw ingredients. Custom inlaid with thematic shapes, it becomes part of the storytelling on each level. Visually engaging and hard-wearing with low-maintenance a practical choice for high-traffic spaces where children learn, play,

and grow. The floor becomes an active participant in the learning environment - one that is not only functional but also expressive.

Importantly, the use of Marmoleum reflects the centre's broader values. Its natural and low-emission profile and extensive accreditations.

Benefits

Marmoleum supports a healthy indoor environment, aligning with the project's focus on wellbeing and environmental responsibility.

Harbour Early Learning is more than a childcare centre — it's a thoughtfully crafted space that connects children to place, to each other, and to the world beyond its walls.

Architecture: SJB and Supercontext

Interiors: Danielle Brustman

Photographer: Sean Fennessy



Ground floor of Harbour Early Learning Centre, with Marmoleum cocoa 3584 white chocolate



0651p FORBO in resilient finishes
0652p FLOTEX carpets

www.forbo.com/flooring/en-au/

Fitness First, Balaclava, VIC



Getzner Vibration Solutions were approached by Neoscape to provide an acoustic gym floor solution that achieved effective acoustic performance within a proposed Fitness First Platinum Gym tenancy situated in a commercial building. "This state-of-the-art facility will feature the latest in fitness options, including Reform Pilates, functional training spaces, world-class equipment, and all your favourite group fitness classes." (Extract from FF Balaclava Website).

Requirements

Modern day gymnasiums have transitioned from just weights and bike machines, they offer world class facilities with a wide variety of training opportunities with the added benefit of flexibility of extended opening hours, and often located conveniently in commercial buildings. Rajeev Nand, Regional Director AU/NZ for Getzner, highlights lightweight floating floors are essential in multi-storey buildings for reducing impact noise and vibrations. Traditional isolation solutions, such as rubber mounts and damped springs, often require trade-offs between acoustic performance, floor cavity depth, and cost. Kyle Fitzgerald of Neoscape said: "The primary challenge was achieving effective acoustic performance within a gym tenancy situated in a commercial building, ensuring comfort for both gym

users and other building occupants. Height constraints also posed an issue, as competing flooring systems would have resulted in non-compliance with the National Construction Code (NCC). Getzner's low-profile polyurethane block system provided a compliant solution within these limits. Additionally, the project faced time and budget pressures typical of fast-paced fit-outs, which required prompt responses—something Getzner consistently delivered".

Approach

Getzner worked with Neoscape to understand what was required and what the site constraints were to formulate a site-specific solution. Collaborating with the project Acoustic Consultant, Getzner provided test platforms complete with AFB polyurethane isolators for compliance testing and approval prior to engagement to further provide Neoscape confidence with the proposed solution. Elastic polyurethane with low and consistent natural frequencies, and stable products are Getzner's specialty as we have been doing these globally for many years. Kyle recalls, "Getzner's system offered excellent stability...where traditional sprung floors would typically sag over time. Its low-profile design met NCC requirements without compromising performance. Furthermore, their

customer service was exceptional, offering consistent phone support and a dedicated on-site contact, which significantly improved project coordination and outcomes."



Construction phase - PUR isolation blocks and channels installation

Whilst gym isolation systems are an integral part of Getzner's business, we pride ourselves in treating each project as important, we work closely with the client to ensure we thoroughly understand their requirements and the project intent, and the limitations of the site conditions. Post completion Kyle had this to say: "Our experience with Getzner was outstanding. They provided innovative, practical acoustic solutions that surpassed those of many competitors. Their solution-oriented approach and strong support throughout the project make them a partner we would gladly work with again."

Benefits

PUR elastomeric AFB isolators are a compact, economical, cost-effective alternative to damped springs and rubber mounts that optimize floor build-up, structural set-downs and room height - especially in gymnasiums.

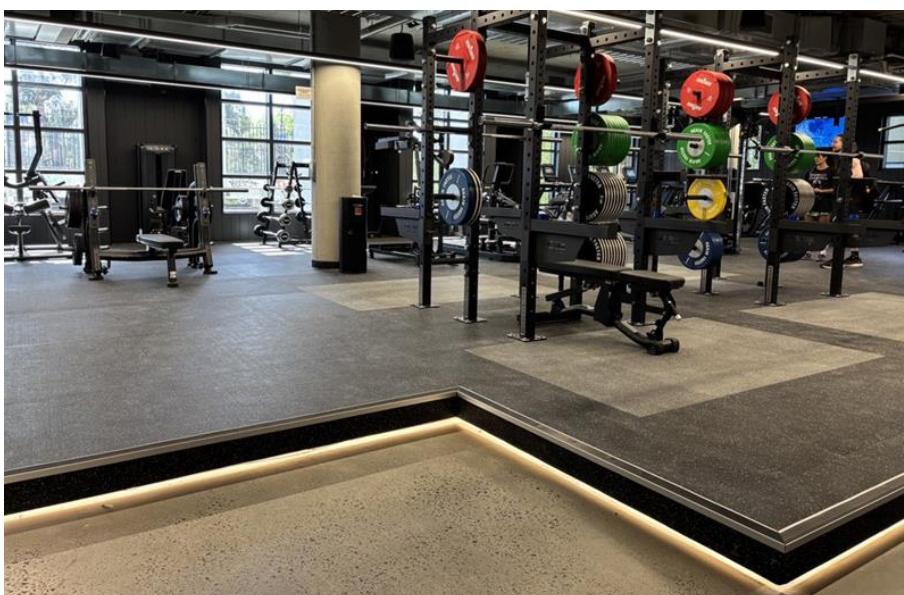
Client: Ninety-Four Feet

Project Manager/Supintendent: Neoscape

Acoustic Consultant: Enfield Acoustics

Finish Floor Layers: Plae

Photography: supplied by Getzner Vibration Solutions



Dedicated elevated lightweight acoustic floor for weight activities



0305p GETZNER VIBRATION SOLUTIONS foundation isolation systems
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www.vibrationsolutions.com.au

Ballarat Base Hospital, Ballarat, VIC



Australia's first family of paint. SINCE 1935

As a proud Australian owned business based in Ballarat since 1935, Haymes Paint were honoured to contribute to the transformative Ballarat Base Hospital Redevelopment Stage Two in partnership with John Holland, one of Australia's largest and most respected commercial builders. This landmark redevelopment is one of the most significant health infrastructure projects in regional Victoria and reflects a commitment to delivering advanced, patient-centric care, while supporting Australian-made manufacturing and creating tangible benefits for the Ballarat community and beyond.



Haymes Paint supplied a full suite of Haymes Paint coatings tailored to the demands of clinical spaces

Requirement

The redevelopment of Ballarat Base Hospital's infrastructure demanded a coatings solution capable of meeting the highest standards in hygiene, durability and design integration. The new Central Energy Plant and Support Services Building, housing essential clinical services and an educational centre, required finishes that could withstand rigorous cleaning, comply with healthcare regulations and align seamlessly with the architectural design intent. Performance and precision were non-negotiable.

Approach

Haymes Paint was selected for its proven track record in healthcare environments and its strong local presence as a Ballarat-based manufacturer. We engaged early with the project's architectural and construction teams, ensuring our coatings would deliver the required technical performance while supporting the design vision. Our

approach focused on collaboration, compliance and continuity with our team providing detailed product guidance, specification assistance and custom colour support throughout the project timeline.



Exterior of Ballarat Base Hospital

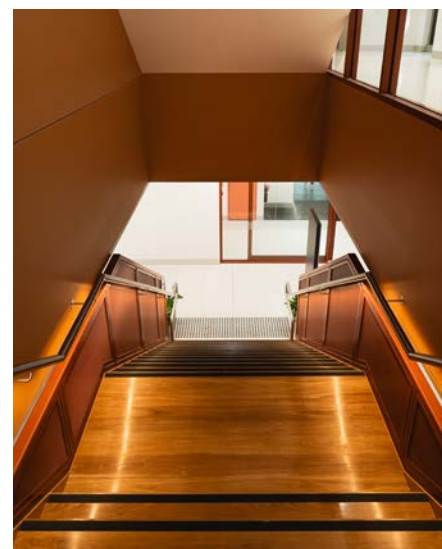
Solution

To meet the project's requirements, we supplied a full suite of Haymes Paint coatings tailored to the demands of clinical spaces. Our Ultimate Anti-Bac Two-Pack Epoxy was applied across high-contact surfaces, offering an ultra-durable, low-sheen finish with built-in resistance to bacteria and mould. Doors and trims were coated with Ultratrim Semi-Gloss, chosen for its strength, washability and consistent appearance in frequently used areas. Ceilings and broad wall surfaces featured our Ultra Premium Expressions range, delivering refined, low-odour finishes that enhance both functionality and atmosphere. Crucially, we worked closely with the architectural team to develop custom colours that met Light Reflectance Value guidelines, ensuring compliance and visual harmony across the space.

Results

Project architect Anderson Matthews credited Haymes Paint as a key partner in the successful delivery of this phase of the Ballarat Base Hospital project. Reflecting on the experience, Matthews stated: "Haymes Paint played an integral role in the successful delivery

of the Ballarat Base Hospital project. The team provided exceptional service, ensuring urgent paint deliveries were made promptly, which helped us maintain construction timelines. Their technical support was critical during the specification phase offering guidance on appropriate coatings for a range of clinical and non-clinical environments, as well as expert assistance with colour matching."



Haymes Paint coatings deliver the long-term performance required in high-demand areas

Benefits

The result is a facility that meets the technical, regulatory and aesthetic benchmarks of modern healthcare design. Our coatings delivered the long-term performance required in high-demand areas, while enhancing the architectural vision through thoughtful, compliant finish selection. With Haymes Paint, the project team gained a local partner with national capability and one that understands healthcare, respects design and delivers without compromise. This project showcases the power of collaboration and the role that high-performance, Australian-made coatings play in shaping the future of healthcare environments.

Architect: Lyons Architecture

Developer: John Holland

Applicator: Higgins Coatings

Photography: Dylan Ridsale



0671p HAYMES paint

www.haymespaint.com.au

Queens Wharf Precinct, Brisbane, QLD



Queen's Wharf Brisbane is reshaping the city's skyline and identity. Positioned along the Brisbane River, this transformative development combines heritage restoration, luxury hospitality, and high-rise living to create a new civic heart for Queensland.



*Leisure deck area of the Queens Wharf.
Photographer: Mark Coleman*

Designed by Cottee Parker and built by Multiplex, the architectural intent was clear: deliver a world-class, integrated precinct that speaks to Brisbane's subtropical character and urban aspirations. The design is defined by sweeping curves, layered façades, and refined material selections, led by precision-fabricated

aluminium elements finished in Interpon D2000 Dark Bronze Flat Matt.

Requirements

From the outset, the project demanded a coating solution that could meet both aesthetic and environmental performance expectations. The façade called for a sophisticated, low-gloss bronze tone to support the overall design language, while resisting UV damage, humidity, and Brisbane's challenging subtropical climate.

With thousands of powder-coated aluminium elements ranging from balustrades to soffits and architectural fins, uniformity and durability were critical. The selected finish needed to maintain its deep bronze character over time while offering superior corrosion resistance and colourfastness.

Approach

Interpon D2000 Dark Bronze Flat Matt was specified as the ideal solution, combining superdurable performance with architectural finesse. This AAMA 2604-compliant powder coating is engineered to deliver long-term resistance to chalking, fading, and gloss loss, even in high-UV environments.

The fabricator's worked in close coordination with AkzoNobel and the design team to ensure the coating aligned with both technical and visual requirements. Colour samples and full-scale mock-ups were reviewed to

validate tone, texture, and application consistency across complex profiles.

All powder-coated elements were applied by approved applicators under strict quality control procedures to ensure finish integrity across multiple phases of the project. The Dark Bronze Flat Matt finish provided the desired depth and character while maintaining a clean, uniform appearance across every building surface.

Results

Queen's Wharf is emerging as a flagship for Australian urban development, and the façade treatment has played a defining role in its architectural identity. The Interpon D2000 finish has maintained excellent consistency across coated elements, withstanding the rigours of installation and Brisbane's weather without visible degradation.

The Flat Matt bronze finish continues to enhance the project's contemporary form, offering a warm, grounded aesthetic that complements the glass and stone materials throughout. It supports close-range detail and large-scale legibility, delivering a finish that is both tactile and timeless.

By selecting Interpon D2000 Dark Bronze Flat Matt, the project team ensured that the coating solution was as considered and enduring as the architecture itself. Queen's Wharf stands as a testament to the value of early collaboration, precise specification, and performance-driven material choices.

"Queen's Wharf Brisbane is proud to be the first development in Brisbane to be awarded the coveted 6-Star Green Star Communities rating."

Reference: www.queenswharfbrisbane.com.au

Architect: Cottee Parker

Builder: Multiplex

Fabricator: Yuanda Australia and SRG Global

Photography: Mark Coleman and Reuben Nutt



*External façade that is sophisticated while also resisting Brisbanes tropical climate.
Photographer: Reuben Nutt*





"The quality and productivity of the building and construction industry is enhanced by the work of the National Building Specification (NATSPEC). For more than 50 years NATSPEC has provided professional and specialty packages for all sectors of the industry and all building structures. NATSPEC is highly regarded by industry stakeholders in both the private and public sectors and is strongly supported by Master Builders Australia (MBA)."

Denita Wawn, Chief Executive Officer, Master Builders Australia



KINGSPAN INSULATED PANELS is the world's largest and leading manufacturer of high-performance insulated panel building envelopes. Its wide range of products manufactured in their Australia facilities include insulated wall and roof panels, high performance standing seam systems and façade solutions. KINGSPAN INSULATED PANELS is widely recognised in the industry for the high quality and performance of its products as well as its commitment to excellent customer service and technical support. www.kingspanpanels.com.au



Kingspan Insulation is a manufacturer of insulation products for roof, wall, and underfloor applications in residential, commercial, and modular buildings. Kingspan Insulation manufactures AIR-CELL®, the thermo-reflective insulation, and Kooltherm®, a rigid thermoset insulation.

Kingspan Insulation's technical experts can provide thermal solutions for Section J, Green Star, and NatHERS 7 Star rating. www.kingspaninsulation.com.au



Lawn Solutions Australia is an Australian owned and operated business with Australia's leading group of turf growers coming together to offer a range of exclusive turf brands and turf products across a comprehensive national network.

Lawn Solutions Australia is setting a new benchmark for best practice in the turf industry with the industry-leading accreditation system, AusGAP. All Lawn Solutions Australia producers are AusGAP certified and adhere to the same stringent, nationally endorsed quality standards. www.lawnsolutionsaustralia.com.au



Leviat, a CRH company, is a global leader in connecting, fixing, lifting and anchoring technology for the construction industry. We imagine, model and make engineered products and innovative construction solutions. Our engineered products and innovative construction solutions are used in a variety of market segments from residential to infrastructure, enabling users to build better, stronger, safer and faster. www.leviat.com



50 Years of Supporting the

A Story of Quality, Leadership, and Collaboration

The Australian construction industry has constantly evolved throughout the years. During the colonisation period, Australian buildings were constructed from local materials such as timber and thatch. As the First Fleet arrived in 1788 construction activity increased and as the colonies grew, the architectural influences in construction grew with it. The gold rush era saw a boom in construction and this brought on a huge population boost, which led to an increase in construction work. As towns and cities were established with residential and commercial buildings, so did infrastructure like railways, roads and bridges. Of course, quality work was needed, and it was a time when architects, engineers, and builders needed a common language, and a solution that would bring clarity to their work.



In 1975, Dr Bryce Mortlock stepped forward with a vision. He saw the need for a unified specification system that would standardise construction documentation across Australia. From that vision, NATSPEC was born.

What began as a resource to improve quality in specifications quickly grew into something far greater. Over the decades, NATSPEC became an indispensable partner to architects, designers, engineers, and builders. A trusted not-for-profit organisation working behind the scenes to uphold quality and consistency in the built environment.

NATSPEC is a national not-for-profit organisation, owned by Government and industry, whose objective is to improve the construction quality and productivity of the sustainable built environment through leadership of information. It is impartial and is not involved in advocacy or policy development.

Strengthening Knowledge and Practice

At its core, NATSPEC remained dedicated to its founding purpose: providing Australia's national specification system. Updated continuously to keep pace with changing standards, regulations, and technologies, NATSPEC gave professionals the confidence to produce accurate, quality documentation, minimising disputes and ensuring every detail was clear from design to construction.



To streamline the process, NATSPEC launched SPECbuilder, a digital tool that transformed specification writing, making it faster and more efficient. Its Branded Worksections brought manufacturers' quality product information directly into specifications, ensuring that materials and components met the highest standards.

In 2007, NATSPEC took on the responsibility of maintaining AUS-SPEC, supporting local governments with specifications for infrastructure and asset management. This ensured councils across Australia had consistent documentation to deliver and maintain roads, drainage systems, and community facilities to a high standard.



Building Partnerships Across the Industry

NATSPEC's role in the industry grew and became even more valuable in 2006 with the launch of the Product Partner Program. By linking product suppliers with specifiers, NATSPEC ensured that innovative and compliant products were embedded into documentation, bridging the gap between manufacturing and design and keeping specifications current with industry standards.

Through partnerships with government departments, such as the NSW Government for the Class 2, 3 and 9c Reference Specifications, NATSPEC has developed tools that uplift construction quality and protect the safety of building users.



Leading the Digital Future

NATSPEC has never stood still. In 2011, it launched the National BIM Portal, leading the way into digital construction. This portal provides professionals with guidance, frameworks, and tools for effective Building Information Modelling, reinforcing NATSPEC's commitment to a future-ready industry.

Australian Construction Industry

NATSPEC extended its impact beyond specifications to support industry organisations who shape Australia's built environment

Investing in People and Progress

NATSPEC's commitment to the industry goes far beyond specifications. It has proudly supported the profession through sponsorships and events that celebrate and strengthen Australian construction.

From supporting and participating in technical committees, conferences, professional development programs, newsletters and presenting at Australian universities, NATSPEC invests in the people who design, build, and manage Australia's built environment. Its technical workshops on specification writing, BIM integration, and regulatory changes help ensure professionals stay ahead of evolving requirements, confident in their knowledge and skills.



Australian
Institute of
Architects



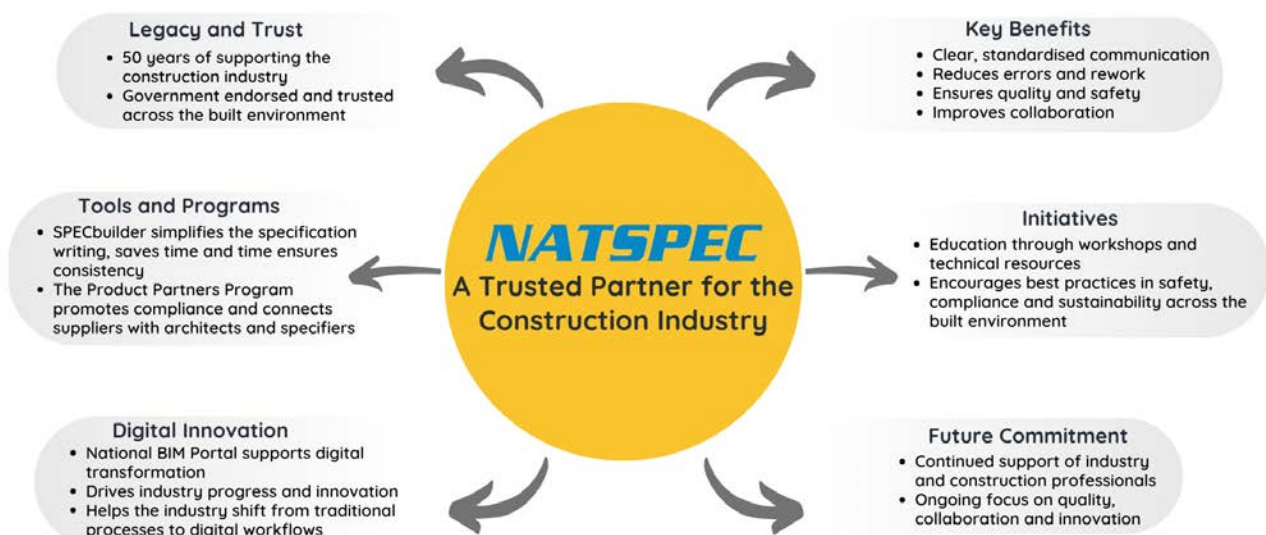
Advocating for Better Built Outcomes

Beyond documents and digital tools, NATSPEC has always acted as a neutral, independent advocate for the built environment. Its standards support improved project coordination, reduce risk, and enhance quality assurance, outcomes that benefit not just the industry, but communities across Australia.

Looking Ahead

Today, as NATSPEC celebrates its golden anniversary, it stands strong on a legacy built over five decades. A legacy of trusted specifications, impactful partnerships, knowledge-sharing events, and leadership in innovation.

But while much has changed since 1975, NATSPEC's purpose remains the same: to support the Australian construction industry with clarity, integrity, and a dedication to quality information. Because for NATSPEC, specifications are just the beginning. The real work is in supporting the people and industry that will shape Australia's future.



Jubilee Park Stadium, Frankston, VIC



Jubilee Park Stadium is a modern sports facility located within the Mornington Peninsula's premier Jubilee Park Precinct in Victoria, Australia. The state-of-the-art facility features six multi-purpose indoor courts, 13 outdoor netball courts, two AFL fields and cricket pitches, walking paths, and more. Additionally, it includes elite training and recovery facilities, multiple inclusive change rooms, four indoor cricket training nets and amenities to service the adjoining sports ovals, and relevant equipment and line markings for netball, basketball, badminton, volleyball, wheelchair sports, and more.

Requirements

Led by Williams Ross Architects and completed in 2023, the Jubilee Park Stadium project was an ambitious rebuild of the existing facilities, with the aim of delivering a modern, functional, and aesthetically pleasing sports facility for the local community.

The Jubilee Park Stadium project involved the demolition of a 30-year-old, two-court stadium and the construction of a new facility, including six indoor courts and additional sporting amenities. The primary challenge was to create a facility that was not only functional, but also met high standards of energy efficiency and aesthetic appeal. Williams Ross Architects needed a solution that provided excellent airtightness, non-combustibility, and a clean internal finish.



Exterior shot of Jubilee Park Stadium

Approach

Kingspan products were chosen for their efficiency and aesthetic qualities, which were used throughout the project to meet these requirements. The KS1000RW Trapezoidal Roof Panel was selected for its wide pan, polyisocyanurate (PIR) core, and elegant underside finish. These features ensured the roof provided the necessary airtightness and aesthetic appeal for the new stadium. The Eurobond Rainspan Wall Panel product was selected and used for part of the building's walls, providing a clean internal finish while dressing the external face with a standing seam Colorbond.

Results

The choice of Kingspan products

helped encapsulate the building, supporting the architects' vision. The products' ease of installation, and the strong customer and technical support from Kingspan, were critical in delivering the project efficiently.

The Kingspan team provided invaluable assistance in detailing, product selection, and the eventual delivery and installation on-site. This support ensured that the products met the project's requirements and facilitated a smooth construction process. The use of Kingspan products also provided a complete building envelope with airtightness, non-combustibility, and a clean aesthetic, offering a great backdrop for the building's aesthetic focuses, including the reuse of the existing floor on the walls.

Benefits

The completed Jubilee Park Stadium offers a modern and functional space for sports and other activities, and has been well-received by the community. The project demonstrated the importance of selecting high-quality materials and the value of strong technical support, as Kingspan's products and support contributed significantly to the project's success. The new Jubilee Park Stadium stands as a testament to the effective collaboration between Williams Ross Architects and Kingspan.

"Over the years, we've used the Kingspan products extensively and very successfully in a huge range of our sports, aquatic, and performing arts projects. One of the strong learnings from this project was the strong customer and technical support from Kingspan in assisting in detailing product selection and, eventually, delivery and installation of the product on-site. What we like about the Kingspan product is, within a single installation, we get complete building envelope, airtightness, non-combustibility, and a clean aesthetic." said Chris Williams from Williams Ross Architects.

Architect: Williams Ross Architects
Photographer: Nicole England



Clean internal finish using Kingspan Insulated Panels



0428p KINGSPAN INSULATED PANELS roofing systems
0437p KINGSPAN INSULATED PANELS cladding systems
0762p KINGSPAN INSULATED PANELS in cool rooms

www.kingspanpanels.com.au

8.2 Star-rated Home, Glenelg North, SA



The NCC's energy efficiency requirements are driving energy improvements in the building sectors, and builders looking to improve the thermal properties of a new home need to consider building products that help meet these requirements.

Kingspan Kooltherm has helped Techtilt Building Systems in a new and unconventional way to significantly improve the thermal properties of their latest new build to achieve an 8.2 energy efficiency star rating.

Requirements

These concrete insulated panels used for the external façade are custom-made for each home design using 1200mm x 2400mm Kooltherm boards, which can be custom cut to the required size. The benefits of using these panels include not needing a timber or steel frame, as the walls are load bearing and simply bolted together onsite.

Using concrete's thermal properties to its advantage, Techtilt's concrete panelling embedded with Kooltherm, further enhanced the panels' thermal properties, improving the home's energy efficiency.

Approach

Kingspan conducted a thorough Indicative Condensation Risk Analysis as part of their comprehensive approach to the project. Through detailed modelling and analysis, Kingspan determined that positioning the insulation on the external side of the inner concrete skin effectively insulated it from external temperature fluctuations. This strategic

insulation solution played a crucial role in maintaining a stable and regulated temperature within the concrete structure. As a result, the risk of dew point formation on the concrete surface was significantly mitigated, ensuring enhanced durability and performance of the building envelope against moisture-related issues.

"Kooltherm's R rating made it a clear choice for us to increase the thermal efficiency of our insulated concrete walling system in residential projects," said Lou Gagliardi, owner of Techtilt. Kooltherm is a range of phenolic insulation boards, the most thermally efficient insulation commonly used, featuring a rigid thermoset foam as an insulating core between two facing elements, which helps slow thermal transfer and deliver an insulation rating of R2.30 in 50mm board. As a comparison, a 50mm traditional fibreglass insulation batt delivers an R rating of R1.40.

"Kooltherm is an amazing insulation product and one I have complete confidence in," said Gagliardi. "Concrete walls without insulation can be uncomfortable for residential use, but with Kooltherm, temperatures take longer to transfer through the concrete, delivering a much more comfortable living environment all year round."

Results

The home's concrete walls featured 50mm Kooltherm board embedded between 100mm and 75mm panels of concrete to deliver a concrete walling

system achieving a Total R-value of RT2.5 in summer and RT2.6 in winter. Practically, this means the home provides comfortable indoor temperatures in both summer and winter, regardless of the external temperature.

Gary Harvey, who bought the completed home, didn't know about the home's energy efficiency credentials when he made his initial enquiries, but was impressed by its solid construction. "I walked in to inspect the home for the first time in the middle of winter and immediately noticed the internal temperature," said Harvey, describing the internal temperature as a stable environment. "Our energy bills decreased by up to 50 per cent from our previous home and if we need to warm or cool the house, we only need to turn the air conditioning on for an hour and not leave it running all night."

Benefits

"Modelling the whole house, including wall system and glazing, achieved an 8.2 star rating," said David Burton, C & R Energy Consultants Pty Ltd, noting that the wall system was tested by an independent consultant who prepared a Computational Fluid Dynamics Modelling Report and the resistance value was then used in a theoretical software program developed by CSIRO to determine heating and cooling loads.

Lou concludes, "Concerns about climate change, rising energy prices and building costs are challenging Australians to re-think how we design and construct our homes. Kooltherm helped achieve a 8.2 energy rating for the house, in which the homeowner enjoys a comfortable internal temperature all year round."

Insulation: Kingspan Insulation
Construction material supplier: Techtilt Building Systems

Energy Assessor: C & R Energy Consultants Pty Ltd

Homeowner: Gary Harvey

Photographer: supplied by Techtilt Building Systems



Front view of the 8.2 Star-rated Glenelg North home built with Kingspan Kooltherm-insulated concrete panels



The Riverbank Project, Hawkesbury River, NSW



Nestled on the banks of the Hawkesbury River, just outside Windsor, New South Wales, is a newly completed turf project that demonstrates the power of natural erosion control using turf. A collaborative effort led by Green Life Turf has transformed a flood devastated riverbank into a resilient green embankment.



Riverbank destruction after flooding

Josh Muscat from Green Life Turf and his team have been at the forefront of this initiative, working tirelessly to rebuild the area following the devastating floods of 2021. "We had four consecutive floods over that period, real big floods," Josh explains. "In 2021, we lost all the soil here on the riverbank directly alongside our production farm. The bank dropped 8-9 metres down to river level, and everything was washed away. It was just one big hole of erosion."

Requirements

The first step in the project was

stabilising the ground. Given the significant soil loss, the only viable solution was to import clean fill with clay content, compacted in 200-300mm layers. "We brought in over 7,200 truckloads of material," Josh says. "It had to be done in stages, ensuring each layer was properly packed to prevent future slumping and erosion."

What was once an inaccessible, unstable site is now a solid, functional riverbank. "In the beginning, even a small excavator couldn't get down here," Josh recalls. "Now, we can bring in trucks and machinery with no problem."

Solution

While the structural rebuild was essential, turf played a critical role in stabilising the riverbank and preventing future erosion. Over 5,000 square metres of turf was laid, featuring four different turf varieties, each chosen for its unique benefits.

- TifTuf Hybrid Bermuda: Selected for its drought tolerance and rapid establishment, making it ideal for areas with limited irrigation.
- Sir Grange Zoysia: Known for its dense growth and aesthetic appeal, Sir Grange provides a lush, low-maintenance solution for erosion control.
- Zoysia Australis: A hardy, low-

maintenance turf that performs well in various conditions while maintaining a neat appearance.

- Sir Walter DNA Certified Soft Leaf Buffalo: Used in upper areas to create a park-like feel while also offering strong erosion control.



Completed reconstruction and turf installation on riverbank

"The TifTuf was the quickest to establish, grabbing hold almost immediately," Josh notes. "But the real surprise was Sir Grange, it's not just visually stunning, but it established faster than expected and holds the ground exceptionally well."

Results

While this is a large-scale commercial project, the lessons learned apply to domestic landscapes as well. Sloping yards, embankments, and even garden beds can benefit from the erosion-controlling properties of turf. Whether it's TifTuf for fast establishment, Sir Grange for visual appeal, or Zoysia Australis for low-maintenance durability, there's a turf solution for every environment.

This project is more than just a restoration after the devastating floods, it's a case study for erosion control, demonstrating how turf can be used to protect and revive even the most severely damaged landscapes. "We'll be collecting data over the next few years to see how these varieties continue to perform," Josh says.

With nature's best erosion control, turf now in place, the once-devastated riverbank is now fully repaired and stabilised for the future.

Photography: Supplied by Lawn Solutions Australia



Recently installed turf grass for soil stabilisation



The University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD

Leviat
A CRH COMPANY

The University of Queensland's newly completed Plant Growth Building, part of the visionary Plant Futures Facility, sets a new standard for climate-responsive, research-focused architecture. Purpose-built to support cutting-edge plant science, the \$65 million facility functions as a sealed environment for precision experimentation and collaboration. Located at the junction of distinct brick campus buildings, it reflects a careful balance of contextual design, sustainability, and technical complexity. Leviat's customised masonry support systems were key to realising this ambitious architectural vision, recognised as the Overall Winner of Excellence in Brick and Block Award at the Bricklayer Contractors Association (BCA) Awards in October 2024.



UQ's Plant Growth Building makes up part of the Plant Futures Facility

At its core, the Plant Futures Facility comprises highly controlled grow rooms, reach-in cabinets, and rooftop glasshouses, along with laboratories and support spaces. Each room can replicate diverse environmental conditions, humidity, temperature, daylight, CO₂, and more, with high accuracy, ensuring optimal conditions for advanced plant research.

Requirements

The objective was to deliver a world-class research facility that exceeded international standards, functionally, technically, and architecturally. It had to support sensitive, high-precision environmental controls while serving as a beacon of innovation. The structure also needed to visually integrate with

its diverse surroundings, despite having no windows and strict performance constraints. The challenge was clear: build a facility that embodies scientific excellence without compromise.

Approach

Design inspiration came from the surrounding buildings key architectural features, while blending earthy tones from local geology, to create a unified yet distinctive identity. As a sealed, inward-focused structure, the building embraced the concept of a "walled garden." Its sculptural form featured curved profiles and a pixelated brick texture that changes in appearance with distance.



Leviat Ancon MDC provides seamless support for curved corners

Results

To meet the technical and aesthetic demands of the complex façade, Leviat's Masonry Support division collaborated with contractors MBRICK to deliver a tailored structural solution of masonry support being Leviat Ancon MDC.

Leviat Ancon MDC is an engineered shelf angle which can be designed to carry a height of masonry up to 8 metres and accommodate any width of cavity from 40mm. Brackets are welded to the angle and the material content of both components is optimised to ensure the most economical solution.

Various Leviat Ancon MDC products provided robust support of the elaborate brick façade while accommodating different cavity widths using custom bracket dimensions. The versatile system was the basis for specific designs for support of curved corners.

A distinctive entrance brick arch, combining different brick types, was supported with bespoke hanging plates for soffit bricks beneath. All structural supports were concealed, maintaining the purity of the visual concept.



A distinctive brick arch had bespoke hanging plates for soffit bricks beneath

Over 500 lineal metres of continuous shelf angles were designed and manufactured in Leviat's Mount Druitt production facility, showcasing local engineering excellence and manufacturing capability.

Benefits

The UQ's Plant Growth Building tested construction precision, particularly when a major redesign required part of the façade to be demolished and rebuilt. Leviat's responsive design support and engineering agility were crucial in navigating these challenges. Bespoke Leviat Ancon MDC systems ensured the brick façade was executed flawlessly, concealing structural elements while delivering design intent. The result was a visually striking, technically advanced facility that earned top industry recognition, cementing the project as a model of collaborative excellence and innovation.

Architect: 3architecture

Engineer: Kusch Consulting Engineers

Contractor: MBRICK

Photographer: UQ Communications, Leviat and MBRICK



LYSAGHT has a proven track record supplying quality steel roofing, walling, rainwater, fencing, home improvement and structural products. Made from 100% Australian steel, our products are extensively performance-tested, come with a BlueScope warranty, and offer our customers confidence and peace of mind.

Our quality products are only part of our unique offer – our commitment to genuine, helpful customer service, and unmatched technical support and expertise has helped us become the trusted experience in steel. www.lysaght.com



Masterwall is Australia's leading provider of innovative External Insulation Finishing Systems (EIFS). Our comprehensive product range includes the Masterwall Insulated Cladding System, Rendered Panel Systems, M-TEX Premium Renders, Textures, Colours and Coatings, Masterfloor Underfloor Insulation, SKYLINE Architectural Capless Parapet System, UMBRA Architectural Shadings, and Matrixx Architectural Mouldings. We enhance energy efficiency, durability, and aesthetics in residential and commercial projects, meeting the unique demands of the Australian climate and architectural standards. www.masterwall.com.au



Metroll are one of Australia's largest manufacturers and suppliers of quality steel building products across residential, commercial and industrial markets. The product range includes roofing, walling, rainwater goods, structural and fencing products.

Metroll combine the benefits of being part of a large national organisation with emphasis on local service. Metroll has 29 manufacturing sites across the country which operate as small local businesses which means we truly understand the markets we operate in. www.metroll.com.au



MODDEX is Australasia's leading manufacturer of innovative modular barrier systems for large-scale infrastructure and non-residential construction projects. Our extensive range of pre-engineered, proprietary handrails, balustrade and barriers systems are designed for industrial, commercial and civil applications. All our systems comply with Australian and New Zealand Standards, BCA, NZBC, DDA and WHS regulations.

MODDEX can provide a complete system design, layout and specification service including CAD drawings, detailed scope of works and estimated cost breakdown. www.moddex.com



PALRAM is a world-leading manufacturer of extruded thermoplastic sheets and panel systems. With over 60 years of experience, a large portfolio of products, PALRAM is recognized as a leading brand for quality and service.

PALRAM has grown into an industry leader and multinational conglomerate with branches on six continents. With added focus on advanced technologies and sustainability, PALRAM offers professionals and users the solutions and support they need for a wide variety of applications. www.palram.com



Munarra Centre of Regional Excellence, Shepparton, VIC



Set on Yorta Yorta Country in Shepparton, Victoria, the Munarra Centre of Regional Excellence (MCRE) is a culturally significant facility uniting Indigenous heritage, sustainable design, and community learning. Co-funded by the Victorian Government and the University of Melbourne, the \$36 million project was designed by ARM Architecture with Bush Projects and constructed by Indigenous-owned TVN On-Country.

The building's form, inspired by the long-necked Murray River turtle, an important Yorta Yorta totem, symbolises wisdom and cultural continuity. Its curved, shell-like geometry and bold colour palette make it a striking regional landmark.

Requirement

The Centre was envisioned as a place where cultural identity and contemporary education intersect. The design needed to express Yorta Yorta stories and connection to Country, while providing a high-performance, climate-suited structure. Durability, low maintenance, and sustainability were essential, alongside a construction approach that prioritised Indigenous leadership and participation.

Approach

ARM Architecture worked closely with the Yorta Yorta community to embed cultural meaning throughout the design. The turtle-inspired form informed the use of curved structures and overlapping volumes.

To achieve the desired performance and visual outcomes, LYSAGHT KLIP-

LOK® 700 HI-STRENGTH® roofing and ENSEAM® wall cladding were selected. Shaped from COLORBOND® steel in Night Sky® and a custom Camellia



Red, the materials offered durability, design flexibility, and strong cultural symbolism—evoking the colours of the Aboriginal flag.

These products allowed the realisation of complex curves, long structural spans, and a cohesive façade. Importantly, construction was led by TVN On-Country—the largest Victorian Government contract awarded to a First Nations-owned builder, ensuring a culturally informed and community-embedded process.

Results

The completed Centre is a vibrant, future-oriented hub for cultural learning, collaboration, and community gathering. It balances architectural impact with material performance and environmental responsibility. Durable, climate-responsive and low-maintenance, the building is designed to stand the test of time and use.

Benefits

The Munarra Centre has delivered

wide-reaching benefits that extend well beyond its physical structure. Its design authentically reflects Yorta Yorta identity, fostering a strong sense of place and cultural representation. Economically, the project empowered the Indigenous community by being awarded to TVN On-Country, which supported Indigenous employment, training, and business development. The use of LYSAGHT® roofing and cladding made from COLORBOND® steel provided the material resilience necessary to achieve the building's distinctive curved form



Drone shot of the Munarra Centre

while meeting structural and weather performance requirements. Most importantly, the Centre has become a vital space for education, ceremony, and connection, enriching lives and strengthening community across generations. The project also supports environmental sustainability through recyclable materials and passive design.

The Munarra Centre of Regional Excellence is a benchmark for culturally led and sustainable design. It demonstrates how architecture guided by community and purpose can honour tradition while creating future opportunity. LYSAGHT KLIP-LOK® 700 HI-STRENGTH® and ENSEAM® cladding from COLORBOND® steel were instrumental in delivering the Centre's distinctive form and long-lasting function. Through its structure, meaning and collaborative delivery, the Centre stands as a lasting symbol of connection to Country and education.

Architect: ARM Architecture

Landscape Architect: Bush Projects

Installer: KW Roofing

Photography: John Gollings



A First Nations-led design inspired by a river turtle and the Aboriginal flag, featuring bold LYSAGHT KLIP-LOK® colours



0341p LYSAGHT purlins and girts in structural steelwork; 0423p LYSAGHT roofing - profiled sheet metal
0434p LYSAGHT cladding - facade panels; 0436p LYSAGHT cladding - profiled sheet metal

www.lysaght.com

Freeman Loop Apartments, North Fremantle, WA



Freeman Loop Apartments at 11 Freeman Loop, North Fremantle, is a contemporary coastal development by MJA Architects and built by Thomas Building for Australian Development Capital (ADC). It features a high-performance finish to withstand harsh conditions while maintaining its modern aesthetic. Co Plastering handled the finishing details for durability and quality.

Requirement

Located under 250m from the ocean, the development required durable finishes to withstand salt air, high humidity, and temperature variations. Colorbond Monument (LRV 8) posed challenges with heat absorption and UV exposure. The solution is needed to ensure resistance to salt, moisture, UV protection, and thermal regulation for performance and aesthetics. Additionally, a non-combustible render system was required to comply with strict fire safety regulations for multi-residential building developments.

Approach

To address these challenges, Masterwall's M-TEX system was selected to deliver a durable and aesthetically refined finish across multiple substrates. The system began with the application of FR Render and Joint Mesh, which enhanced structural integrity and crack resistance while

also meeting non-combustibility requirements. This was followed by the use of Rendercoat Primer and Gripcoat Primer to optimise adhesion and ensure a seamless application. A smooth, sophisticated finish was then achieved with Marble Texture and Roll-On Fine. Finally, Flex Coat was applied to provide enhanced durability, a crucial feature for withstanding the harsh coastal conditions of the site.

Solution

Coastal exposure posed a significant challenge, as the salt-laden air can accelerate material degradation, leading to erosion and discolouration. To combat this, M-TEX's polymer-modified renders were used to form a protective barrier that prevents salt intrusion, ensuring long-term durability in harsh coastal environments.

Another challenge involved UV protection and heat regulation, particularly due to the use of darker colours like Colorbond Monument, which tend to absorb more heat and are prone to fading under intense UV exposure. M-TEX Flex Coat addressed this by incorporating UV stabilisers that preserve colour vibrancy, while its heat-reflective technology reduces heat absorption, helping to minimise thermal stress on the building's exterior.

Maintaining aesthetic consistency was also a concern, especially with lighter shades such as Lexicon Quarter (LRV 90) and White Beach (LRV 79), which are more likely to show streaks and collect visible dirt. The low-maintenance, dirt-resistant properties of the M-TEX system help reduce watermarks and keep the façade clean and visually consistent over time.

Structural movement presented a risk of surface cracking, and it was essential for the building to meet strict non-combustibility standards. The FR Render and Joint Mesh System provided a solution by enhancing flexibility and crack resistance, while also being certified as a non-combustible render, thus satisfying fire safety requirements for multi-residential developments.

Lastly, the project required precise colour matching across various surfaces to maintain the integrity of the architectural design. Masterwall's Colour Matching Technology enabled exact shade replication, ensuring seamless visual integration while maintaining the durability and performance of the finish.

Results

Masterwall's high-performance renders and coatings delivered superior resistance to coastal elements, long-lasting colour vibrancy and UV stability, minimal maintenance with self-cleaning properties, a seamless finish across all substrates, bespoke colour matching for design precision, and certified non-combustibility to comply with fire safety regulations.

Benefits

By utilising Masterwall's M-TEX system, Freeman Loop Apartments achieved a durable, high-performance façade, protection against environmental stressors, compliance with non-combustibility requirements, and sustainable, low-maintenance architectural solutions.

Architect: MJA Architects

Builder: Thomas Building

Photographer: Sam Li from Masterwall



Engineered for performance – M-TEX delivers premium protection in demanding coastal environments



0672p MASTERWALL textured and membrane coatings

www.masterwall.com.au

Australind Senior High School - New Teaching Block, Australind, WA



The new 2-storey teaching block at Australind Senior High School was built within an operational school and included several areas such as: general classrooms, science and stem laboratories, art classrooms and inclusive learning areas, as well as student common areas, toilet facilities and a lift and stairwells. The new building was provided to maximise the school's course delivery and need for additional learning areas.

The large size of the building provided a facade which offered opportunity for the design team, Kent Lyon Architect, to express visual interest and in turn inspire learning for the students.

Metroll's MAC Interlocking Panels were chosen for their long-lined architectural appeal, ease of installation and because of its availability in Ultra-grade steel along with the profiles concealed fixing system. BlueScope Steel partnered with Metroll to produce Colorbond Matt finish in three colours with an AM150 grade metallic coating which met with the design parameters for the project.

Requirements

The over-arching policies of the

Departments of Finance and Education were guiding factors for the design of the new teaching building, with site specific factors also prompting design considerations.



BlueScope Steel partnered with Metroll to produce Colorbond Matt finish in three colours to meet the design parameters of the project

The project site was located within 5kms of the coast, falling within the C3 Corrosivity Category region, with Department of Finance guidelines requiring the building to be constructed to the requirements of C4/C5. This most specifically applied to the selection of cladding materials.

Preference was given to WA based suppliers which proved beneficial to the

project in design and construction due to the availability of Metroll staff to offer assistance and expertise as needed.

Building Code requirements for fire safety were paramount, and the Metroll MAC Interlocking Panels were chosen for their non-combustibility rating compared to other facade panels. The design team worked with fire engineers to ensure the suitability of the product.

Results

The utilization of standard product pan widths ensured the build cost remained in budget; co-ordinating standard brick



MAC Interlocking Panels deliver durability and design impact to the Australind Senior High School

wall lengths as well as standard metal sheet pan widths meant there were some instances when a non-standard sized pan was required as well as when co-ordinating opening sizes in the wall panel.

The collaborative effort between the building contractors, Metroll and the architects ensured an efficient layout and installation process. Attention was paid to all aspects of specification and detailing by all parties ensuring a successful finished product.

Architectural Awards

Best Education Building - 2023 Master Builders Awards

Excellence in Workspace and Safety - 2022 Master Builders Awards

Architect: Kent Lyon Architect

Builder/Installer: Perkins Builders

Photography: Supplied by Perkins Builders



The New Teaching Block at Australind Senior High School



0423p METROLL roofing - profiled sheet metal
0424p METROLL roofing - seamed sheet metal
0436p METROLL cladding - profiled and seamed sheet metal

www.metroll.com.au

South Pine Sports Complex, Brendale, QLD



Home to more than a dozen sporting clubs, including the Brisbane Roar FC Women's team, the \$22 million South Pine Sports Complex is a major development for the City of Moreton Bay.



Accessible ramp with Assistrail handrails at South Pine Sports Complex, providing easy entry to the seating area

With the great value this facility brings to the community, Moddex was proud to contribute to the safety and accessibility of this exceptional facility. By supplying and installing nearly 400 metres of Assistrail® disability

handrails and Conectabal® commercial balustrades, we ensured the complex met the highest safety standards and provided a welcoming environment for all users.

A cornerstone of the precinct is the Women's Football Centre of Excellence. This premier facility recently clinched the Community Facility of the Year Award at the Parks and Leisure Australia QLD Awards. This recognition underscores the City of Moreton Bay's commitment to empowering women in sport.

Requirements

From the outset, architects Complete Urban specified Moddex's Assistrail® and Conectabal® systems to ensure safety around the high-performance centre, the Brisbane Roar's clubhouse and the surrounding landscaped areas. Their confidence in our preconfigured handrails and balustrades was such that they felt no need to present any alternative system to the client.

In such a widely used community facility as the South Pine Sports Complex, safety and accessibility must accommodate all visitors. Moddex Assistrail® disability handrails are carefully designed to assist people with mobility impairments, ensuring that everyone can use the complex comfortably.



Staircase and ramp leading to the sports field at South Pine Sports Complex

Results

These handrails provide essential support and stability, enhancing the overall user experience and promoting independence. Complementing the handrails, Moddex Conectabal® commercial balustrades offer robust and stylish protection for various areas within the complex. Engineered to withstand heavy use and diverse weather conditions, these balustrades are ideal for high-traffic areas.

For head contractors Main Constructions, working with Moddex to design, manufacture and install the railing systems made for a seamless process, from site measure to sign-off. The ease of integrating our CAD files into project drawings and the speed and ease of installing our modular, pre-engineered handrail and balustrade solutions on-site meant the entire process was headache-free.

Moddex is committed to delivering a safe, inclusive and accessible sporting facility for everyone. By combining our Assistrail® and Conectabal® systems, we've been able to help safeguard the well-being of athletes, spectators and staff at the South Pine Sports Complex.

Architect: Complete Urban

Builder: Main Constructions

Installer: Moddex

Photographer: Cam Murchison



Long view of the grandstand seating at South Pine Sports Complex, overlooking the main sports field



Chadstone Shopping Centre, Malvern East, VIC



Chadstone Shopping Centre, one of Australia's premier retail destinations, recently underwent a significant roof redesign to accommodate essential infrastructure upgrades. The project required a roofing solution that was both functional and visually pleasing. The SUNPAL 18mm Multiwall Polycarbonate Self-Supporting Seamless system from PALRAM was selected as the optimal choice due to its durability, superior light transmission, sustainability, and design flexibility.

Requirements

The key challenge of the project involved installing the roof from below, without incorporating any intermediate supportive structure, while navigating building services such as sprinkler pipes located beneath the roofing structure. Additionally, the complex curvature of the roof required a solution capable of adapting seamlessly without significant structural modifications.

Solution

PALRAM's SUNPAL 18mm Multiwall Polycarbonate system in White Ice was the perfect fit for this project. Its lightweight yet robust construction allowed for a self-supporting seamless roofing system that maximized natural light while minimizing heat transmission. The interlocking aluminium joiner and panel design ensured a watertight seal, protecting from harmful UV rays while maintaining a bright, open environment.

For the curved sections, the SUNPAL 18mm Multiwall design provided the necessary flexibility to achieve a



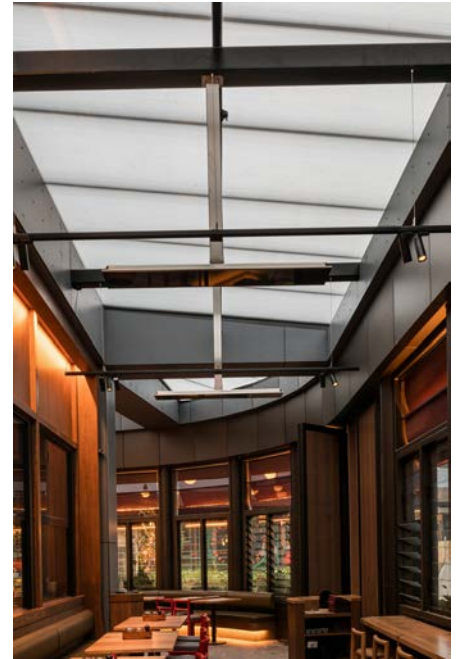
PALRAM's SUNPAL 18mm Multiwall Self-supporting System – maximising natural light reducing the need for artificial lighting

smooth and continuous appearance that aligned with the shopping centre's architectural vision. Additionally, its high-impact resistance ensured long-term durability, safeguarding against environmental factors.

Results

The redesigned curved sections successfully preserved Chadstone Shopping Centre's iconic aesthetic while integrating modern materials for upgraded performance. SUNPAL's UV protection and impact resistance contribute to a long-lasting, low-maintenance roofing solution. Furthermore, its high light transmission reduces the need for artificial lighting, enhancing overall energy efficiency.

PALRAM's SUNPAL Multiwall Polycarbonate system proved to be the optimal solution, fulfilling both functional and aesthetic requirements. The project set a new benchmark for innovative roofing solutions in retail environments.



PALRAM's SUNPAL 18mm Multiwall Self-supporting System – maximising natural light reducing the need for artificial lighting

Architect: Buchan Laird

Client: Vicinity Centres /Gandel group

Builder: John Holland Group

Contractor: Close Commercial

Photography: Supplied by PALRAM



SUNPAL 18mm seamlessly adapted to the complex curvature of the roof at Chadstone Shopping Centre



0429p PALRAM roofing - glazed
0434p PALRAM translucent facade cladding

www.palram.com



"The Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (AIBS) is proud to support NATSPEC on their work to update and publish their National Building Specification.

The value of the confidence derived when a project has utilised a National Building Specification published by NATSPEC cannot be understated. In the ever dynamic environment of product uncertainty and complexity of design, it is essential to have a clear and thorough approach to specification of buildings. With a NATSPEC specification, building surveyors operating in statutory roles throughout Australia are better able to deliver on their responsibilities to the public and their clients.

AIBS continues to fully support the National Building Specification from NATSPEC."

Wayne Liddy, President & Director, AIBS



Established in 1950, Raven Products is an Australian family owned and operated company producing a range of acoustic, fire, smoke, weather and energy sealing systems. Raven Products is a member of the Raven Group of companies worldwide.

Raven's door and window sealing systems have become synonymous with quality, value and reliability backed by service excellence, which is why it is the brand that architects, specifiers and builders can rely on. www.raven.com.au



REGUPOL Australia Pty. Ltd. is the Australasian office and distribution network for the REGUPOL sonus acoustic underlays and REGUPOL everroll sustainable flooring product brands. The company has been operating in the region for over 35 years, offering solution-based products and technical services for all kinds of sustainable flooring and soundproofing solution-based projects. The company is conveniently located at Smeaton Grange, NSW and offers the nationwide distribution of REGUPOL sonus and REGUPOL everroll product lines. www.regupol.com.au



Known for excellence and quality for over 75 years, Resene meets the high standards of architectural and building industry professionals. Resene manufactures paint and specialist coatings for residential, commercial, and industrial use. Resene's sophisticated tinting technology enables durable colour options, available in a wide variety of products, to remain true to colour long after application. www.resene.com.au



Solatube Daylighting Systems bring natural daylight into commercial buildings, schools and homes to create pleasant, well-illuminated and eco-friendly indoor environments. Using patented technology, Solatube Daylighting Systems maximise light capture through optical domes on the roof, efficiently transfer it through highly reflective tubing, then diffusing natural daylight into indoor spaces where it was once thought impossible.

It is a proven fact that you think, feel and work better under natural light. www.solatube.com.au



Beyond Early Learning, Goolwa, SA



Beyond Early Learning embarked on the development of a new childcare centre in Goolwa, South Australia, responding to the growing demand for high-quality early education facilities in a rapidly expanding regional community.



Kindergarten learning space

Designed in close consultation between the landlord and client, the centre was created to deliver a standout early learning environment. Raven was engaged to support the project by supplying high-quality, child-focused door safety solutions that aligned with the centre's commitment to quality, safety, and compliance.

Requirements

The project demanded full compliance with stringent childcare legislation and accreditation standards, while also delivering a welcoming, accessible, and energy-efficient space for children and families.

Every material and product selected for the build needed to reflect a commitment to quality, reputation, and long-term functionality, while prioritising the needs of young children and families.

Approach

Raven supplied a tailored solution to enhance the facility's safety and usability for young learners.

RP62 Finger Guards were specified as the product of choice, offering a proven, high-performance solution that not only met critical compliance standards but also provided discreet, durable protection for doors and fingers in a high-traffic childcare environment.

The broader project delivery team included Brown Falconer (Architects), Steve Overall (Overall Homes, Builder), TMK, Tonkin, Masterplan, and CIRCA (Consultants), with Limonta designing and constructing the outdoor spaces.

Results

The Beyond Early Learning Centre was delivered to an exceptional standard, with all compliance and accreditation targets successfully achieved.

Raven's RP62 Finger Guards now provide vital protection across the facility, integrating seamlessly into the architectural design while offering child-

friendly, durable safety features.

Feedback from the client and families has been overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing the value of prioritising safety and usability in early learning spaces.

Benefits

Beyond Early Learning now stands as a benchmark for future childcare facilities in regional Australia, combining aesthetic excellence, rigorous compliance, and thoughtful safety solutions for the next generation.



Raven finger guard seals provide protection from finger-pinch injuries in the doors in the Beyond early learning centre

The project highlights Raven's ability to deliver tailored, high-performance safety products that contribute to safe, engaging, and welcoming environments for children, families, and communities.

Architect: Brown Falconer

Client: Beyond Early Learning

Builder: Steve Overall (Overall Homes)

Consultants: TMK, Tonkin, Masterplan, CIRCA

Landscaping/Outdoor Play Spaces: Limonta

Photography: David Sievers



Beyond Early Learning, exterior



MYOB Building, Sydney, NSW



The MYOB building in Sydney stands as a beacon of modern design and sustainability. As the proud manufacturer of REGUPOL everroll rubber flooring, we celebrate our contribution to this landmark project, reflecting our unwavering commitment to quality, durability, and environmental responsibility.



Stairway

The client envisioned a flooring solution that could withstand high foot traffic while providing comfort and enhancing safety for employees and visitors. It was essential that the flooring complement the building's contemporary aesthetic and sustainability ambitions.

Requirements

REGUPOL everroll rubber flooring was chosen for its remarkable durability, comfort, and visual elegance. Its slip-resistant properties were vital for ensuring safety. The architectural vision for the MYOB building was masterfully realised by Cachet Group, who elegantly integrated our flooring into the overall design, harmonising functionality with aesthetics. REGUPOL everroll graces common areas, corridors, and staircases, creating a cohesive and stylish environment.

Approach

The installation was carried out meticulously, yielding a flawless finish that enhances the building's modern design. The REGUPOL everroll rubber flooring has proven to be a significant asset, offering a long-lasting solution that retains its appearance and performance over time. Furthermore, the flooring effectively reduces footfall noise, fostering a quieter and more enjoyable atmosphere for building occupants.

Results

The MYOB building in Sydney exemplifies how sustainable materials and innovative design can harmoniously create a functional and environmentally responsible space. The client enjoys a durable, safe, and aesthetically pleasing flooring solution that aligns with their sustainability goals while enriching acoustic comfort through effective noise reduction.



MYOB Sydney offices

Architect: Cachet Group

Contractor: Master Vinyls Pty Ltd & Rylex Flooring Pty Ltd

Photographer: Adam Crews Imagery



Common Area



0473p REGUPOL acoustic floor underlays
0651p REGUPOL in resilient finishes

www.regupol.com.au

Echuca Twin Rivers Primary School, Echuca, VIC



Echuca Twin Rivers Primary School is a modern, purpose-built educational facility located in Echuca, Victoria, designed to serve the region's western growth corridor. It consolidates three predecessor schools: Echuca West Primary School, established in 1915 to support the area's farming families; Echuca South Primary School, opened in 1971 to accommodate population growth; and Echuca Specialist School. The development process was highly collaborative, involving teachers, students, and local community members working alongside consultants and architects to ensure the new school aligned with the community's vision and requirements.

Requirements

The project aimed to create a learning environment that fosters student resilience and well-being, critical for both academic success and social development. This necessitated safe, supportive, and adaptable spaces. Beyond education, the design needed to address contemporary priorities for schools, including reducing operational costs, minimising environmental impact, and improving indoor environmental quality. Research highlights natural daylight as a valuable asset in such settings, known to enhance learning capabilities, support circadian rhythms, boost productivity, and reduce eye strain. The challenge was to integrate an effective daylighting solution that met these goals without introducing

issues like glare or excessive heat.

Solution

The design team prioritised a sensory experience where light, temperature, air quality, and acoustics could be tailored to individual needs. To achieve this, they incorporated a tubular daylighting system capable of delivering consistent natural light throughout the day while controlling glare and heat gain. After reviewing multiple options, the team selected a system based on its proven

volume space with high, open ceilings. These units maximise daylight delivery to expansive areas.

This approach effectively balanced natural light distribution across the school, aligning with the project's environmental and educational objectives.

Results

The daylighting system has delivered measurable benefits to Echuca Twin



Integrating natural light with LED improves student performance and colour rendition - LED Natural Light

ability to provide adequate light levels and minimise solar heat gain, as confirmed by independent testing from the National Fenestration Ratings Council (NFRC) and on-site evaluations.

The implementation included 31 units of a 530 mm diameter system. Installed in classrooms and office spaces, this system ensures steady light output, suitable for areas requiring sustained illumination. 8 units of a 736 mm diameter system was deployed in large-

Rivers Primary School: enhanced learning spaces, with high-quality natural light supporting creative activities and improving the visual environment; visual comfort, achieved by integrating overhead daylight with window light to reduce glare and eye strain for students and staff; improved performance and well-being, as natural light enhances focus, supports circadian rhythms, and aids in accurate colour perception, contributing to better academic outcomes; and sustainability gains, with reduced reliance on artificial lighting lowering energy use, shrinking the school's carbon footprint, and promoting a healthier indoor environment.

Collectively, these outcomes have created a learning environment that prioritises student well-being, academic performance, and sustainable design principles.

Architect: Kneeler Design Architects
Victoria

Builder: Fairbrother Victoria

Photography: SDH Photography



Quality natural Light utilised in creative learning feature





SOPREMA is an international manufacturer specialising in the production of innovative products for waterproofing, insulation, soundproofing, and vegetated solutions in response to the specific challenges within the construction industry for the roofing, building envelope, underground and civil engineering sectors.

With over 100 years of expertise, SOPREMA has earned its place as a world leader of the waterproofing industry, and the availability of its technical team. www.soprema.com.au



At Stramit, we are dedicated to shaping the future of construction and building design with our unwavering commitment to innovation, quality and excellence. As a leading vertically integrated manufacturer, we provide innovative steel solutions, from roofing and walling solutions to flooring and structural components, that enhance customer value. Our advanced software applications, coupled with cutting-edge ingenuity and precision engineering, enable us to deliver exceptional Australian buildings. www.stramit.com.au



Stratco is one of the largest producers of building products in Australia with manufacturing facilities in every State and Territory.

Established in 1948 Stratco has been at the forefront of product development through Industry Engagement, Research & Development, Engineering, and Certified Testing.

Stratco Architectural Solutions will continue to offer quality service, innovative products, and push the boundaries of what is achievable in Commercial and Residential construction. www.stratco.com.au



Tactile Systems is a leading provider of high-quality products and services in the building industry and public sector. With a strong track record since 1999, they have established ourselves as a trusted name in the industry. Their commitment to delivering products that meet Australian Standards, the National Construction Code, and other relevant regulations ensures that their clients receive top-notch solutions and a one-stop solution for their project requirements. www.tactilesystems.com.au



Taubmans is a proud PPG Architectural coatings brand in Australia. Your local Taubmans team supports the industry with high quality performance paint and colour support for residential and commercial projects.

PPG works every day to develop and deliver the coatings that customers have trusted for more than 135 years. PPG makes coatings which support high specification requirements in the architectural space as well as high performance industries like automotive, aerospace, industrial, packaging and more. www.taubmans.com.au



Merri, Northcote, VIC

The Merri Northcote project stands out as an excellent example of innovative building design, where thermal and waterproofing systems are integrated to meet both aesthetic and functional needs. Situated in Northcote, the development benefits from the advanced SOPREMA DuOTherm system, distributed by ENDUROFLEX, which has been installed on the building's balconies and roofs.

The DuOTherm system features a robust multi-layer structure, including the DuO High Tech 4/F C180 FC (Firecare) Landscape cap sheet, which offers UV stability and fire-retardant properties. The system is further enhanced by the DEBOTACK 2.5 T/F C15 AERO base sheet, which incorporates self-adhesive strips that ensure optimal bonding and provide efficient vapour diffusion across the roof surface. This guarantees a reliable waterproofing solution that effectively protects the structure.

Requirements

An essential part of the system is its PIR insulation board, adhered using EASYFOAM spray, which provides superior thermal performance. The SOPRAVAP STICK A07 self-adhesive membrane adds an extra layer of protection, serving as a vapour

control layer (VCL) on the substrate. These elements combine to ensure the building maintains a high level of thermal efficiency, offering exceptional comfort for its occupants.



Homes Victoria/Six degrees

To further enhance the system's capabilities, the project integrates smart accessories such as the SOPRASOLAR DUO PEDESTAL, which supports solar panels and lightweight equipment. This innovative solution ensures that the waterproofing system remains intact by preventing any penetration of the membrane. The DRAINI pre-manufactured pipe penetration with a bitumen flange ensures secure sealing, further protecting the integrity of the system.

Approach

Collaboration between key stakeholders played a significant role in the

project's success. Wayne Lloyd from ENDUROFLEX and Richard Ajavon from SOPREMA worked closely with the SIX DEGREES Architecture team, alongside MAB for the development, BRADY Construction for the build, and BRAVADA for the installation. Their combined efforts led to the seamless implementation of the DuOTherm system, ensuring a durable and high-performance solution for Merri Northcote.



Multi-purpose roof with DuO SOPRASOLAR for PV cells & technical equipment and community space including garden

Results

This project also sets a new standard in building insulation by moving the insulation layer from the inside to the outside. This design choice significantly improves the building's energy efficiency, providing long-term savings on heating and cooling, while enhancing occupant comfort and eliminating condensation risks. The result is a forward-thinking development that combines sustainability with practical solutions, ensuring Merri Northcote is a benchmark for future projects.

Architect: SIX DEGREES Architecture

Developers: MAB

Client: MAB Corporation

Landscape: TCL

Builder: BRADY Group

Distributor: Enduroflex

Installation: BRAVADA

Photography: supplied by Soprema

AWARDS: UDIA Awards for Design Excellence – Marketing Excellence Awards (in collaboration with TCYK)



Project overview/picture from Jellis Craig - Source: <https://www.jelliscraig.com.au/project/merri-northcote/updates>

'Y' House, Wye River, VIC



Nestled in the rugged coastal landscape of Wye River, Victoria, the architecturally designed 'Y' House stands as a powerful symbol of resilience and renewal. Commissioned in the wake of the devastating 2015 bushfires, this striking retreat replaces a cherished family home lost to the flames. Rising from the fire-scarred earth, 'Y' House is a fusion of sleek modern design, strong architectural lines, and thoughtful materiality — all telling a story of hope and rebirth.



'Y' House, Wye River rebuilt and standing strong upon the fire scarred, rugged coastal land

Requirement

Having endured the ferocity of Australian bushfires and the relentless coastal elements, the new retreat demanded materials and design approaches that prioritised durability, sustainability, and strength. Every element had to withstand the harshest environmental

challenges without compromising the aesthetic vision for the home.

Approach

Designed by Andrew Simpson Architects and constructed by Camson Homes, 'Y' House features Stramit Longspan® roof and wall cladding made from UniCote® Coastal in Monolith. This pairing of profile and finish seamlessly integrates the home into its rugged surroundings while ensuring resilience against future environmental threats.

Stramit Longspan® — manufactured locally in Australia — offers a refined, modern take on traditional corrugated cladding. Its slim, flat profile punctuated by subtle ribs delivers striking linearity, supporting both low-pitch roofing and bold architectural expression. Beyond its aesthetics, Longspan® was chosen for its inherent strength, superior water-carrying capacity, and design flexibility.

Solution

One of the project's most critical challenges was meeting the requirements for the highest Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) rating. Strategic material choices were key. Stramit Longspan®, formed from Unicote® Coastal steel, provided the perfect solution.

Unicote® Coastal's advanced steel

technology enhances corrosion resistance and fire performance, essential qualities for the home's bushfire-prone and coastal location. The addition of magnesium to the zinc/aluminium alloy allows for self-healing around cut edges, significantly boosting durability and long-term performance. This combination of strength, resilience, and aesthetic excellence made Stramit's Longspan® the natural choice for both the roofing and wall cladding applications.



Aerial view of the 'Y' House, demonstrating the unique overall triptych design

Results

The completed 'Y' House achieves more than architectural beauty — it embodies resilience. The home supports three generations of a family, offering each their own private wing with expansive views and unique living spaces. These wings converge at a shared central core, reflecting the home's core purpose: to reconnect and renew.

Thanks to thoughtful design, precision construction, and high-performance material choices, 'Y' House is not only a testament to sustainable rebuilding but a beacon of strength and family legacy in Wye River.

Architect: Andrew Simpson Architects

Builder: Camson Homes

Photographer: Peter Bennetts



Featuring Stramit Longspan® roof and wall cladding made from UniCote® Coastal in Monolith



0311p STRAMIT Condeck in concrete formwork 0341p STRAMIT purlins and girts in structural steelwork
0423p STRAMIT roofing — profiled sheet metal 0436p STRAMIT cladding — profiled sheet metal

www.stramit.com.au

Quandamooka Arts and Culture Centre, Minjerribah, QLD



Nestled in the heart of Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), the Quandamooka Arts and Culture Centre (QUAMPI) stands as a testament to Indigenous knowledge, resilience, and creative expression. Designed by COX Architects, the Centre is a vital cultural landmark for the Quandamooka People, combining architectural innovation with deep cultural significance.



Stratco Hiland Tray cladding in COLORBOND® Fire Opal and Clay Brown contribute to the striking colour pallet of QUAMPI Arts & Cultural Centre

Requirements

The Architects led a design process driven by extensive community consultation. Quandamooka artists, Elders, and cultural leaders were actively engaged, ensuring the building embodies cultural values and speaks to

the collective identity of the community. The colour palette is drawn from the island's coloured sands, ochre clay and the hues of Moreton Bay and allows the building to merge organically with its environment. Rammed earth, embedded with shells, symbolises the island's natural layers and the enduring presence of the Quandamooka People while native timbers are used extensively, grounding the structure in local tradition and craftsmanship.

This harmony between built form and landscape reflects a sustainable and culturally responsive approach to architecture.

Approach

Stratco played a pivotal role in delivering the COLORBOND® sheet metal wall cladding and roofing, using Stratco Hiland Tray 265mm for the Wall Cladding and Stratco Top Deck 700 for the roof sheeting.

Using COLORBOND® Studio colours for the wall cladding, Fire Opal and Clay Brown, ensured the Stratco Nailstrip Cladding played a vital role helping the building complement the surrounding natural tones.

The construction phase of QUAMPI posed unique logistical and environmental challenges, especially with transporting materials to the island and dealing with unpredictable Queensland weather. Stratco successfully transported a 35-metre-long truck to be barged across to the island, this involved precise planning and unprecedented manoeuvring to load and navigate the barge.

Additionally, the construction team faced weather disruptions including strong winds and seasonal rain over the Christmas period of 2023. Despite these hurdles, the roofing and cladding were completed to high standards, a testament to the coordination and problem-solving ability of the project team.

Benefits

The Quandamooka Arts and Culture Centre is a model of architectural excellence, community partnership, and cultural integrity. It stands as a welcoming and inclusive space—a destination for cultural tourism, education, and creative expression.

For Stratco, this project is emblematic of our project delivery capability, our respect for Indigenous culture and community, and our readiness to contribute meaningfully to complex, values-driven architectural outcomes.

Architect: COX Architects

Client: Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) and Queensland Government: The Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works managed the design, procurement, and construction of QUAMPI on behalf of QYAC

Builder: QBuild

Roofing Installer: JH Superior Metal Roofing

Photography: Paynter & Williams



From above, long runs of Stratco Topdek 700 sheets in COLORBOND® Fire Opal showcases logistical precision required to transport and install extra-long sheet lengths to a remote site



0423p STRATCO roofing - profiled sheet metal
0436p STRATCO cladding - profiled sheet metal

www.stratco.com.au

Miles Residence, Kirra Point, QLD



Tactile Systems had the opportunity to contribute to enhancing safety and functionality at the Miles Residence, a premium seaside development by KTQ Group and constructed by Hutchinson Builders. This prestigious building, incorporating the Kirra Surf Hotel on the bottom floor, demanded high standards in both aesthetics and compliance. Our scope of work included the supply and installation of tactile indicators, stair nosing, customised line marking, and carpark fixtures. Given the building's sophisticated design and its location near the iconic Kirra Beach, the project required solutions that would not only comply with Australian standards but also align with the overall architectural vision.



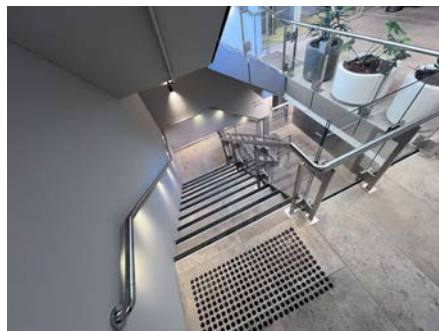
Kirra Beach Hotel

Requirements

The project presented unique challenges that required meticulous planning and execution. One significant challenge involved ensuring the line marking met functional and aesthetic requirements while maintaining durability, particularly in a coastal environment. Custom text and symbols were incorporated with precision to align with the building's premium appearance, and epoxy paint was used selectively for areas needing enhanced durability.

The carpark fixtures posed an exciting challenge as they required powder-coating to match the building's architectural style and colour scheme. This process involved close collaboration with suppliers and rigorous quality checks to achieve the desired finish and ensure these fixtures seamlessly blended with the aesthetic of the development. Furthermore, the fixtures were designed to meet functional needs while resisting corrosion in the harsh coastal conditions. The building's

proximity to the ocean also meant that all materials used had to be resistant to corrosion and wear, ensuring long-term performance in a coastal environment.



Tactile Ground Surface Indicators & Stair Nosing

Solutions and Approach

To address the colour and text requirements for the line marking, we utilised high-quality, UV-resistant paints that provided durability and sharp contrast. Our team worked closely with Hutchinson Builders and the client to finalise the design, ensuring the custom text met their expectations for clarity and style. Precision application techniques were employed to achieve a professional finish.

For the customised carpark fixtures, we engaged trusted partners to deliver powder-coated finishes that matched the specified colour palette. Our team coordinated every step of the process, from colour matching to quality assurance, ensuring the fixtures blended seamlessly with the building's aesthetic.

Given the harsh coastal conditions, we selected materials with enhanced corrosion resistance. This included marine-grade coatings and high-durability epoxy adhesives for installations. Additionally, our team implemented thorough surface preparation techniques to optimise adhesion and longevity.

Outcomes and Results

The project was completed on time and to the satisfaction of Hutchinson Builders and the client, with all installations meeting the rigorous standards expected of a high-profile development. The customised line

marking not only improved safety and wayfinding but also complemented the building's upscale appearance. The powder-coated carpark fixtures seamlessly integrated into the overall design, reinforcing the project's commitment to quality and style.



Stainless Steel Bollards

Feedback from both Hutchinson Builders highlighted the professionalism and attention to detail displayed by our team. They appreciated the collaborative approach taken to meet their specific needs and were impressed by the durability and aesthetic appeal of the finished work.

The Miles Residence project showcased Tactile Systems' ability to adapt to unique challenges while maintaining our commitment to safety, compliance, and quality. By combining innovative solutions with meticulous execution, we delivered results that enhanced both the functionality and visual appeal of the space, solidifying our reputation as a trusted partner in the construction and design industry.

Architect: Woods Bagot/Nettletontribe

Builder & Client: Hutchinson Builders

Developer: KTQ Group

Photographer: Cieran Murphy

Indiana Teahouse, Cottesloe Beach, WA TAUBMANS®

The Indiana Teahouse on Cottesloe Beach is a state heritage building, established in the mid-1990s. Designed to be an iconic landmark for Western Australia, it attracts visitors and tourists with its stunning ocean views and unique architecture. The building houses a main restaurant on the top level, a middle-level kiosk eatery, and the Cottesloe Beach Surf Life Saving Club on the bottom level.



The outdoor tables were given a colourful facelift using Taubmans All Weather exterior paint

The PPG Taubmans Commercial Team in Western Australia collaborated with Reshine Painting and Maintenance to repaint the exterior and revamp the outdoor seating using Taubmans and PPG products.



The window frames were coated with Taubmans 3 in 1 prep undercoat, and All Weather semi-gloss

Requirements

This heritage-listed building required maintenance across its surfaces, having not been painted or maintained for a long time. The oceanfront location exposed the building to erosion, necessitating a paint refresh to restore its iconic status for locals and tourists. The refresh also extended to the outdoor seating areas to enhance the visitor experience.

Approach

For the exterior, a combination of All Weather in Matt, Low Sheen, and Gloss finishes were used in existing heritage colours. These products were applied to the textured exterior, window sills, and frames.

Johnstone's was used to refresh the timber cladding in the building's storage areas to incredible effect.

Amerlock 400, a PPG product, was used for some of the metal framing on the building's exterior.

The outdoor tables were refreshed using Taubmans All Weather in bright colours, paying tribute to the beach boxes and umbrellas.

The PPG Taubmans team provided a comprehensive solution to support various finishes within the building.

Results

The building has been transformed, honouring its historical roots while restoring its original magnificence. The project showcases the transformational power of paint and specialty coatings, demonstrating how the right combination of products can enhance longevity and respect for a heritage site, benefiting the community and tourists alike.

Painter: Reshine Painting and Maintenance

Photography: supplied by Taubmans



A selection of colours were used to maintain the integrity of the building's heritage, whilst giving it a refresh



“Standards Australia is steadfast in its commitment to advancing safety and quality within Australia’s building and construction sector. We are proud to serve as a partner with NATSPEC in this shared commitment.”

Rod Balding, Chief Executive Officer, Standards Australia



For 30 years, the TERMIMESH SYSTEM has come with unreserved guarantees for product efficacy in construction projects. TERMIMESH protects buildings as well as the reputations of architects and builders. TERMIMESH were the first to issue a warranty of substance covering workmanship, materials and consequential termite damage and continue doing so.

Only the TERMIMESH Pledge Guarantee delivers the first 10 years of protection without compulsory annual termite inspections and with the opportunity for indefinite ongoing extensions. www.termihc.com.au/termimesh/



TermShield are Australian termite specialists with extensive experience in installing physical termite management systems for residential, commercial and industrial buildings. As an Australian owned and operated company, we pride ourselves on providing a friendly, personalised and professional service for all our clients. Our expert team is trained and skilled in stainless steel physical termite management systems. TermShield is CodeMark certified and is backed by TermShield’s industry first 60 Year \$1,000,000 Diamond Warranty. <https://termshield.com.au/>



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Wattyl has been at the forefront of surface coating technology since 1915. With a comprehensive range of market-leading ultra-premium paints, stains, varnishes and specialised coatings, Wattyl’s iconic brands include Wattyl Solagard, I.D Advanced, Estapol and Killrust. Wattyl is owned by Hempel, a global leader in quality paint and coatings solution. With detailed architect and specifier support services, Wattyl covers everything inside and outside, from residential to large-scale commercial projects. www.wattyl.com.au



Weepa Products is an Australian family company specialising in innovative patented products for weepholes in cavity brick walls. Their goal is to make it simple and to create beautiful, functional and compliant weepholes with features that help exclude both pests and burning embers from bushfires. Their products assist with compliance to NCC (2022) including requirements described in the ABCB Housing Provisions, AS 3700 (2018), AS 3959 (2018) and the AS 4773 series where required. www.weepa.com.au



East Loddon College, Dingee, VIC



Three hours north of Melbourne in the town of Dingee, East Loddon College, affectionately known as the “school in the paddock”, provides education to approximately 260 students from surrounding rural communities. The school supports students from the first year of primary school (Prep) to Year 12 on a single campus.

Following an initial commitment of \$4.5 million by the Victorian Government to refurbish several buildings at the school, additional funding was secured to commence the construction of a new classroom block, providing students with modernised learning spaces for general studies, the arts, science, home economics, woodworking and metalworking.



Clustered Termi Flange installation comprising multiple pipe penetrations

Requirements

With a known history of termite activity on site and the requirement for a physical termite management system stipulated by the Victorian School

Building Authority, Tectura Architects specified the Termimesh System to protect the new classroom block from concealed termite entry.

Installation of the Termimesh System ensures compliance with the Australian Standard for Termite Management (AS 3660.1), as well as provisions outlined in the National Construction Code for termite risk management.

Approach

As this was Nicholson Construction's first project involving a specification of the Termimesh System, our Victorian team, with support from technical specialists in South Australia, provided comprehensive guidance throughout the project. A strong working relationship developed, which inspired confidence in the Termimesh System both in its design and installation on the project.

Construction plans provided by Nicholson Construction were precisely marked up to identify all areas needing termite protection. Our team of experienced estimators provided an accurate estimate of the quantity surveying requirements of Termimesh, Termi Flanges and Termiparge.

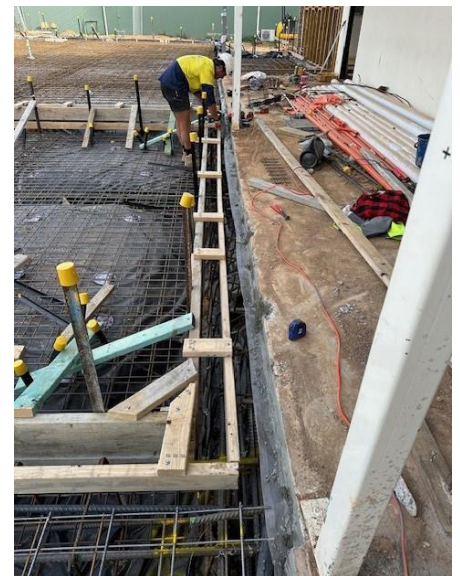
In accordance with the specification, the Termimesh System was fitted to all slab penetrations, construction joints, saw cut service trenches and perimeter slab edges. Cold joints along an adjoining structure also received

protection, ensuring termite ingress was not possible along this interfacing section of the project.

In total, certified Termimesh technicians installed 250 lineal metres of the highest grade stainless steel termite barrier mesh available in Australia, along with Termi Flange mesh collars to 71 service penetrations.

Results

The specification and installation of the Termimesh System will provide protection against concealed termite entry for the practical life of the building, eliminating the need for chemical reapplications as required in alternative systems.



Termimesh installed along the perimeter of the project

The poison-free attributes of Termimesh make the system particularly well suited to educational settings, where the wellbeing of staff and students is a key consideration. The minimal maintenance protocols and supporting warranty further reinforce the Termimesh System's suitability for specification across local, state and federal government projects.

Architect: Tectura Architects

Builder: Nicholson Construction

Photography: Supplied by Nathan Trigg, East Loddon P-12 College and Termimesh



Completed classroom block with the Termimesh System installed



Burnside State High School, Burnside, QLD



The Burnside State High School's new Performing Arts Centre exemplifies modern educational infrastructure, blending innovative design with sustainable practices. A critical aspect of its construction involved safeguarding the building from termite infestation, a common concern in Australia's termite-prone regions. To address this, the project employed the Termshield Stainless Steel Termite Barrier System, a state-of-the-art solution renowned for its durability, effectiveness, and environmental compatibility.



Termshield Installation of slab penetration flanges pre concrete pour

Requirements

Located in Queensland, Burnside State High School's new performing arts facility encompasses multiple classrooms, a theatre, and associated amenities. Given the region's high termite activity, the construction team prioritized an effective, long-lasting barrier to prevent future damage and reduce ongoing maintenance costs. The goal was to integrate a seamless, reliable termite management system that aligns with contemporary building standards and sustainability initiatives.

Approach

The Termshield Stainless Steel Termite Barrier System was selected for its superior properties. The system utilizes a corrosion-resistant 316 grade stainless steel mesh, installed as a physical barrier, integrating the slab and around perimeter walls. Its design prevents termites from bypassing the structure, effectively eliminating their

entry points.



Termshield installation Isolating an engaged pier at top of slab height

During construction, the stainless steel mesh was carefully installed, integrating concrete slabs and around penetrations such as pipes and conduits. Its flexibility allowed it to conform to complex architectural features, ensuring comprehensive coverage. The mesh was secured with specialized fixings and sealed with compatible materials to eliminate gaps, ensuring the integrity of the barrier.

Benefits

The termite management system offers several key advantages, making it a reliable and sustainable solution for long-term protection. Constructed from 316 high-grade stainless steel, the barrier is highly durable and corrosion-resistant, ensuring effective performance throughout the building's lifespan. Unlike chemical treatments, this physical barrier is non-toxic and environmentally friendly, posing no risk to occupants or the surrounding environment. Its design also supports ease of inspection and maintenance, enabling straightforward checks to verify ongoing integrity. Importantly, the system was installed in compliance with Australian standards (AS 3660.1), meeting all regulatory requirements for termite protection.

Results

The integration of the Termshield Stainless Steel Termite Barrier System contributed significantly to the project's success. It provided a robust, maintenance-free solution that enhanced the building's durability and safety. The system's reliability minimized future risk and potential costly repairs due to termite damage, aligning with the school's commitment to sustainable, long-term infrastructure.

Furthermore, the use of a non-chemical



Termshield Installation isolating a construction joint at the perimeter pre external pathway concrete pour

barrier supported environmentally conscious construction practices, reducing chemical exposure risks for students and staff.

The Burnside State High School Performing Arts Centre demonstrates best practices in incorporating modern termite management solutions. The Termshield Stainless Steel Termite Barrier System proved to be an effective, durable, and environmentally responsible choice, ensuring the building's longevity and safeguarding the investment. This case exemplifies how advanced physical barrier systems can be seamlessly integrated into educational infrastructure to provide peace of mind and uphold high standards of safety and sustainability.

Design Consultant/Architect: Gray Puksand Pty Ltd

Builder: Evans Built Pty Ltd

Photography: Termiprotect



SPECIFYING QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

Communicating the requirements for quality is the main technical function of the specification. This TECHnote outlines how the NATSPEC specification system may be used to promote quality in construction projects.

DEFINING QUALITY

Quality must be clearly defined as it has different meanings for different people in different situations. In construction this problem is amplified because the responsibility for a project is divided amongst many people and organisations. Therefore, agreement on a defined quality level between all parties, and how it is to be measured, is key to achieving the desired quality sought by the principal.

QUALITY LEVEL

The desired level of quality of a project and its components is driven largely by anticipated life. However, other factors include:

- The purpose of the building - Prestige or utility, flexibility or permanence.
- Required functional performance - Design repetition or one-offs, environmental.
- User perception - Convenience, comfort, ease of maintenance and repair.

It would be a false economy to poorly construct something which must last for many years or over-design something which may only be required to last a short period of time.

WHEN CAN QUALITY BE ACHIEVED?

There is a common misconception that the quality of a project can be completely controlled during the construction stage. However, the level of quality that can be demanded during construction cannot be higher than that which is specified in the contract documentation, without additional cost.

The quality of a project is therefore dependent on adequate documentation and supervision. The contract documentation includes the conditions of contract, the specification, the drawings and the schedules.

To achieve the desired level of quality, care must be taken in material selection, documentation, workmanship and supervision; and weighed against time and cost. Failure to take care may lead to poorer quality, increased costs, and require greater rework, repair and maintenance.

ROLE OF THE SPECIFICATION

The primary role of the specification is to precisely and succinctly define the quality required, and the processes necessary for achieving this. It includes defining clear acceptance criteria for any item of work.

Quality is assured, provided conformance to the specified acceptance criteria, matches the agreed defined quality level.

USING NATSPEC TO ACHIEVE QUALITY

The worksection *Templates* include the construction processes required for each item of work and define clear industry-standard acceptance criteria in the form of tolerances, performance requirements, testing and certification requirements. These can be modified as required, to suit the defined quality levels agreed for each project and its components.

In achieving quality, NATSPEC promotes the coordination of all contract documents. Guidance text discourages duplication of information included on the drawings or within the specification, to avoid potential discrepancies and ambiguity. Duplication of information within the specification is minimised by reference to relevant worksections.

NATSPEC references and monitors updates to relevant Australian and International standards, including those cited within the NCC. Where standards define alternative levels of service, NATSPEC provides prompts to be completed by the specifier. It is essential that the reference to standards is specific to the requirement, to achieve the desired quality.

NATSPEC and AUS-SPEC also cover the requirements for project Quality Management Systems based on AS/NZS ISO 9001 and the provision of project Quality Plans in the **Relevant worksections** listed in the sidebar.



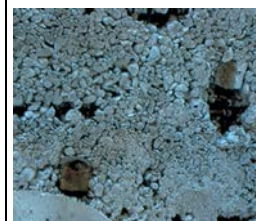
Poor quality timber construction – Split base-plate used.



“....If the building contract documents permit a sow's ear then all the quality control in the world cannot demand a silk purse.....”



Inspection to confirm quality level achieved.



Poor quality concrete – Honeycombing and timber.

Relevant worksections

- 0010 Quality requirements for design (AUS-SPEC).
- 0121 Tendering
- 0160 Quality.
- 0161 Quality management (Construction) (AUS-SPEC).
- 0162 Quality (Supply) (AUS-SPEC).
- 0163 Quality (Delivery) (AUS-SPEC).

The Cullinan, Adelaide, SA



The Cullinan redefines premium living in Adelaide's vibrant CBD. Designed by Gasparini Luk Architects and developed by Luk's Investment, this 18-storey masterpiece combines European elegance with cutting-edge technology and timeless design.

Requirements

Designed with an open-plan intention to maximise both space and natural light, The Cullinan's interiors are complemented with Wattyl I.D Advanced, Wattyl Breeze on the walls and Wattyl Ultra High Opacity White on the ceilings.

Solution

Floor-to-ceiling windows flood the kitchen, exquisitely appointed with natural stone finishes, and dining areas with natural light, creating a warm, inviting glow and offering a seamless connection to the balcony views.

Results

The exterior features striking hand-made brick columns cut from stone sourced from the nearby Adelaide Hills, and used Wattyl Granosite in Wattyl



Wattyl Granosite Granoshield in Wattyl London Fog

London Fog to blend with the cut stone texture and colour to complement the brickwork.

texture and colour to complement the brickwork.

Wattyl Solagard, the Number 1 Australian paint under the sun, was used to add colour and protection to the exterior texture of Granosite GranoShield on the building's exterior, where the specifier had selected

Architect: Gasparini Luk Architects

Developer: Luk's Investment

Construction: IJ Projects

Paint Contractor: SA Paint & Protective

Photography: supplied by Wattyl



Wattyl I.D Advanced in Wattyl Breeze



0671p WATTYL paint

www.wattyl.com.au

NATSPEC'S USE OF STANDARDS

QUALITY AND STANDARDS

'... the level of quality that can be policed in the construction stage cannot be higher than that which is spelt out in the contract. If the building contract documents permit a sow's ear, then all the quality control in the world cannot demand a silk purse ... True quality control starts with the documentation for a project and in the project specification in particular ...'

'... for many years an army of experts has been producing minimum quality standard specifications for reference in a variety of industries, including the building industry, and in regulations relevant to those industries.'

'Nothing could be more necessary, more logical, more timely or more useful in today's building industry or more responsive to the call for quality control than a specification system tied to relevant Australian standards. That is what NATSPEC sets out to be.'

NATSPEC AND AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS

'The NATSPEC method of using relevant published standards is to incorporate them by reference and not to quote, transcribe, repeat or paraphrase the text of the standards. To do so would not only interfere with copyrights but would also breed errors of transcription. It would also increase the physical size of NATSPEC and its derivative specifications, unnecessarily.'

'NATSPEC deliberately avoids blanket referencing of standards, the system by which specifiers expect contractors to allow for every conceivable and inconceivable standard in the world.'

'NATSPEC provides a checklist of possible relevant standards. It also provides a means of exercising options contained in standards. It also allows for manufacturer's recommendations to be referenced or 'called-up' in the same way as standards. NATSPEC recognizes the need for care in the specifying of standards.'

- Bryce Mortlock, RAIA Practice Division Report, August 1989.

STANDARDS IN NATSPEC

NATSPEC continues to incorporate standards by reference to the standard's designation, number and year of publication. Where there are options in standards and decisions to be made, NATSPEC provides prompts and guidance. NATSPEC, with research and feedback from subscribers and industry, fills gaps that the consensus approach can leave out of standards.

NATSOURCE

The publication NATSource includes all NATSPEC cited standards, and their abstracts. It is provided to subscribers as part of their package and also available for purchase.

STANDARDS TO OWN

The following should be considered:

- Design standards cited in the NCC and other regulations, with which you are legally bound to comply.
- Design standards that relate to your discipline and project type.
- Standards and handbooks that relate to construction.
- Lists of suggested standards for the offices of architects, landscape architects, structural, mechanical, hydraulic and electrical engineers provided in the paper *Specification Writing* on the NATSPEC website, under Suggested Standards for offices.

Whether the owning of a standard should be regarded as essential is a matter of professional judgement. Standards relating only to product manufacture or type testing may be considered non-essential provided compliance can be demonstrated by other means, such as certificates of compliance and labelling schemes.

KEEPING STANDARDS CURRENT

- Every three months, NATSPEC lists the most important of these standards in SPECnotes, which is available on SPECbuilder.
- Standards are updated every six months, preceding the April and October specification updates. Standards cited as older versions in the BCA are retained, with additional guidance on the newer version for the specifier.
- Every six months, in April and October, NATSPEC issues updated specification material to its subscribers via USB and SPECbuilder.

Some National and International standards cited by NATSPEC



Australian Standards.



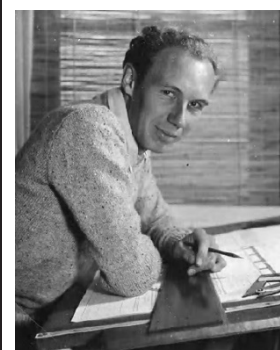
British Standards Institution.



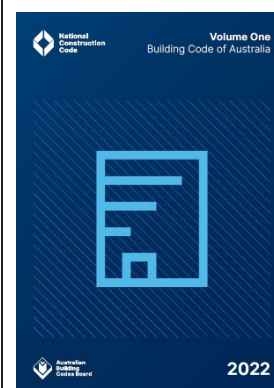
American Society for Testing and Materials.



International Organization for Standardization.



Bryce Mortlock - Father of NATSPEC, RAIA Gold Medallist.



Relevant Websites

NCC

www.abcb.gov.au/

Acts and regulations

www.austlii.edu.au/

Standards Australia

www.standards.org.au/

BlueCare Sunrise Beach Aged Care Home, Noosa, QLD



BlueCare Sunrise Beach Aged Care Home represents a significant advancement in aged care design. Located just south of Noosa on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, the project embraced key insights from the recent Royal Commission into aged care, focusing on home-like environments, nature integration, and community connection. Designed by ThomsonAdsett Architects, every aspect of the build was carefully considered, leading to its recognition as Best Seniors Living Development at the UDIA Queensland Awards 2024.

The project posed unique challenges due to its sensitive setting and vulnerable residents. It required strict bushfire compliance, given its location in a high-risk area, and corrosion resistance, being within two kilometres of the coast. Additionally, hygiene was a priority to ensure a safe environment for residents. Weepa Products were chosen for their certified compliance across multiple Bushfire Attack Levels (BAL), built-in pest protection, and durable marine-grade stainless steel construction, making them a practical solution for the build.

Requirement

Several sides of the facility required the highest bushfire protection rating, while others were downgraded due to lower risk. The proximity to the coast introduced concerns about salt corrosion, necessitating materials with high durability. Additionally, the facility's

combination of masonry brickwork and concrete load-bearing columns meant weep holes were essential for cavity wall ventilation, while also needing to meet bushfire compliance standards.



Stainless Steel Weepa in brick wall

Solution

Weepa Products provided a tailored solution to meet these varied requirements. Stainless Steel Weepas were installed in areas requiring the highest bushfire protection, while High Performance Bushfire Weepas were used in lower-risk zones. Both products' marine-grade stainless steel construction provided superior rust resistance, crucial for withstanding the harsh coastal climate.

Weepa's ability to be easily procured also played a key role, ensuring a seamless late-stage design adjustment. Tom Monahan from Badge Construction noted:

"Weepa Products were selected due to their wide range and ease of procurement, especially given the late design change. They ensured the BAL

requirements for our project were met without complication."

Importantly, the pest-resistant design of Weepa Products added a hygienic advantage, reducing the risk of insect and rodent intrusion, critical in an aged care environment. Monahan further confirmed the product's reliability:

"The product has performed as expected thus far, with no issues in installation or integration with the design."



70mm Bushfire Weepa in brick wall

Benefits

The BlueCare Sunrise Beach Aged Care Home demonstrates how architects can integrate effective, compliant, and durable cavity ventilation solutions in complex environments. By specifying Weepa Products early in the design phase, architects can ensure seamless bushfire compliance across varied BAL zones, corrosion resistance in coastal environments and enhanced hygiene through pest protection. Weepa products are stocked nationwide at over 1000 stockist locations and special orders are shipped same day to ensure reliable procurement and smooth project execution. With proven performance in this award-winning project, Weepa Products should be a key consideration for architects designing for bushfire-prone, coastal, or hygiene-sensitive environments.

Architect: ThomsonAdsett

Client: UnitingCare Queensland

Builder: BADGE Constructions

Photography: supplied by Weepa



BlueCare Sunrise Beach Aged Care Home



0331p WEEPA in brick and block construction

www.weepa.com.au

HOLD POINTS AND WITNESS POINTS

INTRODUCTION

Hold points and *Witness points* are construction stages which may need additional inspection, verification and documentation to make sure of:

- The safety of the personnel, environment and the public, before proceeding.
- The technical quality and any legal requirements have been satisfied.
- The next stage in the construction process can be completed.

Verification measures will vary with the specification method. For performance specifying, verification involves testing. For specifying by reference, verification is to a standard, or through third-party certification to that standard. Verification procedures are documented in the specification Inspection and test plan designated as *Hold points* and *Witness points*.

HOLD POINT

A *Hold point* is a mandatory verification point beyond which a work process cannot proceed without authorisation by the contract administrator. *Hold points* are usually assigned to those critical aspects of the work that cannot be inspected or corrected at a later stage because they will no longer be accessible. The relevant work cannot proceed until the contract administrator is able to verify the quality of the completed work and releases the *Hold point*.

Hold points can be nominated by:

- The principal, in the contract documents.
- The contract administrator, with a Non-conformance or Corrective action report.

Use *Hold points* sparingly as each potentially affects project duration and cost.

WITNESS POINT

A *Witness point* is an identified point in the work process where the contract administrator may review, witness, inspect or undertake tests on any component, method or process of works. The contractor is required to notify the contract administrator who may or may not take the opportunity. The subsequent activity however, may proceed.

CONTRACTOR'S ROLE

The contractor is responsible for satisfying the documented contract requirements and planning, developing and maintaining a system assuring the detection of non-conformances and control of their resolution. The issue of a Non-conformance report or a Notice of non-conformance automatically creates a *Hold point*.

AUS-SPEC APPROACH

AUS-SPEC is a specification system for the life-cycle management of assets. In AUS-SPEC *Templates*, *Hold points* are part of:

- 0136 *General requirements (Construction)*, 0161 *Quality management (Construction)* and 0167 *Integrated management* worksections. The Quality plan for the works incorporates checklists, inspections, testing and documentation to make sure that the works comply with the contract documents. *Hold points* and *Witness Points* should be included in the checklists. Examples of submissions include a quality plan or soil compaction test results for a prepared sub-base.
- The summary of *Hold points* and *Witness points* in the annexure of each construction worksection provides a checklist for programming sequential activities and communication obligations.
- A Maintenance management plan combines the requirements of the Technical specifications, Quality manual and the Quality plan, for assuring quality in construction projects. The Maintenance management plan covers policy, organisation, selected procedures, maintenance planning and Activity specifications for maintenance activities. The Activity specifications form the core of the document and include the nominated *Hold points*, e.g. test results confirming compliance of materials like asphalt or requirements of the work order for the proposed maintenance work.

AUS-SPEC TECHguides provide further guidance on the use of *Hold points* and *Witness points* for the AUS-SPEC specifications.

NATSPEC APPROACH

NATSPEC *Templates* do not nominate *Hold points* in *Normal* style text. The **INSPECTION** clause in individual worksections includes *Guidance* text for nominating *Hold points* where they may be appropriate for inclusion in a project specification, e.g. inspecting formwork and reinforcement prior to placement of concrete.

NATSPEC *Templates* use **INSPECTIONS, Notice** in lieu of *Witness points*. TECHnote GEN 014 provides more information on submissions and testing.

AUS-SPEC definitions:

Hold point: A mandatory verification position in the contract beyond which work cannot proceed without designated authorisation.

Witness point: A nominated position, in the different stages of the Contract, where the option of attendance may be exercised by the Superintendent, after notification of the requirement.

Non-conformance report (NCR):

A mandatory (standard format) submission by the contractor that details the non-conforming work and the contractor's proposed disposition of the non-conformance.

Notice of non-conformance (NNC):

Formal instruction to the contractor of product non-conformance to documented requirements. It automatically creates a *Hold Point* and requires a non-conformance report (NCR) from the contractor.

Corrective action request (CAR):

A formal advice/instruction to the contractor requesting action to eliminate the cause of a detected nonconformity.

Disposition (of non-conformity):

A remedial action to be taken concerning material, components or product about which a decision has been made. The resolution of a non-conformance. (This should not be confused with Corrective Action.)

NATSPEC definitions:

Hold point: The activity cannot proceed without the approval of the contract administrator.

NATSPEC defines **Hold points** in *Optional* style text in 0171 *General requirements* worksection along with *Guidance* text on minimising Contract administrator intervention of this kind to accord with *principles of quality assurance and risk allocation*.

Contract administrator: Has the same meaning as 'architect', 'superintendent' or 'principal's authorised person' and is the person appointed by the 'owner' or 'principal' under the contract.

Relevant documents

0136 *General requirements (Construction)* (AUS-SPEC)

0161 *Quality management (Construction)* (AUS-SPEC)

0167 *Integrated management* (AUS-SPEC)

0171 *General requirements*

AUS-SPEC TECHguides

TECHnote GEN 014 *Submissions and testing*

Austroads AGPD03/22 *Guide to project delivery – Part 3 Contract management*.

Austroads AGPD05/18 *Guide to project delivery – Part 5 Road construction quality assurance*.

Salvado Catholic College, Byford, WA



As part of our ongoing partnership with Salvado Catholic College, Paterson Architects was engaged in late 2017 to commence briefing and concept design for the College's proposed Stage 3 development.

A masterplan review was also requested, culminating in an updated strategy for the College's future vision. This plan was cost managed to fit the funding framework and provided the College assurance that its vision and fiscal responsibilities aligned.



Tiered Seating and Presentation Space

What was unique about the project?

The project featured a new double-storey building, the first secondary learning facility on the campus, located in Byford, Western Australia. It serves as a central node for the entire Year K-12 campus, incorporating the Kaadadjiny

Hub, a 300m² E-Learning and Library facility situated among General Learning Areas on the first floor. The ground floor houses Specialty Arts and Science spaces, including a Food Tech room and Workshop spaces, providing interim lower secondary technology and enterprise learning opportunities until dedicated specialist buildings are constructed. A central tiered seating and stair void forms a 100-person lecture theatre, performance, and gathering space, connecting both levels. The design respects the College's established aesthetic, with material and colour selections aligning with earlier works, offering a reference for future secondary facility development. Construction was staged over two separate contracts with different Head Contractors, McCorkell Construction for the first phase and BE Projects for the second, requiring tight control of material specifications to maintain consistency. The project, delivered for Catholic Education Western Australia Ltd and Salvado Catholic College, commenced construction in March 2020 amidst early pandemic challenges and was fully operational by September 2022.

What were the advantages of using the NATSPEC system?

The NATSPEC system ensured tight control over material specifications and selections, which was critical given the project's two-phase construction with

different Head Contractors. Despite pandemic-related industry adjustments impacting long-lead material supply, the clarity of NATSPEC worksections enabled collaboration with both contractors to maintain design outcomes for the client. The system's compliance with the latest Australian Standards and cross-referenced specifications supported project quality assurance, particularly in a complex project with high-frequency circulation areas requiring robust solutions like the Moddex AR160 and CB30 galvanised balustrade and handrail systems. These NCC- and DDA-compliant systems have proven durable, with no maintenance issues reported since the building's opening.

What are the lessons learnt that you are prepared to share with other designers?

The NATSPEC system provides a systematic approach to trade specifications, ensuring compliance with Australian Standards and maintaining project quality assurance, especially in complex projects. Its clear workflow for integrating architectural and services specifications saves time and supports consistency across multiple offices and consultancies, as most consultants and engineering firms also rely on NATSPEC worksections. The use of robust, compliant systems like the Moddex balustrades and handrails for high-traffic areas proved effective, offering durability and accessibility without maintenance issues. Designers should leverage NATSPEC's structured specifications to enhance confidence within the design team and streamline coordination, particularly in multi-phase projects with diverse stakeholders.

Architect: Paterson Architects

Client: Catholic Education Western Australia Ltd and Salvado Catholic College

Head Contractor: McCorkell Construction (First Phase) and BE Projects (Second Phase)

Photography: Silvertone Photography and Paterson Architects



Art, Science and Learning Hub



PRODUCT SPECIFYING AND SUBSTITUTION

PROPRIETARY SPECIFYING

In NATSPEC, proprietary means *identifiable by naming the manufacturer, supplier, installer, trade name, brand name, catalogue or reference number.*

GENERIC SPECIFYING

The aim of the specification writer in customising NATSPEC for a project is to describe performance as follows:

- Measurable outcomes in terms of:
 - Conformity to a standard.
 - Product tolerance.
 - Construction tolerance.
 - Delivery and energy use.
 - Durability.
 - Compatibility with existing systems.
- Comparable outcomes in terms of:
 - Colour and texture.
 - A benchmark description.

Evaluation criteria include:

- Type tests.
- Evidence of conformity to a standard by a Accredited Testing Laboratory or JASANZ accredited certification body.

SUBMISSIONS

NATSPEC has provisions for specifying particular requirements for submissions. Provision is also made for specifying time and program constraints for submissions. The subclause relating to information submissions for building products under 0171 *General requirements*, SUBMISSIONS AND INSPECTIONS, SUBMISSIONS is:

Project requirements

Products and materials data, including manufacturer's technical specifications and drawings, product data sheets, type tests results, evidence of conformity to documented requirements, product certification, performance and rating tables, service connection requirements and installation and maintenance recommendations.

NATSPEC POLICY ON SUBSTITUTIONS

In order to maintain the contractor's contractual responsibility regarding supply, NATSPEC allows for substitution within 0171 *General requirements*. The following italicised text is an extract from PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS, SUBSTITUTIONS:

General

Identified proprietary items: Identification of a proprietary item does not necessarily imply exclusive preference for the identified item but indicates the necessary properties of the item.

Alternatives: If alternatives to the documented products, methods or systems are proposed, submit sufficient information to permit evaluation of the proposed alternatives, including the following:

- Product, method or system identification.
- Product data sheets.
- Manufacturer's contact details.
- Detailed comparison between the properties of the documented product and proposed substitution.

- Details of manufacturer and/or installer warranty.
 - Statement of NCC compliance, if applicable.
 - Evidence of conformity to a cited standard or code of practice.
 - Evidence that the performance is at least equal to that specified.
 - Samples.
 - Essential technical information, in English.
 - Comparison between the products in relation to assembly method, finishes, installation methods and any protection/packaging.
 - Reasons for the proposed substitutions.
 - Statement of the extent of revisions to the contract documents.
 - Statement of the extent of revisions to the construction program.
 - Statement of cost implications including costs outside the contract.
 - Statement of consequent alterations to other parts of the works.
 - Statement of consequent maintenance conditions of warranty.
- Availability: If the documented products or systems are unavailable within the time constraints of the construction program, submit evidence.*
- Criteria: If the substitution is for any reason other than unavailability, submit evidence that the substitution:*
- Is of net enhanced value to the principal.
 - Is consistent with the contract documents and is as effective as the identified item, detail or method.

Optional style text

ACUMEN ADVICE ON SUBSTITUTIONS AND VARIATIONS

An architect administering the contract should be aware that:

- A substitution may be contrary to the owner's requirements. When the owner signs a contract with the contractor, the materials described in the specification are a requirement under that contract and the substitution of materials without approval may be a breach of the contract and any applicable warranties.
- If the contractor substitutes materials without approval, the owner is entitled to give notice to the contractor that the specified materials must be installed, or in the alternative, the owner may claim damages for the substitution because without approval by the owner the contractor may be in breach of the contract.

(Italicised text is an extract from Substitutions in acumen.architecture.com.au, the Australian Institute of Architects' practice advisory subscription service.)

NATSPEC PRODUCT PARTNERS



A NATSPEC Product Partner is a building product manufacturer with an agreement with NATSPEC to include a purpose edited worksection in NATSPEC.

A NATSPEC branded worksection is a technical worksection produced in NATSPEC format in conjunction with a Product Partner. Branded worksections provide specifiers with an alternative to the generic worksection where a particular product has been selected at the design stage.

The research prior to the selection of a product or system is filtered, to eliminate inappropriate choices. The requirements of the client, regulators, standards, and the designer all affect whether the selection is presented as a generic or a proprietary item. The NATSPEC worksections facilitate the recording of both types.

All manufacturers are acutely aware of the problem of substitution by the contractor. It is being exacerbated by the lure of cheap and sometimes fake imports. Consultants are also affected as they spend considerable time and effort selecting a product, finish or electrical/mechanical system as part of their design responsibilities.

Relevant worksection

0171 *General requirements*

Related TECHnotes

GEN 014 *Submissions and testing*

Park House, Abbotsford, VIC



What was unique about the project?

Park House is a refined multi-residential development that responds directly to its natural surrounds in Abbotsford, positioned on the banks of the Yarra River. What makes this project unique is the way it merges a high level of urban amenity with a strong connection to nature. The architecture is defined by a restrained material palette, generous outdoor spaces, and carefully composed forms that sit within the surrounding landscape. Residences were designed to feel calm and private, with interiors that extend seamlessly to balconies and terraces, offering expansive views across the river and parklands.



Shared cycle pathways weave through sculptural pilotis, connecting the site to the Main Yarra Trail

The site planning prioritised permeability and connection to the adjacent parklands, with communal gardens and pedestrian paths that invite residents to engage with their environment. Rather than dominating the site, the building carefully steps back from the riverbank, creating a gentle transition between built form and nature. This sensitivity to context fostered a sense of retreat and calm, positioning Park House as a considered response to its riverside setting rather than a conventional urban infill development.

The building's façade was designed with an emphasis on texture, rhythm, and material honesty—featuring natural off-form concrete and expressed

metalwork. Inside, the interiors embraced a warm, neutral palette that balanced softness and simplicity, allowing the external environment to take focus. This layered use of robust and tactile materials contributes to the project's sense of quiet sophistication and enduring quality.



Rhythmic concrete bands wrap the façade, blending shade, form, and light play

What were the advantages of using the NATSPEC system?

Using the NATSPEC system provided clarity and consistency across the project documentation. It enabled a comprehensive and standardised approach to specifying materials and construction methods, reducing ambiguity during tender and construction stages. This was especially useful in a project like Park House where careful detailing, material selection, and build quality were paramount. The system's structure supported collaboration between consultants and contractors, ensuring that specifications were aligned with the architectural intent. NATSPEC also allowed us to confidently reference relevant standards, performance requirements, and sustainability outcomes, helping to maintain quality assurance throughout the process.

What are the lessons learnt from the project that you are prepared to share with other designers?

One of the key lessons from Park House was the importance of early collaboration between architects, landscape designers, engineers, and builders. Engaging all stakeholders in the early design phases allowed for coordinated decision-making and reduced rework during documentation and construction. We also learnt the value of specifying natural and robust materials that age gracefully and require minimal maintenance – this aligns with our sustainability goals while also delivering a timeless design outcome.



Facing the Yarra River, the bronze-glazed façade mirrors the riverbank's mature greenery, grounding the building in its natural setting

Another key takeaway was the value of well-documented standards and specifications. These provided a clear benchmark for quality and allowed the team to confidently resolve issues when workmanship did not meet expectations. In one instance, a major rectification process was required due to inconsistent installation outcomes; however, because the relevant standards had been clearly set out in the contract documentation, resolution was straightforward, and accountability was clear. This experience reinforced the importance of comprehensive specification writing and the role it plays in protecting design integrity.

Architect: SJB

Builders/Contractors: Icon

Photographer: Aaron Puls

BRANDED vs GENERIC WORKSECTIONS

BRANDED OR GENERIC?

The foundation unit of the NATSPEC specification system is the worksection. NATSPEC worksections are selected and customised by the specifier to produce a project specification. In some instances, the specifier can choose between a generic worksection and a branded worksection when compiling the specification. This TECHnote defines the alternatives and outlines their advantages.

Regulations, standards, client and designer requirements will all have some influence on whether a generic or branded worksection is appropriate.

BRANDED WORKSECTION	GENERIC WORKSECTION
Definition A NATSPEC branded worksection is developed by NATSPEC in conjunction with the manufacturer, known as a NATSPEC Product Partner. It is a MS Word document <i>Template</i> which follows NATSPEC style and format and can be customised by the specifier.	Definition A NATSPEC generic worksection is a MS Word document. It is a comprehensive <i>Template</i> which the specifier must customise by completing prompts, adding relevant material and deleting material which is not applicable to their project.
Classification Each branded worksection is based on the associated NATSPEC generic worksection and shares the same classification number.	Classification NATSPEC worksections are classified and sequenced in a logical order corresponding to common Australian construction industry sequence.
Advantages - Provides an alternative to a generic worksection where a particular product has been selected at the design stage. Associated generic material not manufactured by the Product Partner is still provided. - Minimal customising required as the <i>Template</i> has been pre-edited in conjunction with the Product Partner. - Current product information is readily available and accessible via hyperlinks between the <i>Template</i> and the Product Partner's website reducing research time and facilitating early decision making. - The possibility of product substitution by the contractor may be reduced as the unique performance characteristics of the product are clearly specified.	Advantages - Provides comprehensive coverage of a particular work area. - Adaptable for open proprietary specification where more than one brand or model number is acceptable. - Adaptable for closed proprietary specification where a branded worksection is unavailable. - Useful where the inclusion of brand names is not permitted. - The <i>Template</i> can be modified to create a new worksection where a NATSPEC worksection is not available.

SUBSTITUTION

Manufacturers are aware of the problem of substitution by the contractor. To maintain the contractor's contractual responsibility regarding supply, NATSPEC allows for substitution. However, text in the *0171 General requirements* worksection requires the contractor to provide the contract administrator with the appropriate technical information to make an informed decision regarding the proposed substitution. See related TECHnote *GEN 006 Product specifying and substitution*.

Worksection Structure

Each worksection is divided into:

GENERAL - applies to the worksection as a whole and includes cross referencing, standards, interpretation, tolerances, submissions and inspections.

PRODUCTS - describes the basic materials, components and fabricated items.

EXECUTION - sets out the construction performance criteria to prepare the substrate, assemble materials to produce an installation and carry out the works.

SELECTIONS - contains schedules that refer to the selection of proprietary products or to generic products by their properties.



Open specifications, such as descriptive, performance or reference specifications, can be satisfied by more than one product. An open proprietary specification is where there is more than one acceptable brand or model number.

Closed specifications can be satisfied by only one product. A single brand or model number may be nominated. However, some specifications which seem open are actually closed as only one product on the market will satisfy the criteria specified.

Related TECHnotes

NATSPEC TECHnote *GEN 006 Product specifying and substitution* sets out the difference between proprietary and generic specifying, and explains the policy and means of managing contract variations related to requests for substitution.

Related Worksection

0171 General requirements



"The Australian Institute of Building is proud to support the work of NATSPEC."

"The Product Partner Case Study Magazine is another useful guide which provides examples of a Product Partner and subscriber's capacity and credibility. It also adequately addresses the necessity of high-quality construction specifications. The magazine increases exposure of manufacturers who have achieved high-quality projects which add value to the built environment. We congratulate NATSPEC for sharing such a valuable resource with the industry. This type of initiative when utilised by designers and constructors to achieve a universal quality of material selection will assist in creating Building Confidence for end consumers."

Scott Reid, National President, AIB

"It's incredibly important to manage processes, it's incredibly important to manage information: to know what information is correct, what information is out of date, and what is the current information. NATSPEC is very important because it is a common language and what it does is, it creates a whole specification database for the elements we're proposing to build. Essentially, working through NATSPEC provides you with a full gamut of opportunities that you can potentially face, so it acts as an aide-mémoire as well as working through the documentation."



David Sutherland, Fender Katsalidis Architects



"An architectural practice should have, amongst other things, three fundamental project control documents: its Integrated Management Manual, the National Construction Code and NATSPEC."

Tony Kemeny, Gran Associates

"...Hence, the courts and others often look to the specification in particular to determine the message conveyed by the contract documents to those who work with them."

Acumen, Australian Institute of Architects

"Using good design documentation, you protect your reputation, you reduce defects, you produce high quality, you reduce costs, and most importantly, you deliver on time. And without good documentation you can't achieve these objectives."

"Clearly defined quality requirements reduce construction cost blowouts that result in re-work, redesign, variations and disputes. Good quality construction increases asset value due to longer asset life."

Mario Macri, Lendlease



GETTING HELP

INTRODUCTION

This TECHnote summarises the various ways that NATSPEC provides help to specification writers.

NATSPEC Guidance

NATSPEC worksections include extensive *Guidance* text with suggestions on filling in prompts, alternatives, and background material. *Guidance* is in Microsoft Word hidden text format which can be turned on or off, and appears like this:

NATSPEC does not recommend the use of Scope of Works clauses. If you wish to include such a general description you may add it here, or in the corresponding location of selected worksections.

If you work with an office master, you may find it convenient to add your own guidance notes using NATSPEC's hidden text styles.

See NTN GEN 029 for more on design and specification *Guidance* text.

NATSPEC Optional style text

Some worksections include *Optional style text in this font (blue with a grey background)* that covers items specified less frequently. It is also a Microsoft Word hidden text format which can be incorporated into *Normal* style text, where it is applicable to a project, by highlighting the text and changing the style and format.

NATsource

NATsource lists more than 1200 documents cited in the specification packages. Use it to check document titles, currency, content and publishers. Access *NATsource* via SPECbuilder/Resources/Standards Info. Changes to cited standards are summarised in *SPECnotes*, a quarterly newsletter for subscribers.

NATSPEC TECHnotes, TECHreports and AUS-SPEC TECHguides

TECHnotes provide guidance of a more general nature that either relates to several worksections, or does not fit into the normal worksection structure, TECHreports provide more detailed information on specification issues and TECHguides provide guidance on compiling contract documentation for local government projects.

All these documents continue to be developed and updated. The latest versions are available in the Technical Resources area of the NATSPEC website or via the Resources link in SPECbuilder.

NATSPEC Website

See www.natspec.com.au. NATSPEC's website has a range of material including:

- Details of NATSPEC specification packages, including abstracts of worksections.
- A link to SPECbuilder and Domestic Online.
- A link to NATSPEC Class 2 Reference Specification.
- Links to Product Partners' websites arranged by worksection.
- Information on publications relating to specification writing.
- Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) on specification writing, purchasing NATSPEC, getting started with NATSPEC and word processing.

NATSPEC BIM Portal

The BIM Portal is home to the *NATSPEC National BIM Guide* and related documents. It also includes resources and tools to assist the implementation of BIM in the construction industry. To go to the BIM Portal, click on the *NATSPEC BIM* logo on the NATSPEC website.

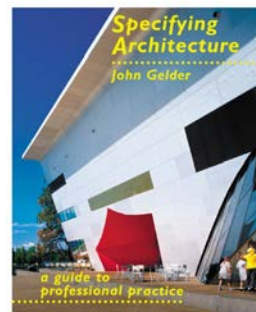
NATSPEC Training

NATSPEC provides training in specification writing-related subjects.

For details of monthly *Getting started with NATSPEC* webinars and annual training courses in venues around Australia see www.natspec.com.au.

Videos of previous courses are also available on the website. Subscribers are notified of upcoming training courses.

Relevant Publications



Specifying Architecture - a guide to professional practice

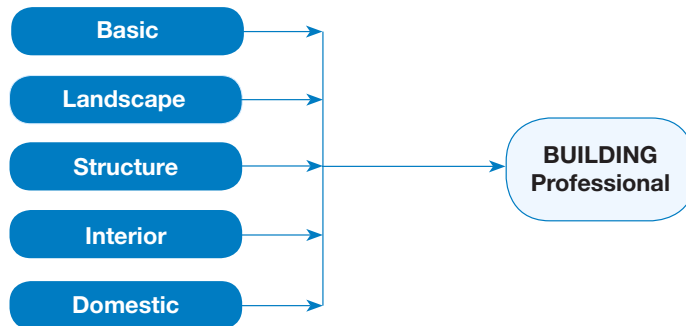
NATSPEC assistance

NATSPEC does not provide a design or specification service but we can assist with specification writing techniques and dealing with problems using SPECbuilder and NATSPEC in Microsoft Word.

If you have problems finding what you want, feel free to contact us directly.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Professional Package Inclusions

- Twice yearly update including changes to the National Construction Code and Standards.
- SPECbuilder online specification compilation software compatible with all versions of Windows, Macintosh and Linux operating systems.
- Editable worksection Templates in Microsoft Word *.docx format. See the National Worksection Matrix for the worksections included in this package and NATSPEC Worksection Abstracts for a summary of each worksection's content and application.
- Hidden text Guidance for developing project specifications for tender and contract documentation.
- Fully searchable pdf version of package with highlighted updates.
- Instructional guides and technical resources.
- Package USB for backup.
- Unlimited use of Domestic Online.
- Branded Worksections are meticulously prepared documents that are editable with guidance text, and product options. This ensures consistency, clarity, and adherence to good industry practices for achieving success in building projects.

Subscribe to NATSPEC at www.natspec.com.au and transform your specification experience.

Call 1300 797 142 or **email:** mail@natspec.com.au for assistance.

NATSPEC

the National Building Specification

Government departments and clients prefer NATSPEC

In the majority of Australian States and Territories, NATSPEC specifications are required for building projects. Government departments and clients prefer NATSPEC specifications so that they are assured of a baseline level of project quality. Whilst drawings and schedules only provide the form and materials, it is a properly constructed specification that outlines the quality desired. For over 45 years NATSPEC has been trusted to deliver quality results.

Consultants prefer NATSPEC

The number of regulations that change each year continues to increase. Pressures on consultants' fees and the time required to design do not allow for individual organisations to monitor all the regulatory changes. NATSPEC provides the economies of scale to keep consultants up-to-date. Consultants know that NATSPEC is comprehensive and provides a clear outline of the quality of materials and tolerance of construction required. NATSPEC specifications save litigation and support the team's desire for successful projects.

Contractors prefer NATSPEC

It is a competitive world and as the industry continues to consolidate, greater emphasis is being placed on the cost of a project. Contractors want to compete on an even footing and a NATSPEC specification means that the job will not be lost to someone who will cut the quality of construction. NATSPEC is independent and does not favour one party over another.

Project managers prefer NATSPEC

When all parties are clear on the expected outcome, the project progresses quickly and without undue confrontation. NATSPEC's template specifications are written in simple plain English without duplication or contradiction so that Project Managers do not waste time clarifying project requirements.

NATSPEC is a national not-for-profit organisation, owned by Government and industry, whose objective is to improve the construction quality and productivity of the sustainable built environment through leadership of information. It is impartial and is not involved in advocacy or policy development.

www.natspec.com.au

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