

KALEIDOSCOPE OF CARE

DEVELOPER : Department of Health and Human Services
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Hansen Yuncken
ARCHITECT : Billard Leece Partnership
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : Irwin Consult
PROJECT VALUE : \$65 million



Built on the existing Albury Hospital site, the \$65M Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre is comprised of a new 3-level building of approximately 8,000m² floor area plus, internal courtyards and covered entries with a radical new design set to transform the concept of radiology clinics forever.

The new state-of-the-art Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre (AWRCC) will provide the region with the best possible medical care and facilities in the treatment of cancer. With unparalleled expertise and experience in the delivery of healthcare facilities, it was only fitting that Hansen Yuncken was in charge of bringing this vital development to life.

“We were engaged as the head contractor to construct the new Regional Cancer Centre,” explains Jason Cox, Regional Manager, Hansen Yuncken. “The works were managed by the Hansen Yuncken Victorian regional office which operates from Albury and Shepparton and construct works throughout Central/Northern Victoria and Southern New South Wales.”

Adjacent to Albury Hospital, the AWRCC is a distinct address that eschews the conventional hospital layout. The AWRCC combines functionality with light-filled, inviting spaces to comfortably support patients during their treatment. Facilities comprise a day oncology unit for chemotherapy, three radiotherapy bunkers, a 30 bed inpatient

ward, a “Wellness Centre”, dedicated children’s treatment space, 17 consulting rooms plus a pharmacy.

While the operational AWRCC benefits the region with access to advanced cancer treatments, Hansen Yuncken’s Victorian regional office ensured the project advantaged the local community throughout its completion. “This project was constructed using mostly local trade contractors which is a great boost to the local economies and something Hansen Yuncken aspires to when we construct our regional works,” Jason says. “The quality of the build is testament to those trade contractors and the pride that they take in presenting a feature building such as this.”

Local trade contractors also strengthened their skills through innovative construction processes undertaken during the project. These included the use and installation of Bubbledeck, a recently developed prefabricated suspended flooring system. “This system realised both time and cost savings in construction through a combination of off site fabrication and a reduced need to fully prop

the structure as the works progressed,” Jason says. Hansen Yuncken overcame the challenges of installing the system while simultaneously increasing productivity and cost-effectiveness for the client. “Lifting the Bubbledeck panels was quite challenging,” Jason explains. “Our team managed to sequence the lifting requirements around the building structure which negated the need to provide a tower crane.”

Hansen Yuncken’s client-focused approach saw atypical construction methods achieve superior outcomes. The façade feature cladding, for instance, was produced through a process of colour anodising the cement sheet cladding. Numerous test samples and die-casts were required to get the perfect result. “This type of anodising is not usually undertaken on building materials and represents a much improved quality and warranty for the client,” says Jason.

An integral component of the AWRCC’s treatment capabilities, three radiology bunker facilities were constructed with roof structures of 1m thick concrete and over 16km of steel reinforcement. Pouring the concrete was a monumental task over seven hours that was carefully managed to avoid the heat of the day and prevent cracking.

With construction taking place alongside an operational health facility, Hansen Yuncken collaborated with the client to reduce the impact of



service disruptions and cut-overs. “Our team managed this process by working closely with the client to undertake these works in low risk operation periods i.e., overnight, on weekends,” Jason explains. “The team implemented risk mitigation strategies during these works to ensure that the planned outcomes were achieved without disrupting the hospital operations.”

Not just a capital city builder, Hansen Yuncken is at the forefront of delivering exciting projects in regional centres such as Newcastle and Cairns as well. The Victorian regional office is currently completing a number of works including the Echuca Regional Health Redevelopment, Euroa Aged Care, Rules Club Wagga Wagga Redevelopment, RACV Cobram Resort, Bunnings Yarrowonga and Deniliquin Police Station.

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ALL CISTERNS GO

A major contributor to the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre has been Cooke & Dowsett (Albury) Pty Ltd, servicing regional Victoria and throughout NSW. A national company with projects all across Australia to their credit, they are leaders in the field of commercial and industrial plumbing. They have a history of cooperation with Hansen Yuncken and are also working together on the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Redevelopment, a full design and construct contract.

They employ forty people in the local region and play a valuable part in the economy of the area. Their highly qualified and experienced team work closely with relevant authorities, architects engineers and clients to ensure a seamless design that is responsive to all relevant plumbing and drainage issues.

Cooke & Dowsett have had considerable input into the new centre, installing general hydraulic services, pumps and tanks, in-ground fire and syphonic drainage of a high standard. The unique design of the centre has posed a challenge to the company but they were up to the challenge, and the installation here is of the highest quality and will serve the community for years to come.

Of particular interest is the high-tech below ground water retention tank, which is particularly large compared with others in the area. Albury Wodonga is of course situated on the banks of the river Murray and water retention is an important consideration. Cooke & Dowsett have considerable experience in the field and the new

tank is constructed to the highest standards to guarantee safety and reliability. All of this is not possible without a high degree of cooperation between the sub-contractors and Cooke & Dowsett are happy with the spirit in which they have been able to work with the authorities and other sub-contractors.

The company is very proud of its latest contribution to the Albury Wodonga area and is determined to maintain its reputation for producing a product which always conforms to industry best practice.

For more information contact Cooke & Dowsett (Albury) Pty Ltd, 23A/39 Bennu Circuit, East Albury NSW 2640, phone 02 6043 2910, fax 02 6043 2549, email info@cookedowsett.com.au, website www.cookedowsett.com.au



LOCAL LIFTERS

Dunn's Twin City Cranes, a local company, has had considerable input into the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre.

The company has a high profile in the area and its cranes and equipment are a familiar part of the twin city skyline. They have a wide variety of equipment and are capable of tackling any project in the local area.

The company is very proud of its contribution to the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre. The architects have designed a unique building that has sometimes proved a challenge to the equipment available, but by careful management and improvisation Dunns have overcome all the problems.

"We have a versatile staff who can approach any problem and find a solution. It is always a pleasure to work with Hansen Yuncken and the result of this project is something of which we as sub-contractors and the whole community can be proud" said Dunn's Twin City Cranes spokesperson.

For more information contact Dunn's Twin City Cranes, 9 Bradford Street, Wodonga VIC 3690, phone 02 6056 4123, fax 02 6056 4164 email jon@dtcc.com.au, website www.dunnstwincitycranes.com.au



