

# MACKAY TRADE TRAINING FACILITY

FK Gardner and Sons' are delivering The Mackay Trade Training Facility project at the Central Queensland University will comprise of workshops and classrooms which will cater for the education of students in trade disciplines.



With a history of effectively completing large developments for both public and private companies along with the capability and vision to construct such an ambitious build, FK Gardner and Sons were awarded the \$39 million contract to construct the Mackay Knowledge Village.

FK Gardner and Sons' success is not one stumbled upon by accident. As country builders in small-town Brookstead on the Western Darling Downs, the Gardner family built a name in the region by building anything from farm sheds to renovations. Progressing gradually to commercial projects (their first being the Tallowood Community Centre), the business steadily grew and in 1977 became FK Gardner and Sons (FKG), with current Executive Chairman Gary Gardner steering the helm.

From there, FKG has grown to the diverse Group it is today, constructing projects all over Queensland and Eastern Australia. The FK Gardner and Sons Group prides themselves on their ability to provide commercial construction, civil, mining, development, plant hire and plumbing services with a focus on safety, quality and efficiency.

Now employing over 900 employees with an annual turnover in excess of \$550 million, FKG has completed various commercial projects of similar size and methodology to the Mackay Trade Training Centre, including the \$27 million Mackay Regional Council Depot, a project that was recognised with a Queensland Master Builders Award for the region.

FKG Project Manager for the Mackay Trade Training Centre project Rohan Greyling said the team were more than willing to rise to the challenges that faced them.

"We not only had a short timeframe for the build, but we also had to deal with a site located in the middle of a cane paddock with no existing services in place," he said. "We had to install all external infrastructure including sewerage and electricity."

FKG realised that to meet the client's deadline, they would need to split the contract in half and dedicate separate teams to work on each portion, including subcontractors.

Stage one of the project commenced in mid 2012 where FKG worked closely with the appointed consultants to progress the design from concept to final documentation stage.

"Having organised an early works package that consisted of constructing the building platform and the structural steel workshop drawings, FKG more than proved we were able to follow through with stage two of the project," Mr Greyling said.

"I believe it was reassuring for our clients to know that FKG had a dedicated team on site to ensure the achievement of the target programme and the delivery of the project to a high quality."

The Mackay Trade Training Centre was handed over to the client on Monday 17 June 2013.

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**Below** ALLROADS delivered all the civil components including earthworks, drainage, pavements, kerbing, asphalt and water mains.



**Below** Ramage Concreting used 22,000m<sup>2</sup> of concrete for the Mackay Trade Training Facility.



**Built on a foundation of leadership, values and ethics the ALLROADS Group have grown to become an established and reputable contracting business.** The Group are well resourced with multiple construction crews and their own extensive fleet of highly mobile and specialised construction equipment. From their Brisbane head office and regional depots, the team have successfully completed projects over a wide geographic area and have the capacity to undertake projects across all of Queensland and interstate, including the Mackay Trade Training Facility.

According to ALLROADS Contracting Manager, Peter van Esseveld, it is this diversity of civil works experience and depth of internal resourcing that enables ALLROADS to be so well positioned to undertake projects like Mackay. “Having this depth of resourcing available to us, meant that on the Mackay project we were able to deliver all the civil components including earthworks, drainage, pavements, kerbing, asphalt and water mains,” Peter said.

The 40-strong ALLROADS Mackay project team was well led by highly-experienced Project Manager Igor Dob and Supervisor Dan Fulton. It was their experience and leadership that helped the project

team successfully overcome a number of challenges faced during construction. “When undertaking works we encountered a number of issues including very poor ground conditions and a high water table around some of the structures,” Dan said. “However, despite these challenging conditions and a very tight construction program, we were still able to finish our works early.”

The versatility of the work provided by ALLROADS on the Mackay Project, can also be seen in other projects the company has been involved in recently including flood restoration works for the Western Downs Regional Council, civil components for the Hervey Bay and Garden City Shopping Centres, Warrego Highway intersection upgrades and Orana Substation civil works. “Our group provides a wide range of civil construction services across the public and private sectors and prides itself on offering flexible solutions to meet clients specific project requirements. Much of our work is repeat business, testament to a strong track record of successful delivery and customer satisfaction,” Peter said.

**For more information visit ALLROADS**, Unit 29, 8 Riverland Drive Loganholme QLD 4129, Phone: (07) 3829 9436, Fax: (07) 3829 5986 or Website: [www.allroads.net.au](http://www.allroads.net.au)

**Given its importance to boosting the skills of Mackay locals, it was vital that a business such as Ramage Concreting was involved in the construction of the Mackay Trade Training Centre.**

Ramage Concreting Australia Pty Ltd’s Director Mark Ramage said throughout its 10 years the business had developed a reputation for both a quality finished product and often before the expected complete date.

“This project required approximately 22,000m<sup>2</sup> of concrete so it was vital that we drew on our experience from other substantial projects to make it not just a reality but one that Mackay could be proud of,” he said.

“We are proud to say that as the name suggests we are specialists in all facets of concrete and civil works from the smallest aspect of construction to any major project. “Our team comprises of over 40 employees who are professional and highly trained in form work, concreting and steel fixing so offer a complete package on each project.”

With offices located in both Mackay and Hervey Bay, versatility is definitely something that the team at Ramage Concreting understand a little something about.

Working on projects including the Leibherr Warehouse in Western Australia, Woolworths in Burleigh Heads and Masters Mackay, Ramage Concreting gets to highlight some of its specialities including precast/ tilt up panel works, all formwork, steel fixing, all forms of concrete and even decorative work.

This business even goes so far as to have its own extensive fleet of vehicles and machinery, thus helping to cut down development time.

“When people think of Ramage Concreting we want them to think of quality and safety, because we enjoy seeing these projects come to fruition. “If we can help create and support local jobs by making the Mackay Trade Training Centre a reality, that is a definite plus for us.”

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## Expert Surveyors Facilitate the Construction of the Mackay Trade Training Centre

The Mackay Trade Training Centre was one of the largest construction projects undertaken in the Mackay region throughout 2012.

DTS worked in close association with FK Gardener and Sons to provide highly accurate survey set out to facilitate not only the construction of the learning centres, but also the civil, sanitary and hydraulic works over the site.

The varied nature of the works required an in depth knowledge of construction process and techniques to ensure that the respective trades received set out information that was not only accurate, but pertinent to their associated works.

The depth of knowledge DTS was able to provide throughout the course of the project was critical in addressing construction issues during the development - particularly in relation to the determination of proposed cadastral boundaries to position trunk water main upgrades. DTS prides itself on the broad knowledge base our

surveyors possess and their practical approach to solving problems and delivering reliable, trusted outcomes.

The level of skill our surveyors demonstrated in analysing the site requirements and delivering efficient, practical solutions to deliver the Trade Training Centre exemplified the core principles behind which DTS operates - Integrity, Reliability, Safety and Continuous Improvement.

Through the Mackay Trade Training Centre we once again demonstrated that with **DTS, you truly can develop with confidence.**

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