



TAKING SCHOOLING TO NEW HEIGHTS

CLIENT : Victorian School Building Authority
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Kane Constructions
PROJECT MANAGER : Donald Cant Watts Corke
ARCHITECT : Gray Puksand
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$35 million

One of the first vertical schools to be delivered by the Victorian Government, Prahran High School is a co-educational secondary school which will accommodate 650 students. Kane Constructions were engaged by the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) in June 2017 as the head building contractor.

Encompassing 5-levels of learning space for design, technology, art and science, the unique design responds to a comparatively tight site in an urban area. Designed by Gray Puksand, the School features an open atrium at the centre of the building, modern teaching areas, a main performance space and outdoor terraces on every level.

The ground floor includes a learning resource centre and performing arts facilities, while levels one, two and three house the science, visual arts, food and technology spaces, and a gym. Level four provides a rooftop garden, and running track for students to relax in and play.

The \$35 million facility was challenged with heritage overlays, and a diverse set of neighbouring buildings and public interfaces. Built on Swinburne University's old Prahran campus on High Street, the School is situated next to Melbourne Polytechnic and the National Institute of Circus Arts.

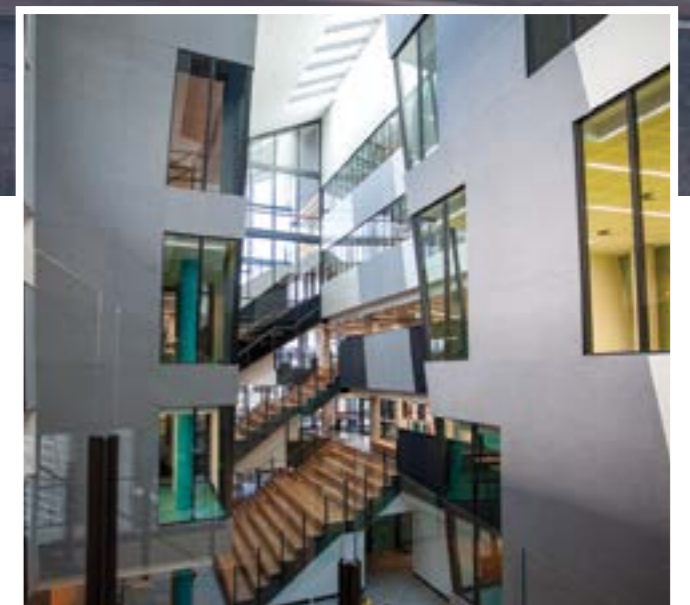
"We are proud to be associated with the construction of one of Victoria's first vertical schools, and have thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with the Victorian School Building Authority, Client Side Project Managers Donald Cant Watts Corke, and Architects Gray Puksand," said Kane Constructions Contract Administrator, Ben Galea. "This is possibly one of the most constricted and challenging sites we have dealt with, but the challenge excited us and our team has embraced it."

Commencing operations in Melbourne in 1973, Kane Constructions annual turnover exceeds \$1 billion. With over 500 full time employees, Kane has offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra. Backed by nearly 50 years of experience, the company has grown to provide services in sectors including commercial, residential, health, community, education, seniors living and defence.

Kane's greatest asset is their people. A strong cadet programme places significant emphasis on training and mentoring in a supportive environment.

Kane have a strong appetite for challenging projects across all sectors. Their national portfolio of award-winning projects include the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, which won Kane the 2016 Master Builders Australia National Commercial Master Builder of the Year Award, \$66 million University of Melbourne Arts West Redevelopment, and the University of Melbourne (WEBS) Western Edge Bioscience Stage 1 Main Works which won Kane the 2018 Master Builders Association of Victoria Excellence in Health and Safety Award.

Kane are currently delivering the \$102 million Ballarat GovHub project, \$75 million Cabrini Health Gandel Wing, \$25 million Geelong Performing Arts Centre Redevelopment, \$180 million VSBA Growth Areas Schools Project, and the \$48 million Penguin Parade Visitor Centre Development.



"We continue to do what we know best," said Ben. "Successfully delivering quality projects for our clients."

For more information contact Kane Constructions, 658 Church Street, Richmond VIC 3121, phone 03 8420 1200, email viccontact@kane.com.au, website www.kane.com.au

Below Kascorp managed all concreting and post-tensioning systems for the project, completing works ahead of schedule.

Kane Construction chose the specialist team at Kascorp for the detailed ground excavation, footings placement, formwork installation, reinforcement, concrete installation and finish, design and installation of post-tensioning system, which supports the 5-storey Prahran High School.

“We commenced excavation works in early November 2017 and poured the roof slab early April 2018,” said Joe Kasalo, Founding Director of Kascorp. “We used our Peri Rosette system in the formwork installation.”

Joe has decades of experience in the building industry, in particular, building concrete formwork structures. Having worked closely with a range of other formwork companies, he knows what is required to bring a successful project to fruition.

“We specialise in providing a complete concrete structure solution including excavation and placement of footings, formwork, concrete placement and finish to in-situ components, reinforcement, post-tensioning and precast installation,” explained Joe. “We can also provide labour and materials on hire including crane crews.”

The team behind Kascorp are renowned for their modern, professional, organised, and transparent systems that are easy for clients to understand. Attention to detail, extensive costing skills, a personal approach with clientele, engineers and contractors, with new technologies and a positive work culture is what sets Kascorp apart from its more traditional competitors.

“Asbestos was uncovered in the ground during the excavation works. This was removed correctly but did have an effect on the programme period,” said Joe. “We worked closely with Kane and provided solutions on the sequencing of our works to help minimise the effect of delays and still bring the project in early by at least six weeks.”

Prahran High School is one of several new inner-city schools in development by the Victorian Government. The project features a series of stairs and bleachers which connect the various levels.

With two slipped and shifted planes around a central light filled void, different

arrangements of spaces can be achieved, with the bleachers acting as informal learning and gathering spaces.

The Kascorp team of experienced project managers, tradesmen, engineers, estimators, OHS managers and office personnel work together with architects, engineers, developers, builders, suppliers, admin teams, head contractors, subcontractors, and relevant authorities to complete projects on time and to budget.

“We currently have around 90 directly employed personnel and 25 worked on the Prahran High School project,” Joe explained. “This was our first project working with Kane Construction, and I am extremely pleased to receive an award from them in their ‘Best New Subcontractor’ category. The additional planning our team does for a project before arriving onsite means we don’t make claims we can’t deliver on.”

Kascorp provides defined training pathways, documented processes, and well structured systems together with modern technologies, better project management, and improved installation techniques. They offer concrete packages, structure packages, and concrete formwork to meet the needs of all of the different tier builders in Melbourne’s construction industry.

Kascorp teams are currently completing work for Icon at BlueCross in Malvern with two other projects commencing soon. One with Probuild to construct an 8-level office building at the Nylex factory site in Cremorne, the other with Construction Engineering on a retail and cinema complex within the Pentridge Prison district.

“We derive a great deal of satisfaction and achievement when viewing the outcome of our projects,” said Joe. “Whether it’s working together with commercial builders on apartment blocks, or undertaking works for the government, by coordinating with the builder as a team, we listen, plan, and aim to finish on time.”

For more information contact Kascorp, 40 Lillie Crescent, Tullamarine VIC 3043, phone 03 8336 1910, email info@kascorp.com.au, website www.kascorp.com.au



Below Senior Crane Operators from Project Cranes and Rigging worked at Prahran High School for four months.

Below A&Y Associates provided independent engineering consultation and construction material testing.



The unique vertical design and series of cascading bleachers at standalone Prahran High School required specific lifting solutions and Victoria's leading mobile crane hire and rigging company, Project Cranes and Rigging provided the perfect equipment and experience to the task.

With over 50 years of combined industry experience, their qualified personnel were able to undertake the rotation of concrete panels safely and efficiently.

"For over four months our most senior operator and Company Director, Rob Vincent worked on this project with crane operator Garry Webb," said Project Cranes and Rigging Director, Craig Vincent. "Our other major challenge was avoiding the multitude of live power lines in the area."

All Project Cranes and Rigging operators, dogmen/riggers and spotters are experienced in a variety of industries from construction, petrochemical, general and factory maintenance to maritime (barge cranes). All are professional, qualified and have completed RTO training in their field with real knowledge, not just site assessed. They have the flexibility to perform long term and contract hire.

"We are fully insured and members of the Crane Industry Council of Australia," added Craig. "This allows us to stay up to date on industry changes and new regulations. We have a comprehensive EHS plan covering cranes and all rigging activities."

Project Cranes and Rigging provide a variety of services including the installation of air conditioning units, setting up of Gantry Cranes, panel rotation and tank installations.

"We do virtually everything from the relocation of machinery to the emergency lifting of containers that had fallen onto an adjoining warehouse," explained Craig. "Our company mission is to deliver high quality equipment at a competitive price while ensuring customer satisfaction."

For more information contact Project Cranes and Rigging, 8 Norwest Avenue, Laverton North VIC 3026, mobile 0402 306 880, email info@projectcranesandrigging.com.au, website www.projectcranesandrigging.com.au

The challenging vertical form and construction space of the Prahran High School allowed A&Y Associates, a wholly Victorian owned geotechnical company to utilise their vast experience to achieve an outstanding result.

Established in 2016, the A&Y Associates' team with over 15 years combined experience provides independent engineering consultation and construction material testing (CMT) throughout Victoria.

Their CMT laboratory, fully equipped and accredited by National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA), coupled with their capability and expertise guarantees first class services with minimal turnaround times.

"We accept the challenges of the Prahran High School project," said the Founding Director and Engineering Manager, Alvin Tan. "In August of 2017, we provided supervision and borehole logging services for the drilling programme of the piling contractor designer, on behalf of Kane Constructions. Subsequently, we performed multiple crane and piling rig bearing capacity assessments to ensure a robust surface to withstand the drilling and lifting works necessary for the project."

"We were also required to undertake a bearing capacity assessment on the paved asphalt street," explained Alvin. "To evaluate the subsurface profile, we had to manually excavate a few test pits using a jackhammer."

A&Y Associates provides drilling services for contractors and geotechnical consultants ranging from compaction control testing, earthwork supervision and construction material testing to site classification, soil testing, feature survey, site analysis, geotechnical and pavement investigation.

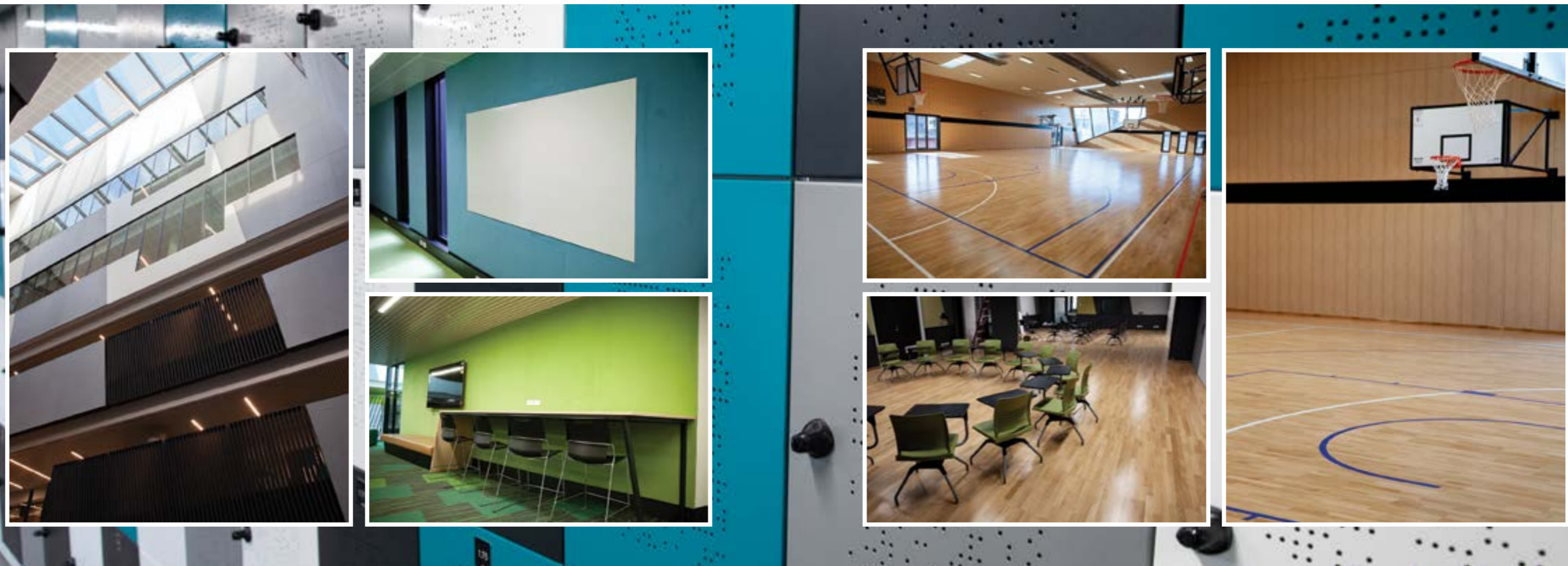
"All of our services are administered by skillful engineers and support staff," Alvin added.

Kane Constructions has contracted A&Y Associates to take on projects such as Footscray Hospital, University of Melbourne and MPavilion in Queen Victoria Gardens.

For more information contact A&Y Associates, Warehouse 5/ 16 Network Drive, Truganina VIC 3029, phone 03 8754 8325, email info@ayassociates.com.au, website www.ayassociates.com.au

Below Ultimate Pinboards and Whiteboards installed pinboards, whiteboards and glassboards through the school.

Below Aura Sports installed a sprung timber floor which is extremely hard wearing with high acoustic properties.



It is only natural that the latest vertical designer school with the most modern teaching areas should also have up-to-date, cutting edge commercial interior solutions supplied by Ultimate Pinboards and Whiteboards (UPW).

“Between September and November 2018 we manufactured and installed all of the pinboards, whiteboards and glassboards for the fit out of the entire Prahran High School project,” said Project Manager, Jacqui L’Huillier. “As usual, our factory staff, installation teams and administration staff did an excellent job.”

A major challenge for UPW installation team, was fitting the pinboards to the high walls in the multi-story atrium. Running north to south through the school, the atrium is a communal gathering space for the students and the boards create a striking design to the area.

UPW is an Australian owned company providing a range of high quality whiteboards, noticeboards and glassboards to the corporate, education and health care sectors. Specialising in commercial interior fitouts, UPW has been manufacturing and providing their products in Melbourne for over seven years. “We are currently working on quite a few school projects and several large corporate fit outs,” said Jacqui.

“No matter how big or small the job, we approach every job with a professional and expedient manner,” said Jacqui. “Our most popular products range from acoustic panels, fabric boards, glassboards and whiteboards.”

Established in 2012 by Colleen Sweeney, who had many years of previous industry experience, UPW is proud to say that they have shown a 35- to 40% growth every year for the past four years. Excellent customer service underpins their large and growing client base.

Ultimate Pinboards and Whiteboards Australia make it easy to get the most out of any classroom, office or home workspace. Whether you require a wall-mounted or mobile whiteboard, their online range has you covered. Their selection of products has been chosen to meet the requirements of a diverse range of people and organisations.

For more information contact Ultimate Pinboards and Whiteboards, 19 Bricker Street, Cheltenham VIC 3192, phone 03 9532 3568, email jacqui@upw.net.au, website www.upw.net.au

Second generation, family owned Aura Sports is winning in the sports flooring business. With over 30 years experience their flooring is in every Australian State and Territory as well as Guam, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand.

“We were the official flooring supplier for basketball and netball at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games,” said Tracey Murrin, Aura Sports National Sales Manager.

Aura Sports range includes acrylic courts, Pulastic – the world leaders in polyurethane cushioned synthetics, and traditional or engineered sprung timber flooring.

“We’ve now the Australian partner of ASB Glass Floor – an amazing technology. We’re always looking for new innovations,” said Tracey. “Our engineered sprung timber floor was chosen for Prahran High School as it’s extremely hard wearing, dimensionally stable and is certified by international sporting bodies. Because of the vertical design of the school, the flooring also had to have high acoustic properties.”

Six of Aura’s highly skilled employees installed the floors over three weeks. “Half of our 20 employees have been with us for over 10 years,

and five for 20+ years,” explained Tracey. “We pride ourselves on the best service and installation, plus our inhouse crews travel all over Australia, maintaining our high quality of workmanship.”

Last year Aura Sports installed their one-millionth square metre of flooring, and are currently installing eight courts at the new Queensland State Netball Centre in Brisbane, along with three other installations in South Australia of around 10,000m² of flooring. They also work with Melbourne Olympic Park and the Australian Sporting Commission.

“In 2006 we completed a Pulastic floor in the West Hall at Sydney Olympic Park, where the Royal Easter Show is held,” said Tracey. “The same system is now being installed in the East Hall, home to the Royal Agricultural Show.”

For more information contact Aura Sports, 112 Blackwall Road, Chuwar QLD 4306, phone 07 3201 7111, email tracey@aurasport.com.au, website www.aurasport.com.au