

KANE'S CONSISTENT SUCCESS

The La Trobe University Sylvia Walton Building is a new six level teaching facility comprising lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, breakout spaces and administration offices.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY / KANE CONSTRUCTIONS



Left The La Trobe University constructed by Kane Construction at Melbourne, Victoria.

Practical Completion has been achieved on the \$35 million Sylvia Walton Building at La Trobe University Bundoora. La Trobe University offers English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) and Foundation Studies and Diploma Programs (FSDP) via La Trobe Melbourne – a partnership between LTU and its external partner (Navitas Pty Ltd). These studies will be soon relocated into the stunning new facilities designed by Lyons Architects.

Kane Constructions is proud to have delivered another first class facility for La Trobe University following the success of the Clinical Teaching Facility and Health Sciences Buildings delivered at the Bendigo campus and the La Trobe Hydraulics Project delivered at the Bundoora campus in 2013.

In July 2012, Kane Constructions was awarded the project under a fixed lump sum contract. The superstructure consisted of six level two plate rotation around a central precast services core. With over 150 workers on the job at its peak the structure was completed ahead of program.

Alex Evans, Contract Manager at Kane, advised that, "A key feature of the building is the external facade consisting of exposed washed aggregate precast concrete panels, with the rebate of the precast panels having an aluminium cladding insert with custom anodised colouring."

In order to provide natural light and ventilation through the facade and central stairwell, the building contains a number of multi-storey voids, using a mixed mode ventilation system for energy efficiency. The interior boasts polished concrete floors and feature floating acoustic plywood ceilings. Features such as these and the architectural nature of the building, have certainly provided the Kane site team with a challenge.

Externally, the project includes the construction of a steel and bondek pedestrian bridge over an adjacent 'moat', and various green spaces incorporating hard and soft landscaping elements.

Thanks to Kane's development of a collaborative team environment, with open

and transparent communication, and their track record of delivering first class facilities for La Trobe University, Kane were awarded the La Trobe Hydraulics Bundoora Projects in March 2013. This project involved upgrading the fire service engineering infrastructure to comply with current building codes, and included a dedicated independent fire hydrant system with a site wide reticulated ring main, by duplicating the existing shared ring main service—approximately 7 km of new pipe work was installed through the service tunnel system and greater campus.

A bonus for the client was Kane's wide use of boring contractors to ensure that any impact on the University's function and landscape was minimised. Both projects were headed up by Kane's Project Manager, David Purcell.

David Purcell notes, "Kane approached these works with the same vigour as the main works, ensuring that the early momentum resulted in a text-book finish to both projects."

Kane Constructions are a privately owned, commercial construction company, servicing all areas of the industry. The company was established in Melbourne in 1973, and now boasts offices in Sydney and Brisbane with operations throughout the east coast of Australia, as well as overseas. With over 285 full time employees, and a turnover of \$460 million, Kane has an impressive portfolio of projects to their name, including various Australian High Commission and Embassy developments worldwide; a number of Department of Defence projects; Bathers Beach Residences, NSW; Geelong Hospital Enhanced Capacity & Expanded Acute Health, VIC; Simonds Stadium Southern Stand & Light Towers, VIC; and Victoria University Construction Futures, to name a few.

Kane's consistent success can be attributed to their culture, the foundations being their professionalism, competence, integrity, and the enjoyment achieved in what they do—they know their business and believe in themselves.

For more information, please contact Kane Constructions Pty Ltd, 658 Church Street Richmond, Vic Australia 3121, phone 03 8420 1200, www.kane.com.au

Below Signal & Hobbs supplied and installed roofing, cladding, roof access and safety system solutions for La Trobe University Melbourne.



Below Solcrete provided formwork, concrete, reinforcement placement and post-tensioning within La Trobe University Melbourne.

Given their substantial experience, highly trained trade workforce, sound supplier relationships and certified dedication to quality results, Signal & Hobbs are an invaluable asset to any major project. For the La Trobe University Melbourne Building Project, Kane Constructions relied on their specialist roofing skills for the supply and installation of metal roofing, metal claddings and the roof-mounted access walkway and safety system solutions.

The roofing installed on the project was Stramit Speed Deck Ultra® Concealed Fixed Decking in a Colorbond finish. The cladding to the plant room walls was Stramit Longspan Trapezoidal profile cladding.

One of the problems with design was the lack of a gutter to the plant room roof, which allowed the water to cascade almost 2 metres from the upper roof to the roof below—concerning due to the likelihood of water splash back causing leaks internally. This was overcome by providing an increase in the splash back protection by raising height levels and extending all perimeter flashings to enlarge the cover over roofing materials located at the discharge areas.



This is a prime example of how Signal & Hobbs engage with an architect's vision, and then look for a workable solution to construct it. As the company has such long-standing and solid relationships with its key suppliers, adding a bespoke element to the solution when required is possible.

Signal & Hobbs were also involved with the installation of roof mounted roof safety systems. "Having completed training for the installation of Fixed Platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders, Signal & Hobbs have built a relationship with Sayfa, our supplier of roof mounted roof access safety systems, which enables us to provide a quality supply and installation service," said Sam of Signal & Hobbs.

Operating for nearly 40 years, and currently employing over 50 full-time people, many of the Signal & Hobbs team were deployed on the Melbourne Building project.

All Signal & Hobbs site team members are inducted into the company OH&S management system before commencing onsite, with a commitment to a minimum level of training for all employees—all tradesmen must have Plumbing Industry Registration, training in

working at heights, plant and equipment high risk licenses, plus First Aid for senior site foremen and task specific training as required.

Signal & Hobbs' commitment to achieving high standards begins with the initial tender. During this process, they identify value-adding options for clients while also ensuring their submission will deliver on the architectural intent and give an on-budget result for the builder. The achievement of ISO 9001:2008 certification, together with National Code of Practice compliant employee agreements, a sound and compliant OH&S management system, and a well-developed Quality Assurance Plan with Inspection and test procedures completed on all major projects, Signal & Hobbs have an undeniable advantage.

Signal & Hobbs are proud to display the Quality System logo and their company goal is to continue to improve systems and achieve AS 4801 Certification for Safety Management Systems.

For more information, please contact Signal & Hobbs: Signal & Hobbs (VIC) Pty Ltd, Unit 11, 6-12 Airlie Avenue, Dandenong, Vic 3175, phone 03 9791 5355, fax 03 9794 0587 website www.sighob.com.au

Offering a complete range of concreting and formwork construction, Melbourne-based company, Solcrete, have been in business since 1996. They provide a level of excellence, from project beginning to end, drawing from their extensive skills and expertise to satisfy the concreting needs of commercial, industrial and medium density residential developments.

Solcrete were selected to provide the formwork, concrete, reinforcement placement and post-tensioning over the six levels of the La Trobe University, Melbourne building. A team of between forty and sixty employees worked onsite, ranging from concreters and form workers to steel fixers. The team from Solcrete were faced with a demanding program, as well as the challenge to meet and maintain a high quality of Off-Form finishes throughout the La Trobe University project. Due to the irregular shape of the building, Solcrete's team also had to maintain building quality for tight tolerances, as there were multiple castings.

Further projects that Solcrete are currently involved in include the Mornington Centre with Hansen Yunken; the Canvass Apartments

with Spec Property; Pinot House with ProBuild, Epworth Hospital with Construction Engineering.

With a team of around 110 employees, including estimators, contract administrators, office support, formwork carpenters, concreters, dogman, riggers, construction engineers, steel fixers and skilled labourers, Solcrete guarantee a highly personalised, attention-focussed service. Their flawless safety record is attributed to Solcrete's in house OH&S representatives and first aiders, and the training offered to its employees in OH&S as well as all aspects of the construction industry. By continually setting themselves ongoing high standards, Solcrete commit themselves to their customers to ensure that a high degree of satisfaction is met on every job.

For more information contact Solcrete (VIC) Pty Ltd, 19 Nellberr Rd, Moorabbin VIC 3189, website: www.solcrete.com.au, email: info@solcrete.com.au, phone 03 9555 0995.



La Trobe University Melbourne Building, VIC



Founded in 1979, family-owned and operated A & A Cabinets is an architectural joinery manufacturer based in Thomastown, Victoria. Their outstanding quality and craftsmanship has seen them undertake highly detailed and complex projects.

They offer a large range of joinery related products and services and their portfolio includes commercial architectural joinery, large residential joinery, domestic joinery, office furniture, shop-fitting manufacture, contract furniture manufacture, and furniture component manufacture. Providing a full turn-key solution, A & A Cabinets can complete any project from design through to installation.

With their impeccable reputation within the industry, A & A Cabinets were selected to supply and install all of the joinery components and acoustic ceilings throughout the La Trobe University Melbourne building.

With up to 16 staff working on the job, the joinery required was extremely detailed with various differing angles and shapes incorporated. The feature acoustic ceilings are also angled and cathedral style, some spanning across two levels, which required a

mixture of scaffolds and scissor lifts to work on. A & A Cabinets worked in conjunction with Acoustic Panels Australia, who supplied the acoustic panels for the ceilings.

A & A Cabinets have also recently completed the new refurbishment of the Art's Building at Melbourne University, which required very complex and detailed works, and they are currently working on a number of smaller commercial office and university projects.

Their commitment to their clients, quality of work and deadline-driven service has seen many builders return to A & A Cabinets for their services for over 35 years.

For more information contact A & A Cabinets, 26–28 Hanrahan Street, Thomastown VIC 3074, phone 03 9464 2133, www.aacabinets.com.au or www.apacoustics.com.au

Established in 1988, BRC Piling & Foundations Pty Ltd have grown to become one of Australia's preferred piling contractors. Now boasting a wide variety of piling rigs for bored piles, caisson, sheet, micropile, Down-The-Hole(DTH) hammer and CFA piles, together with skilled Operatives and Engineers, BRC Piling & Foundations are often awarded contracts that require skill, experience and diversity seldom found in the market within one company. A difficult project is seen as a challenge; a challenge often beyond its competitors.

BRC Piling & Foundations were awarded the contract on the La Trobe University, Melbourne Building project. They were required to install the piles for a new bridge to be constructed over the existing creek at the university, as well as the design piles for the Tower Crane Foundations. Director, Craig Boam, explained that due to the close proximity of the piles to the water, temporary casings had to be utilised to stabilise the pile shaft whilst drilling. A team of two field staff and a project engineer undertook the work. Other significant works that BRC Piling & Foundations have been proudly associated with span across Australia and Asia. Past projects include Crown Casino, Eastlink Project; Barwon Heads Bridge; Lorne Pier, Craigieburn Bypass; Tulla-

Calder interchange; Bridges on the Alice Springs to Darwin Railway; Halls Creek and Argyle Diamond Mine (WA); Australian Embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam; West Rail Project in Hong Kong; Sunbury Rail Electrification Project; Regional Rail Packages C & E, MCG Great Southern Stand; Melbourne Underwater World(hard/hard secant wall on the Yarra River); Commonwealth Law Courts; MCG & Rod Laver Pump Station shafts.

BRC Piling & Foundations range of piling techniques is diverse. Their shaft diameters range from 300mm – 5000mm, to depths in excess of 80m. They possess driving and vibratory type rigs to install driven concrete and steel piles, driven UBs, UCs and sheet piles. The team of experienced employees are the key to BRC Piling & Foundations' outstanding reputation and success, and they aim to maintain the highest standards of knowledge, health, safety and customer satisfaction.

For more information contact BRC Piling & Foundations, 12/97–107 Canterbury Road, Kilsyth VIC 3137 / PO Box 457, Mt Evelyn VIC 3796, phone 03 8761 0000, fax 03 8761 0099, email office@brcpiling.com.au, website www.brcpiling.com.au