



A bigroup has delivered Victorian students eleven new schools which combine the best in environmental sustainability measures with leading-edge educational thinking. This substantial achievement represents the completion of the Partnerships Victoria in Schools project for the Victorian Government.

The project was funded and managed as a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with the Victorian State Government, where the State entered into a contract with Axiom Education Victoria for the design, construction, financing and maintenance of eleven new government schools scattered across Melbourne's greater metropolitan area. Abigroup, as part of the Axiom Education Victoria consortium, undertook the design and construction of all the schools.

According to the State Government, the Partnerships Victoria in Schools PPP had the goal of delivering critical new infrastructure to outer Melbourne communities which brings together the best in contemporary educational design. The schools are leading examples of ecological sustainability, incorporating a range of best-practice initiatives including wetlands to retain and reuse water and a wide range of other energy and water efficiency measures.

Abigroup commenced this \$255 million PPP project at the end of 2008 and completed works in two phases.

Phase 1, completed for the start of the 2010 school year, consisted of Alkira Secondary College in Cranbourne North, Cranbourne Carlisle, Derrimut and Taylors Hill primary schools and Point Cook P-9 College.

Phase 2 consisted of the other seven schools which were handed over at the start 2011. These schools are Aitken Creek Primary School, Cranbourne East P-12 School, Kororoit Creek Primary School, Lyndhurst Primary School, Mernda Primary School and Truganina South Primary School.

Abigroup's Project Director Holger Messner said, "Abigroup is delighted to have designed and built these eleven schools for Partnerships Victoria in Schools. We are proud of these new schools which have been built to the highest standards and offer world-class, flexible teaching and learning environments."

Each of the schools comprises a mix of facilities aimed at providing future students with a broad spectrum of education. These

facilities include classroom buildings incorporating learning centres, administration buildings, amenities, gymnasiums and food preparation facilities. External works undertaken include site services, carparking, circulation paths, hard and soft sporting fields, outdoor learning areas and landscaping.

The project involved a number of innovative and exciting aspects, including a partnership with the YMCA to build facilities at six of the schools, and partnering with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Gardens Foundation to create a kitchen garden at Point Cook North P-9. Axiom also partnered with Metro Canteens to deliver enlarged canteen facilities at two of the secondary schools. To maximise overall community amenity, the wider urban planning context placed the majority of schools in close proximity to Public Open Space and Community Activity Centres. This creates opportunities for the school body and surrounding community to engage easily, and ensures the schools contribute to a broader enhancement of social infrastructure.

Abigroup's partners in the Axiom Education Victoria consortium consist of co-sponsor Royal Bank of Scotland, and facilities manager United Group Services. Axiom will be continuing their involvement in

these schools, with the PPP contract including ongoing maintenance for the next quarter of a century.

Abigroup is a diverse national contractor with expert teams delivering works in areas including buildings, roads, water, rail, mining services, tunnels, bridges and telecommunications. With some of the nation's largest and most important infrastructure projects to its credit, Abigroup works at the forefront of constructing solid foundations for Australia's future growth.

Abigroup, Baulderstone and Conneq are part of Lend Lease, joining the Group in March 2011. Together they comprise Lend Lease's infrastructure business which delivers market leading engineering solutions through Abigroup and Baulderstone in the construction industry, and in the services industry through Conneq. For more information please visit [www.lendleaseinfrastructure.com.au](http://www.lendleaseinfrastructure.com.au)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Holger Messner  
Project Director, Abigroup  
t. 03 9802 1955  
e. [holger.messner@abigroup.com.au](mailto:holger.messner@abigroup.com.au)

# PARTNERSHIPS VICTORIA IN SCHOOLS

**MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Abigroup**  
**CLIENT : Victorian State Government**  
**PROJECT END VALUE : \$255 Million**  
**COMPLETION : 2010/2011 school years**  
**ARCHITECTS : Hayball & Gray Puksand**  
**ENGINEER STRUCTURAL : Sinclair Knight Merz**





## SEAN'S SHOWCASES SKILLS AT SCHOOLS

The Partnerships Victoria in Schools PPP is delivering critical new infrastructure to outer Melbourne communities and has given small to medium contractors such as Sean's Carpentry Services, the opportunity to showcase their capabilities on large scale projects.

Sean's Carpentry Services was contracted through main builder Abigroup to complete services on the Casey Central Secondary School, just one of the 11 schools involved in the PPP. Casey is a relatively large project comprising 5 buildings to cater for Years 7-12 students with additional facilities to be completed in two stages.

With a value of \$1.2m, Casey School was the first structural project of this large size to be completed by Sean's. The company had up to 26 tradespeople working on the site over the 8 month construction period.

Sean's Carpentry Services completed the timber framing, the roof framing trusses and part of the fit out and faced interested challenges

working with the structural combination of both steel and timber components and the differing angles this entailed.

In addition to the timber roof trusses, the roofing work involved the installation of the relatively new Posi Strut Roofing system as specified by the engineers. This system is lightweight and is designed to allow ease of installation of services through the roof cavity.

The fitout work involved installation of doors and door hardware, timber columns in the buildings and installation of sanitary hardware.

Sean's Carpentry Services is a family business, which is owned and operated by Sean O'Connor, a highly experienced tradesmen and project manager.

Prior to starting his own business nearly 5 years ago, Sean worked for major building companies both here in Australia and in the UK, and brings extensive experience and expertise to every job.

"We've completed a wide range of projects but this is the first large scale structural job we've done and we're very pleased with the outcome, meeting the tight schedule", Sean O'Connor said.

The successful completion of the Casey Central Secondary School project provides Sean's with an impressive showcase of their skills and capabilities, in particular in delivering large-scale structural projects. In addition to providing general carpentry and shop fitting services, Sean's Carpentry Services operates their own factory for the manufacture of shop fittings as a separate arm of the business.

This combination of inhouse trades and manufacturing facilities has made Sean's a highly sought after contractor to complete an interesting and varied range of projects throughout Victoria. Their portfolio includes the Judy Lazarus Transition Centre, the Emirates First Class Lounge, the Qantas Child Care Centre, St Michaels Grammar School and Citigate Hotel in South Melbourne.

"We place a lot of attention on the detail work on every job and ensure our professionalism and workmanship is first class," Sean said.

The quality of their workmanship and proven ability to deliver on large projects has delivered a continuing supply of contracts.

In addition to completing the Casey Central Secondary School, Sean's Carpentry Services are also working on the Harmony Village in Dandenong, Wallan Police Station, Kyneton Police Station and NMIT.

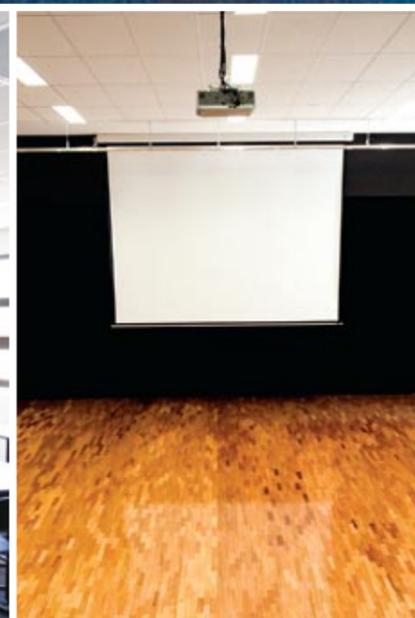
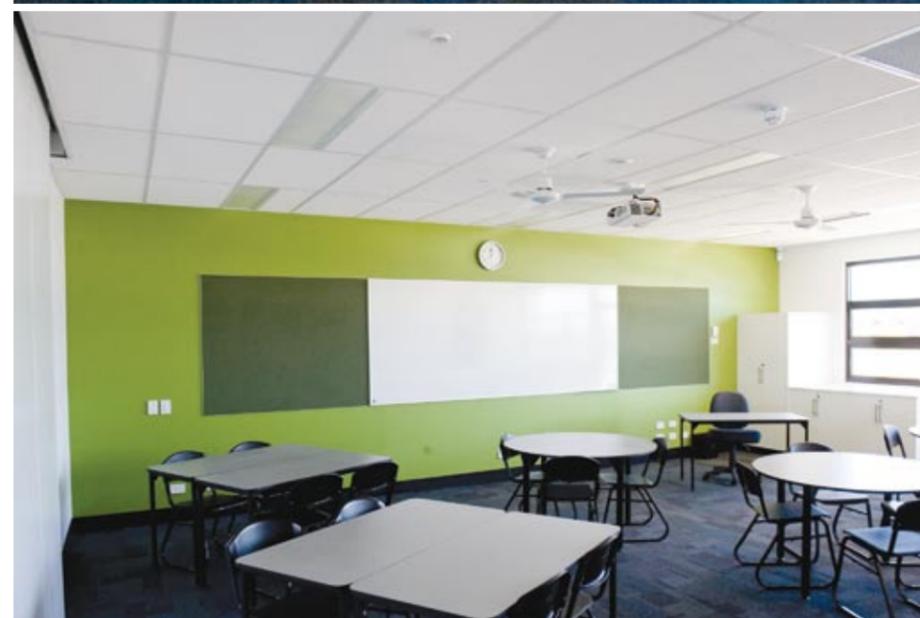
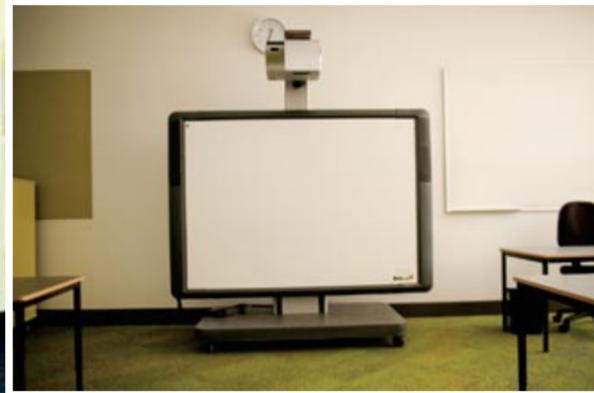
### SEAN'S CARPENTRY SERVICES

1/6-8 Lucknow Crescent  
 Thomastown VIC 3074  
 contact: Sean O' Connor  
 t. 03 9460 3117  
 f. 03 9460 9985  
 e. admin@seanscarpentry.com.au  
 www.kingdomprojects.com.au



# PRO FX PROJECT VERSATILITY

**PRO FX**  
200b Patterson Road  
Bentleigh VIC 3204  
contact: Shane Gregory and Nathan Blundell  
t. 0410 626 094 / 0413955324  
e. jobs@profx.com.au  
www.profx.com.au



An enviable reputation for professionalism and an impressive versatility in both commercial and domestic installations were key factors which led to Pro FX being selected as a contractor to the Partnerships Victoria in Schools Project.

With Abigroup as the main builder, the aim of the PPP is to deliver 11 new schools across Melbourne, which are world class teaching and learning environments, equipped with first class audio visual equipment. A project ideally suited to the highly driven team at Pro FX.

Pro FX is a home theatre and electrical company established in 2007 by long-term industry professionals, Shane Gregory and Nathan Blundell. While a relatively small company, Pro FX is big when it comes to capabilities. Their major advantage – versatility. Pro FX technicians are highly experienced, including fully qualified electricians, who specialise in the installation and servicing of audio visual equipment and systems. This is a rare combination in an industry where it is more common that a client has to source one company to supply the equipment and another to actually install it.

Based in Melbourne with over 10 years experience in the industry, Pro FX have the capabilities to provide a comprehensive range of electrical services including lighting, power, communications and audio visual. And most importantly, ensure that all the systems are compatible.

Pro FX was contracted to install a range of audio visual and home theatre equipment for the landmark Victorian Schools Project.

The scope of the work involved installing interactive white boards and data projectors in the classrooms amongst other equipment. Pro FX faced the challenge of dealing with the extensive natural light in the classroom and high lumen projectors were selected to overcome this issue.

To allow the schools greater flexibility in the use of their av equipment and to meet the budget requirements, ultra-short throw projectors were mounted above the interactive white boards on mobile trolleys so they can be moved from room to room.

School installations have elements in common with both commercial and domestic projects and it is their experience in both these areas which gives Pro FX the edge on this type of project.

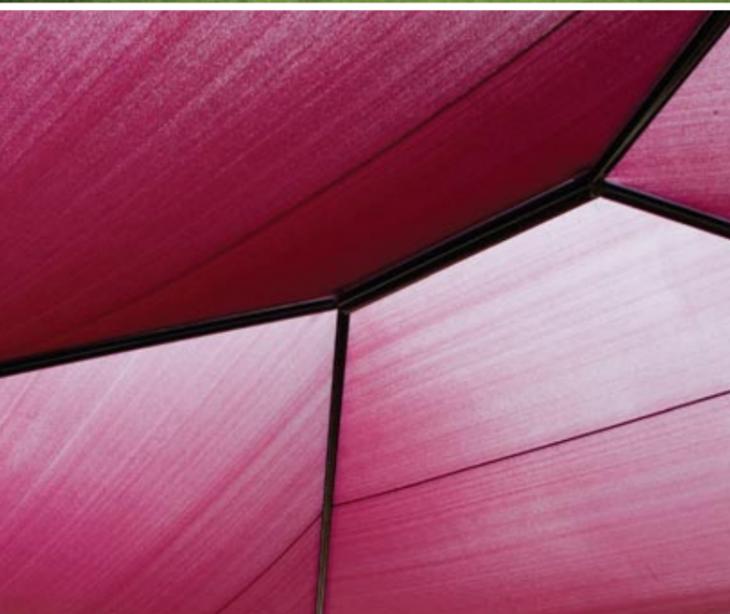
Their experience in the domestic arena includes installing all lighting, power, networking, multi-zoned music systems and dedicated theatre rooms and their experience on commercial installations is equally versatile. Pro FX can handle all lighting, power and communications needs but their focus is primarily on audio visual installations.

On a large scale Pro FX has also completed audio visual installations in auditoriums and gymnasiums with state of the art projectors that are self maintaining and feature automated control systems that make them extremely easy to use. A critical factor in any environment.

Their experience in the commercial environment extends to offices, board rooms, learning centres and function rooms for which they offer a range of products to suit a range of purposes and most importantly, budgets. Pro FX has developed steadily and impressively over the past few years so what's next for Pro FX?

Pro FX see solar playing a significant role in power supply in coming years so they have recently qualified to complete solar installations to extend their range of services to homes and schools.

Pro FX has also recently completed the Mantra Hotel refurbishment and Marcellin College boardrooms and classrooms.



# HIGH QUALITY SHADE

As a result of an impressive track record, shade sail specialist, Shady Places, have developed an enviable reputation, not only for their quality workmanship and innovative designs but for their excellent customer service and friendly and cooperative attitude on site.

With more than 15 years experience in designing, manufacturing and installing shade sails for schools, kindergartens, childcare centres, playgrounds and almost any other commercial business, Shady Places' owner and director, Steve Goodwin, and his team have exhibited their professionalism in working around others and adapting their schedules to suit changes. They have received positive feedback as one of the easiest contractors to deal with in these types of projects.

Their attitude was particularly evident during their work on the landmark 'Partnerships Victoria Schools' project where they have recently installed shade protection to five of the newly constructed schools.

During this project Shady Places supplied and installed the very popular Tension sails which offer almost endless design possibilities, and the canopy style shade structure Hip/Ridge which are ideal for obtaining clearance over playground equipment in schools, kindergartens and childcare centres.

The staff at Shady Places appreciate that reliability and quality is everything. They know that installation is a key aspect of the business and Steve Goodwin strives to maintain high standards in his products by being a registered building practitioner who fully understands building codes and regulations.

All Shady Places staff are fully trained in the manufacture and installation procedures of shade construction and, even in the most difficult locations, utilise high quality connection fittings to ensure their work meets safety and engineering standards.

Shady Places provides a fully integrated design, construction, and fitting process which results in a shade structure that is truly customised to the specific requirements of each project. Their sails are designed to suit a wide range of areas and needs, including large scale commercial installation, schools and playgrounds.

Shady places prides itself on designing, delivering and installing sails to the highest standards, while keeping its products reasonably priced. This is achieved by maintaining total control over each component of the design, manufacture and installing aspects of each job, ensuring they are not reliant on anyone to complete projects on time and on budget.

With such an impressive attitude and work culture, and an equally impressive reputation, it's not surprising that Shady Places has acquired such an impressive client list with ongoing work for schools and for local councils throughout Victoria.

**SHADY PLACES**  
Factory 3/363 Old Geelong Road  
Hoppers Crossing VIC 3029  
t. 03 8360 9172  
f. 03 8360 9173  
e. [sails@shadyplaces.com](mailto:sails@shadyplaces.com)  
[www.shadyplaces.com](http://www.shadyplaces.com)



## WILTECH SECURES VICTORIAN SCHOOLS

As a security systems contractor to the Partnerships Victoria School PPP, Wiltech Electrical and Security has designed a system for Stage 1 of this landmark project, which is customised to suit the specific needs of the school environment.

Wiltech has completed the design, engineering and construction of the intrusion and access control systems for Derrimut Primary School, Taylors Hill Primary School, Point Cook North Preparatory School and Casey Central Secondary School and is now working on the Stage 2 schools.

With the construction ongoing over several years, Wiltech especially engineered these initial sites, so the systems are ready to be integrated with a central server once all the sites are completed and connected.

Specialists in both electrical works and security systems, Wiltech offers a range of services including electrical, intercom systems, surveillance and monitoring systems, access control and security systems to both the domestic and commercial markets.

Wiltech Security Systems offer a range of advanced features which include ease of operation, remote controls, wireless availability for difficult installations, incorporation of electric garage doors, gates, lighting or electronic locks, automatic diversion of home/office phone to mobile and monitoring by Wiltech's Grade 1 monitoring station.

Wiltech are committed to ensuring their customers are offered the latest in security technology and on the Stage 1 Victoria Schools project, the company installed the latest panel from Inner Range to ensure the schools were fitted with state of the art systems. The sites presented interesting challenges and the Wiltech technicians use wireless LAN to link up the facility sheds when all other possible avenues have been exhausted.

This commitment to problem solving, highlights the superior level of personalized customer service which has seen Wiltech grow from strength to strength over the past 6 years to become a highly respected contractor with an impressive customer base.

### WILTECH ELECTRICAL & SECURITY

82 Albert Street  
Preston VIC 3072  
contact: Brett Wilson  
t. 1300 WILTECH  
f. 03 9470 2099  
e. [enquiries@wiltech.net.au](mailto:enquiries@wiltech.net.au)  
[www.wiltech.net.au](http://www.wiltech.net.au)

