

A STIRLING DEVELOPMENT

The Mint is a \$95M development and includes 99 apartments boasting intelligent modern architecture and high-end features, two commercial offices, and a striking façade over two buildings linked by a central open-air atrium.

Ceerose, a developer/builder which has won international as well as national and state awards, recently completed its Willoughby, Sydney project, The Mint. The 5-level development has 99 units with “cracking city views”, said Managing Director, Edward Doueih. There are 58 layouts for buyers to choose from and no two floors are alike. The Mint also has four commercial suites and 120 parking spaces.

Approximately 15 of Ceerose’s direct staff and up to 150 subcontractors worked on the project from November 2015 right through to completion this year. “From when we bought the site in early 2014, until we got the development application, it was over a year. Challenges included a lot of red tape,” said Edward.

DEVELOPER : Ceerose Pty Ltd
ARCHITECTS : Mayoh Architects (Stage 1)
Gilles Tribe Architects (Stage 2)
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : Ace Engineers
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$95 million

“We were doing something new – putting a dual void in to allow natural fresh air to flow through and into the buildings, so you don’t feel like it’s a hotel. The authorities had concerns about the voids, but we showed them a similar building we had done in Pyrmont so they could understand it better. They were quite impressed about it.”

The void has grills on the top so no water may come in. We have installed glass roofs instead of using hard material tiles, Ceerose used soft materials with acoustic ratings so it wouldn’t become an echo chamber. Without the voids more units could have been added, however this would have compromised quality.

In the kitchens, there are stone benchtops, polyurethane cabinets, Smeg appliances and the ducted rangehoods which helps to extract cooking smells and reduces condensation. That and the natural ventilation means residents won’t have stale air in corridors.

It’s a sensible and quality finish which actually has longer-term effects. “If you don’t ventilate a building well, it needs to be painted internally every year. The Mint won’t need repainting for five years. That’s a quality edge to the maintenance,” said Edward.

Aluminium louvres are placed strategically to be moved allowing natural light in, while controlling glare and heat. Substantial storage space, an internal laundry, wool carpet and video/audio intercom security are standard for each apartment. The overall design is also bespoke. It’s more of a village square than a tower and there will also

be a children’s area, walkways and landscape terraces for residents to use. The rooftop features two communal terraces with barbeque facilities and outdoor seating to enjoy the city views.

“The building’s design is curved on the corners. It’s a bit more funky, not a typical brick job – we’ve used a zinc product with some natural stone. It’s a gateway site so we made sure finishes were superior. We only build high quality jobs and often win awards.”

Overall, The Mint project used 10,500 tonnes of concrete, 350 tonnes of reinforcement concrete and has 5,400m² of glass (including 400m² just for the atriums).

Over the past year, Ceerose has experienced tremendous growth, expanding its staff by 40% . They continue to do contract and client work, a mix of developing and construction, said Edward. “We’re a top Tier 2 builder so we’re doing projects \$100 million plus at the moment. Our quality is at a different standard because we have very strong quality assurance throughout the company. It takes a bit more micro managing than usual so we’re very hands on. Our staff are trained and coached well.”

Edward founded the company in 1998 and has extensive experience as a property developer and residential builder. Other iconic projects which Ceerose has created include the Harbour Mill, Eliza and The Urban Ryvita.

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Below Apollo Kitchens supplied and installed complete kitchens and bathroom joinery on the project.



APOLLOKITCHENS

High-end kitchen designer and manufacturer Apollo Kitchens supplied the streamlined and functional cabinetry for The Mint's 100 apartments, which included the kitchens, wardrobes, linen cupboards, plus the cabinetry in the laundries and bathrooms.

"We work closely with Ceerose and they have a strong understanding of quality as well as a strong insight into the kitchen's place in homes," said Peter Bader, Apollo Kitchen's CEO and Managing Director. The Apollo Kitchen's team worked with the Ceerose design team to "make their concepts a reality and help bring the project together."

"We are finding people are focusing more on their kitchens and realising they are spending more of their home time in the kitchen and using their culinary creativity. A great kitchen is one that allows a chef to be confident and daring. A great kitchen brings loved ones together to entertain and connect."

The Mint's fixed joinery features practical stone benchtops, sleek soft-close cabinetry with gorgeous mood lighting with an LED lighting set between the hanging cabinets and the smoky mirror splashbacks. They created a timber-veneer look with Polytec Ravine and polyurethane stained doors.

Apollo Kitchens work closely with clients to select the most suitable material to allow the design concept carry through into product and to ensure the longevity of the finish. This project required a satin finish on the kitchen island and upper cabinetry. Satin finishes have the potential to easily spoil and the Apollo Kitchens team worked hard to ensure the finish was durable and protected throughout the project. In every kitchen, there is a high degree of customisation and double-checking every measurement during installation to assure the joinery is seamless and proportional.

The company celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. It designs and manufactures

kitchens and has four manufacturing plants as well as showrooms in New South Wales.

Apollo Kitchens will open a new high tech factory to boost their capacity by an additional 400 kitchens a week. The new Smart Factory and Head Office will allow the company to continue its high quality and highly customisable offering for larger-volume projects.

"The new facility will complement our stone, paint and other cabinet manufacturing plants in New South Wales. This is an exciting new chapter for Apollo Kitchens and the industry will benefit immensely from this project as it will be able to produce customisable joinery at high volumes. We are embracing the next generation in manufacturing and taking the next step into the Industrial 4.0. The Smart Factory will set a new benchmark for Australian manufacturing and the joinery industry," said Peter.

Apollo Kitchens are currently manufacturing and installing joinery for Jewel at the Ferry Terminal, Skyrise in Parramatta, Lake Promenade in Rouse Hill Town Centre, Ashfield Central in Ashfield and Arlington Grove in Dulwich Hill. The company has completed Urban Apartments in Camperdown, Savannah in Wenworth Point and Lumina in Ashfield.

With a reputation built on innovative and flexible design, expert craftsmanship and exceptional service, Apollo Kitchens have become the kitchen company of choice for countless home owners, interior designers, builders and commercial developers.

APOLLOKITCHENS

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