ACU CENTRE FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING

THE DANIEL MANNIX BUILDING

THE NAME THAT'S SPREADING LIKE FIRE THROUGHOUT THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

Seek Fire Detection is a company that specialises in the design, supply, installation and commission of Fire Detection and Emergency Warning and Intercommunication Systems.

Renowned in the industry for delivering cost effective and innovative systems, Seek Fire Detection have provided fire solutions to a range of new and existing schools, hospitals, shopping centres and apartment complexes, as well as other various commercial and industrial premises throughout Victoria.

Given their years of industry expertise and product and installation know-how, Seek Fire Detection were also recently involved on Victoria's significant ACU- The Daniel Mannix Building project.

The Australian Catholic University's- The Daniel Mannix Building is a state-of-the-art learning and research facility that features a new multi-level building, with a total floor area of 13,680 square metres, and includes a basement, a ground floor with a mezzanine, seven additional occupied levels and a roof plant.

Furthermore, the new learning facility comprises of lecture theatres and modern learning facilities, as well as a gymnasium, a chapel, a student centre and a rooftop garden.

Throughout their involvement on this prolific project, Seek Fire Detection's on-going role throughout the various construction phases of the building was the extensive installation and commission of all the specific Fire Detection and Emergency Warning and Intercommunication Systems.

Commencing involvement in August 2011, Darren Saunders, Project Manager and Coordinator for Seek Fire Detection on the ACU- The Daniel Mannix Building development, as well as his professional team of employees, set about overcoming the challenging coordination and design issues they faced whilst working on the complex Centre.

Given the fact the ACU The Daniel Mannix Building is Six Star Green Star Design, a highly specific pre-commissioning process of all of the building's circuits and cabling needed to be adhered to. In addition, a number of progressive test results, prior to installation of the field devices required for the ACU- The Daniel Mannix Building, also needed to be conducted to ensure the building's fire services were of the highest standard and were tailored to meet the specific requirements of the building.

One of the main obstacles the astute Seek Fire Detection team faced was that as a result of the building design, the underfloor spaces were the main option for installation of the necessary fire services. However, due to slab penetration limitations and strict fire zone restrictions, Seek Fire Detection faced a range of complexes challenges such as having to install the devices between the underfloor space and the ceiling above, where the majority of the field devices needed to be installed, as well as the need to ensure the extensive coordination of the complicated cabling methods.

However, as a result of Mr Saunder's and his team dedication and commitment to ensuring their project responsibilities for the ACU- The Daniel Mannix Building were delivered in both a time and cost efficient manner, they were able to apply their industry experience and overcome the challenges they faced, delivering outstanding results to the client, within the expected timeframe.

With a reputation for quality workmanship and being able to complete a range of complicated projects, regardless of their scope or size, in a hassle-free and professional manner for a variety of clients, Seek Fire Detection are making a 'red-hot' name for themselves throughout the Victorian building and construction industry.

SEEK FIRE DETECTION PTY LTD.
3 Straughan Close
Lysterfield VIC 3156
Contact: Darren Saunders
m. 0457 768 144
t/f.03 9759 6205
e. darren@seekfd.com.au
ABN: 60 142 384 254

Recently engaged by Abigroup Contractors as a key member for the Australian Catholic University's National Centre for Health and Well-being (ACUHW) development, Environmental Earth Sciences is one of Australia's leading environmental consultancies, specialising in the assessment, remediation and management of contaminated land and groundwater through innovative scientific solutions.

The expertise of the Environmental Earth Sciences Team was sought to assist with the nine-storey ACUHW development to incorporate a range of environmentally sustainable initiatives.

Throughout the project, Environmental Earth Sciences were responsible for a wide range of tasks vital to the development process, and provided a practical approach to environmental consulting and management. The ACUHW site presented several environmental challenges, requiring the implementation of carefully planned and coordinated methodologies.

During the initial excavation phase of the project, Environmental Earth Sciences acted as continuous liaison between Abigroup, CFMEU, the Environmental Auditor and all subcontractors, enabling all environmental and OH&S obligations to be met. Throughout this phase, Environmental Earth Sciences were also responsible for the management of all OH&S issues associated with the contaminated soil and groundwater. This was achieved through contribution to site inductions, third party audits to ensure compliance and the development of a contamination management plan through consultation with Abigroup, CFMEU and subcontractors.

Through meticulous site preparation and project management, Environmental Earth Sciences were able to account for and handle a number of different chemical and physical contaminants originating from different sources via numerous exposure pathways including soil, groundwater intrusion, dust and vapour. This process extended to off-site disposal of both the contaminated and natural soils in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority Guidelines.

Another key challenge within the ACUHW site managed by the Environmental Earth Sciences team was the successful ex-situ decommissioning of three underground storage tanks in accordance with relevant Australian Standards.

Throughout their involvement in the ACUHW development, Environmental Earth Sciences were able facilitate the cohesive management of an environmentally sensitive site, ensuring that any impact on the environment, site users or adjacent properties were minimised. Their involvement also provided practical advice by interpreting environmental issues relevant to construction operations, ensuring that all environmental guidelines were adhered to.

With steady involvement throughout the lifecycle of the project, Environmental Earth Sciences delivered on time and in budget, while exceeding client expectations in meeting all environmental requirements involved in this complex, multifaceted site. All necessary consulting services were delivered to Abigroup accounting not only for the specific needs of the client, but also for the uniqueness of the ACUHW site.

"Environmental Earth Sciences were a vital part of the ACUHW construction team, particularly during the early stages of initial excavation. Environmental Earth Sciences were seamless in their approach and flexible on a site that was subject to continual change. Their 'can-do' attitude along with the provision of clear, concise and practical recommendations was highly valued and critical for the successful management of contaminated materials on the project."
Paul O'Connell, Abigroup Contractors Regional Environment & Sustainability Manager

Environmental Earth Sciences has a team of more than 80 qualified scientists, providing an extensive range of services including groundwater studies, hazardous building material audits, land assessment for compliance and regulatory purposes, salinity assessments, earthworks and remedial management.

With significant experience in delivering major projects, Environmental Earth Sciences has provided assessment and remediation works for various Bunnings sites around Victoria, assessment and development of suitable remedial management strategies for a mixed use development in Ipswich and the auditing of a number of construction projects.

Environmental Earth Sciences provides services throughout Australia and internationally.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCES (VIC)

Level 1 98 Maribyrnong Street
Footscray VIC 3011
t. 03 9687 1666
e. eesvic@environmentalearthsciences.com
ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCES (NSW)

7-9 George Place
Artarmon NSW 2064
t. 02 9922 1777
e. eesnsw@environmentalearthsciences.com
ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCES (QLD)

Unit 3 1 Ross Street
Newstead QLD 4006
t. 07 3852 6666
e. eesqld@environmentalearthsciences.com
www.environmentalearthsciences.com

Australian Catholic University Centre for Health & Wellbeing -The Daniel Mannix Building, VIC

Climate change and energy prices are major worldwide concerns, and buildings are one of the biggest contributors to the energy equation. Experts estimate that buildings are responsible for as much as 40% of overall energy consumption in most of the countries.

Amazingly, the majority of this energy is wasted as lighting systems burn power and air conditioners blast into rooms that may not even be occupied. It all adds up to increase in the costs of living and doing business, while at the same time sucking the life out of the economy and the environment.

However, this scenario is avoidable. With the right technology, buildings can be managed much more efficient, saving money and at the same time protecting the planet.

Johnson Controls, the single source supplier of Integrated Building Efficiency solutions – offering everything from heating and cooling systems to lighting, fire, security and wireless infrastructure products for all buildings – is helping customers all over the world to do exactly that. Johnson Controls serves over 1 million customers across the globe. Successes in Australia include the construction and maintenance of large complex sites, such as the Adelaide Airport, AXA Docklands, 101 Collins St, 242 Exhibition St and CBW 181 William Street.

One of the keys to Johnson Controls' track record in improving the efficiency of commercial buildings is its Metasys® building management system. Metasys® ensures that all of the building's systems – comfort controls, lighting, fire safety, security and equipment – operate in harmony. With its innovative, IT-based infrastructure, software and wireless capabilities, Metasys® is virtually the only building management system on the market that can coordinate and organise all the information logically, then deliver it where and when customers need it.

Johnson Controls helped Australian Catholic University's National Centre for Health and Well-Being (NCHW) to implement a Metasys® solution. Johnson Controls has been a long term solutions provider to the University and has been supporting the system which controls and monitors all of the centre's building services, including the air conditioning plant and its associated chillers, boilers, AHU's, and FCU's.

Using Metasys®, Johnson Controls has been able to integrate all of the NCHW building's equipment, capture and deliver building information quickly and efficiently. Furthermore, Metasys® incorporates open systems technologies, so it can easily accommodate future solutions and continue to manage the energy, comfort and protection needs of the NCHW building.

Johnson Controls is committed to the vision of a more comfortable, safe and sustainable world. Metasys® is just one example of the wealth of innovative products, services and solutions that Johnson Controls provides to help its customers achieve great things.

JOHNSON CONTROLS
887 Wellington Road
Rowville Melbourne
VIC 3178
t. 03 9751 5000
f. 03 9755 7566

Johnson Controls

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