

n late April this year, Victorian premier John Brumby went to view two newly opened operating theatres at the Frankston Hospital. The theatres, now ready to be used for surgery, are some of the latest achievements in a \$45 million redevelopment at the hospital being built by Kane Constructions Pty Ltd - a company with a long and proud record in health sector construction.

The 265-employee, multi award-winning company was founded in 1973 and boasts offices in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Kane was responsible for four major areas of the 6,000m² Frankston Hospital redevelopment. "The first one was extending the existing operating theatres in the hospital, adding four new operating theatres," explains contracts manager Peter Constantinou. "We've also added a new ICU wing, a new angio wing and recovery wing, and [we're doing] some refurbishments within the existing hospital."

The redevelopment is currently in its second stage, the first stage having been completed in late 2008. So far several challenges have presented themselves, most significantly the need to work within the tight dimensions of the site, the need to be vigilant about requirements around infection control and the need to minimise disruption to the hospital's day-to-day activities. "There have been a lot of weekends and out-of-hours work; a lot of coordination and shutting down certain areas of the hospital to allow us to continue to work. That has all been a bit of a challenge," says Peter. "And obviously [there's the issue of] dealing with the multiple user groups within the hospital and providing a facility that is the most current and reflects all the needs of the users."

Other issues faced have been related to constructability – soft spots were found in the soil when pylons were being put in – and the discovery of more asbestos than anticipated in the old part of the building, which meant that its removal became a much larger job than originally envisaged. "Obviously, being a hospital, that had to be done very slowly and carefully. [We removed it] in a very controlled manner," says Peter. Kane has been mindful about using sustainable materials on the Frankston Hospital project. "We've tried to source local materials and materials that have a certain Green Star rating,"

says Peter. 'We've used low VOC paints and timbers, and insulation and plastics that have low chemical values and that have a low impact on the environment. That has been important to the Department of Health and the consultants on the project."

Health sector projects are only one part of Kane's broad construction experience – the company has also worked on projects for the education sector, the refurbishment of historic buildings and key infrastructure undertakings such as the Gippsland Water Alliance, for which it built the environmentally sustainable Vortex Centre.

Another key recent project has been the Wild Sea exhibit at Melbourne Zoo, a \$20 million, world-class home for seals and penguins featuring state-of-the-art equipment. Kane has over 55 projects currently under construction ranging in value from \$1 million to \$75 million. "The big one we're working on is Swinburne University in Hawthorn, for which we're constructing a 20,000m² Advanced Technology Centre," says Peter. The building will be one of the first 5-star green buildings at an

Australian university; as well as featuring other sustainable elements, recycled water will be used throughout the premises. Kane is leading the \$69 million redevelopment of the Dandenong Hospital which includes a new emergency department and mental health facilty. The company is also in the midst of renovating the historic Harold Holt pool in Melbourne, and is carrying out a major restoration of the Brisbane City Town Hall as well as numerous projects for the Department of Defence in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and Malaysia.

KANE CONSTRUCTIONS PTY LTD

PO Box 185 Richmond VIC 3121 28–34 Rooney Street Richmond VIC 3121 contact: Tristan Forster t. 03 9428 8888 f. 03 9428 9685



e. tforster@kaneconstructions.com.au www.kaneconstructions.com.au

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IT'S ALL IN THE PIPEWORK

cornerstone of any hospital's infrastructure is the pipework used to A carry the medical gases for surgical procedures. On the Frankston Hospital project, that's where Special Gases Enterprises came in.

The company was responsible for the supply of medical gas reticulation pipework through the hospital and for supplying the associated equipment. "We also did all the medical gases through the new project and installed the medical gas pendants inside the theatres," says company director Paul Rodgers.

Special Gases Enterprises has been in business for 16 years, with several of its employees having worked in the industry for the past 25 years. It currently has 17 employees. SGE also has a long-standing, strong relationship with Kane Constructions. "Once again we were

happy to work with Kane on this project - SGE has worked under Kane's as a sub-contractor for many years and we're looking forward to the future," says Paul. Current projects that SGE is working on include the Sunshine Hospital, Austin and Parkville Neuroscience, and the Warrnambool Hospital. The company also specialises in gases and pipework for laboratories.

SPECIAL GASES ENTERPRISES PTY LTD

Director: Paul Rodgers Factory 12, 69-75 Mark St North Melbourne VIC 3051

- t. 9326 7455
- f. 9326 9411
- e. specialgases@bigpond.com





RHINO CLEARS THE WAY

ffective waste removal is absolutely crucial to the smooth running of any major construction project. Rhino Bins, a family-owned and run Melbourne company that has been in the recycling and waste industry for over 30 years, is responsible for the transport and recycling of construction waste on the Frankston Hospital project, with the majority of its staff having worked on the project at some point since it began.

While a great deal of construction waste goes to landfill, Rhino Bins has effectively recycled a large portion of the waste from the Frankston Hospital project through their recycling facility Kingston Waste Transfer Station, which is based in Mordialloc. "This project has made our company step up our recycling processes. Being a government project we did a lot more recycling than we usually do which environmentally is great," says company director Sean O'Leary.

Rhino Bins is a leader in the industry when it comes to recycling construction waste. Rhino Bins supplies the domestic, commercial and industrial markets, with their large range of skips and walk-in bins available in sizes ranging from two cubic metres to 33 cubic metres. It also provides service and bins for asbestos removal, and offers

demolition services for the domestic and commercial industries. Current contracts that Rhino Bins is associated with include waste removal for various schools in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne and waste removal for other hospitals including St Vincent's Hospital and the Alfred Hospital. Rhino Bins has worked and continues to work with Kane Construction on several of these projects.

As a company Rhino Bins strongly supports local community groups and schools and currently sponsors around a dozen sporting clubs in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Rhino Bins will continue researching more recycling resources and effective waste removal while providing their reliable and cost-effectivewaste removal service.

RHINO BINS

24-30 Fonceca Street Mordialloc VIC 3195 contact: Sean O'Leary

t. 9580 4842

e. sales@rhinobins.com www.rhinobins.com