

A NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

CLIENT : Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : North Construction & Building
ARCHITECT : Alleanza Architecture
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : Triaxial
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$34 million



St Matthews Catholic School will provide a unique schooling environment which includes a chapel, sporting capacities, a multipurpose hall, music, and drama facilities and dedicated hospitality rooms with café facilities, and technology rich, agile classrooms.

North Construction & Building (North) was awarded the D&C contract for the new St Matthews Catholic School Mudgee – Secondary Campus in early 2021, initially engaged as the ECI partner working to progress the development. “The new secondary campus spans nine hectares and includes a multipurpose hall, sporting facilities, state-of-the-art music and drama facilities and chapel as well as purpose-built spaces for vocational education and training (VET). The new spaces are designed to provide a flexible and unique schooling environment with the opportunity for future expansion to include subjects such as agriculture, construction and primary industries,” explained Managing Director, Matthew Cook.

North was instrumental in creating a quick building programme by using the ‘Direct Detail’ method where design and detailing occur simultaneously and fabrication starts once the tender is awarded. North’s Construction Manager, Nick Windsor was especially adept and dedicated at promoting this method. As the St Matthews project

comprised five different, and separate, buildings, the decision was made to engage five structural steel subcontractors, pre-empting any availability and supply issues and maintaining the programme.

“The challenge involved the civil works due to an unseasonably high rainfall and flood management issues. We designed and constructed a levee bank and this included the installation and compaction of several thousand cubic meters of engineers’ fill to the southern and western boundaries of the site,” said Nick.

“North has worked across a wide range of iconic commercial construction projects throughout regional New South Wales from key infrastructure and commercial projects such as the Newcastle Light Rail depot and stops, multiple ambulance stations, Maitland Mutual Head Office and the Mariners Centre for Excellence, through to more unique developments like the Port Stephens Koala Sanctuary and the Line of Lode Miner’s Memorial in Broken Hill,”

said Matthew. “Key to our ongoing success is our relational approach founded on mutual trust. We have multiple long time repeat clients, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle being one.”

“Currently we’re delivering Stages 3, 4, and 5 at Catherine McAuley Catholic College, Medowie after completion of Stages 1 and 2. Traditionally we have focused on commercial projects, yet we’ve begun to enter the residential sector, most notably through affordable housing developments. Recently we completed a new 7-storey building of 56 units for Home in Place in Gosford. We’ve since gone on to build another development for Home in Place in Newcastle, a \$7.5 million apartment building.”

“North is proud to be celebrating 35 years of operation this year. With Company Shareholder and Construction Manager, Richard Telfer, relocating in early 2021, it was the time and opportunity for North to open a Brisbane office and we are proud to have now established a presence in Queensland. Richard’s leadership, together with his great connections and significant construction experience of over 20 years across Brisbane and regional Queensland, sees us now delivering multiple projects between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast.”



North has further cemented its reputation of being a trusted building partner by receiving a 4.0 Gold Star rating under the new independent Construction Industry Rating Tool, iCIRT. “We’re proud to be the first purely commercial construction company to be given a 4.0 Gold Star rating and listed on the iCIRT register. Trust is the foundation of our business and has always differentiated us from most other builders. Undergoing this independent, rigorous review process and receiving this outcome confirms that we have a proven track record of quality and integrity, fundamentally bolstering our reputation of building with trust,” added Matthew.

“As a long-time player in the construction landscape, we have worked hard to build confidence back into our industry. This public register brings more transparency and certainty, it is much needed and hopefully will encourage improved outcomes across the board.”

For more information contact North Construction & Building, Level 5, 1 Bryant Drive, Tuggerah NSW 2259, phone 1300 667 840, email mail@north.com.au, website www.north.com.au



Civiq designs, manufactures, installs and maintains a vast range of products to support indoor and outdoor activities, specialising in the production and installation of drinking fountains and water bottle refill stations for schools.

Customer Care Executive, Kim Butler and Sales and Marketing Manager, Brittany Thompson worked on the St Matthew's School project.

"The school chose our new school drinking trough for use by their teachers and students. The product specified for this project was our Hydrobank. Schools love this hybrid drinking water station as it packs a lot into a compact, robust and durable solution. The station combines three fountains with three bottle refill outlets. It's specifically suited to areas where lots of people are looking to access water at the same time," said Brittany.

"We've been specialising in the production of drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations for over 15 years now," said Brittany, "We have a range of high quality products to suit any project scope and budget. We work with clients to ensure the drinking stations suit their location – we have often incorporated student's artwork into the units, making the fountains unique and fun."

In business for over 20 years, Civiq have a team of inhouse designers and a manufacturing facility in Sydney, producing Australian made drinking stations within a four-week turnaround. Civiq are the preferred supplier Australia wide for Schools that wish to upgrade old infrastructure or install new drinking water fountains and bottle refill stations.

"We also work with Architects and builders on new school projects. For example, our product range was chosen to hydrate students at the new Riverbanks B-12 College and Aldinga Payinthe College in South Australia. Fortitude Valley State Secondary College in Queensland. Inner City High School, Arthur Phillip High School and Fort Street Public School in Sydney just to name a few," said Brittany.

Civiq also work in many other market segments. For example they have recently supplied product to the New Waves Aquatic and Fitness Centre in Baulkham Hills as well as Sydney Olympic Park Cricket Central.

For more information contact Civiq, 8-10 Giffard Street, Silverwater NSW 2128, phone 1300 600 300, email sales@civiq.com.au, website www.civiq.com.au

Established in 2001, Smyth Structural Steel Fabrication Pty Ltd offer a comprehensive service from initial consultation and the production of shop drawings to fabrication and installation of structural steel members. Starting the St Matthews job in May 2021, Smyth Structural Steel worked according to engineer's specifications and initial drawings to fabricate the structural steel members for Block E, a two-storey classroom building.

"North Constructions & Building awarded us the contract for Block E which altogether amounted to 52 tonnes of steel in the project. We also fabricated and installed walkway Steel work to the school. North then awarded us the contract to Block B, the chapel, where we supplied and installed 11.5 tonnes of structural steel columns and roofing members," explained Manager, Bill Hicks.

"We had some difficulties with labour supply due to COVID restrictions, however with our team of erectors, we finished both buildings within 11 months. St Matthews was our first job with North and it all went really well, the site personnel were very easy to work with."

Smyth Structural Steel specialise in the fabrication and installation of structural steel for industrial and commercial construction including

high strength steel, structural beams, columns and frames as well as canopies and stairs. They offer customised steel fabrication services and include blasting, priming, galvanising and powder-coating as well as onsite welding and erection services.

Locally owned and operated, Smyth Structural Steel operate from premises in Dubbo including their large workshop. Smyth Steel own and maintain their own fleet of trucks and cranes to manage transport as well as forklifts, telehandlers and EWP's to support construction. Smyth Structural Steel operate across regional Australia serving the industrial and commercial, education and infrastructure sectors, with successful contracts ranging from small commercial jobs to large scale developments.

Recent projects for Smyth Structural Steel include the fabrication and installation of structural steel for a large scale renovation to Red Bend Catholic College in Forbes. In September 2022 they completed a supply and construct contract to the Condobolin Visitors Centre.

For more information contact Smyth Structural Steel, PO. Box 4862, Dubbo NSW 2830, phone 02 6885 3366, email admin@smythstructural.com, website www.smythstructural.com

Below CDE Structures developed the structural steel model for Block C at St Matthews Catholic School.



CDE Structures is a team of four professionals, specialists at Building Information Modelling including 3D construction modelling, visualisation, drafting and structural steel detailing. CDE Structures started work on St Matthews Catholic School in early 2022.

“We were engaged directly by North Construction & Building, early in the design process, to work alongside architects and engineers to develop the structural steel model. We started detailing before completion of the design and were able to issue shop drawings on the award of tender, so fabrication could start much sooner,” Managing Director, Phillip Bird explained.

“To meet the tight deadlines North awarded the steel contracts to a number of different fabricators, one for each of the five buildings, with manufacturing starting when early onsite works commenced. This ‘Detail Direct’ method is a new way of working for us, promoted by Nick Windsor at North Construction & Building. It’s challenging detailing a developing design however it was also an opportunity to have valuable input at that level. We established a good working relationship with the architect, engineer and with North Construction & Building”

“For our modelling and shop drawings we use industry leading software, Tekla Structures, which allows online sharing, commenting and collaboration through Trimble Connect. With 3D Modelling technology we are able to move quickly through design and construction decisions giving construction projects a real boost in terms of time and cost savings.”

CDES has the experience and commitment to bring concepts into reality. They serve the commercial, industrial, mining and health sectors as well as infrastructure across transport and energy. Previous work for North Construction & Building includes 3D modelling and structural steel detailing for the tourist attraction Line of Load at Broken Hill.

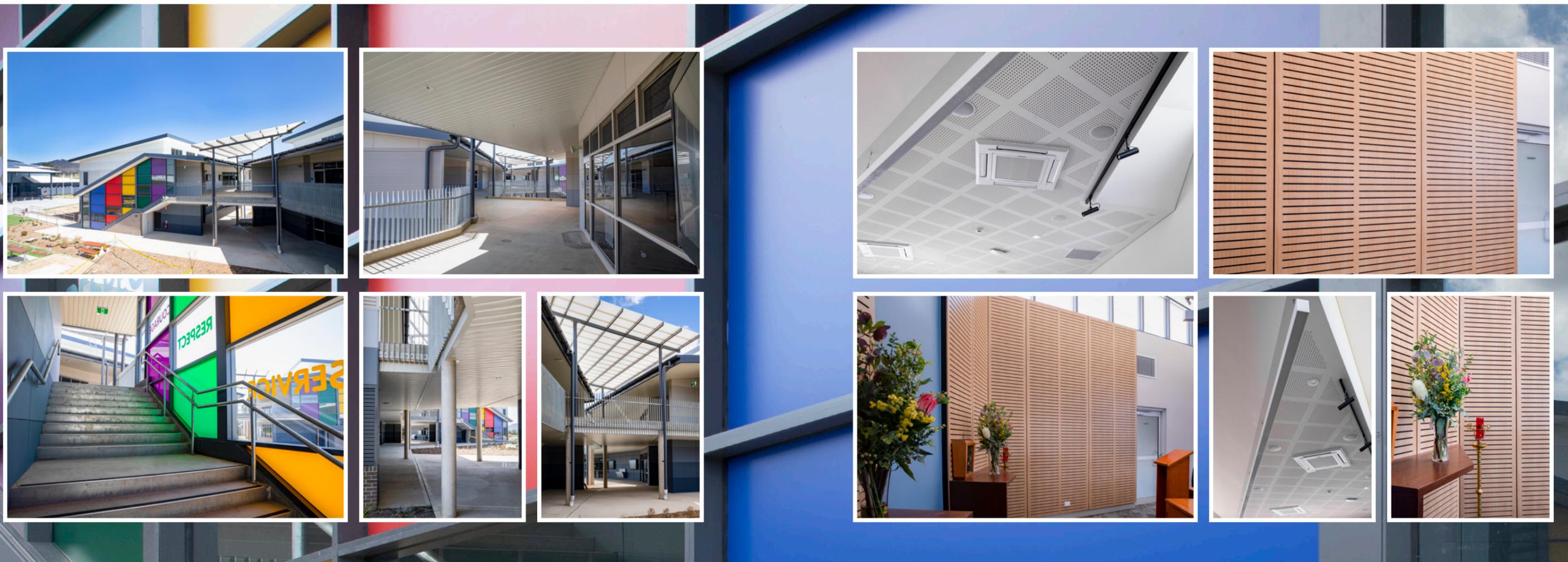
Successful projects include long term modelling work for the tunnels at the West Connex and Western Sydney Airport project and in 2009 CDES were contracted to complete the structural modelling and detailing for the \$214 million Orange Base Hospital.

For more information contact CDE Structures, 2/32 Sale Street, Orange NSW 2800, phone 02 6362 5066, email pbird@cdestructures.com.au, website www.cdestructures.com.au

Below Zahra Formwork supplied and installed formwork to the two-storey classroom building at St Matthews.



Below Broad Windows & Façades provided a range of internal lining and cladding solutions at St Matthews Catholic School.



Zahra Formwork work hard and fast to deliver the rapid installation of all types of formwork for in-situ concrete placement. Starting in June 2021 Zahra Formwork were contracted by North Construction & Building to supply and install formwork to the 2-storey classroom building at St Matthews, Block E.

“We put up the formwork for the rammed columns, round and square, working on the building in the separate sections. We had a team of 10 formworkers onsite and completed the job in time for Christmas,” said Owner Director, Ahmad Jamil. “COVID restrictions gave us some difficulty with labour supply but we were easily able to subcontract extra workers. It wasn’t a big job for us and it went really well. North Construction & Building are an extremely good building company and really good to work with.”

Zahra Formwork were established in 2015 working across Canberra and regional New South Wales, including Newcastle and the Central Coast, to serve the residential and commercial sectors.

“We supply and install all types of formwork, marine ply, timber and brands of plastic formwork such as Dincel and AFS Rediwall. At Zahra Formwork we focus on getting a quality job done in a timely

manner. We care for our customers and work quickly and efficiently, with absolutely no delays,” added Ahmad.

Zahra Formwork also offer a comprehensive service that includes steel fixing, concrete pumping and placing. Currently they are at work at installing formwork for an on ground slab and a suspended slab, each 1,300m², for an apartment block at Wickham in Newcastle.

They are also at work installing formwork, over the next six months, for a large new building, the Gosford RSL Club.

“We are a family owned and operated company based in Sydney. Our work covers formwork installations to small buildings as well as installations for large scale concrete structures,” said Ahmad.

For more information contact Zahra Formwork, 479 Bringelly Road, Rossmore NSW 2557, phone (Ouday) 0426 268 892, (Ahmad) 0420 424 003, (Obada) 0450 447 044, email zahraform@hotmail.com, website www.zahraform.com.au

In Australia Broad Windows & Façades specialise in internal lining and cladding solutions. Known as Broad, they are a dedicated team producing quality work, quickly and cleanly with experience across a range of cladding and lining materials.

“We put up a Rondo internal and external metal stud frame wall with an exposed ceiling grid and a suspended ceiling system. We used square perforated plasterboard for all walls and ceilings, Aquacheck for wet areas, Soundcheck acoustic ceiling tiles and Commercial ExpressPanel for external cladding. In the chapel and hall we installed special Supawood acoustic slotted timber panels and Supaline solid panels and these two installations really look very good,” explained Australian Manager Director, Jiawei Lin.

Sydney based, a Broad team of 12 started onsite in July 2021, with lockdowns they couldn’t travel, so Lin encouraged workers to stay in Mudgee to keep the job moving. The internal and external cladding of all five new buildings was completed according to programme by June 2022.

“The shortage of materials, especially cladding and insulation, gave me concerns for the project’s progress, and I spent time and money

reserving materials as well as sourcing them from a number of different places. It was important to us to overcome the challenges and avoid delays,” said Lin.

“Broad have been with North Construction & Building since we began. For our first job with them we installed the exterior cladding to a 7-storey apartment building, a public housing project in West Gosford. We enjoy working with North and hope to continue with them into the future.”

Established in April 2020, Broad employs hard working and dedicated installers and has quickly established a reputation for professional service and delivery.

“Our main business scope is now in regional New South Wales, and we pursue quality and efficiency in our work and trust in relationships. We hope to leave our Broad works in every town across New South Wales,” added Lin.

For more information contact Broad Windows & Façades, 16 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153, phone 0452 211 064, email Lin@broadwindows.net, website www.broadwindows.net

Below JLE provided electrical and data services, automated lighting control, security and CCTV at St Matthews Catholic School.

Below Chill-Rite designed and installed the mechanical and natural ventilated systems, actuating smoke louvres and specialised EWP's.



JLE Electrical is an expert in engineering, design and construction of electrical infrastructure provides specialised services to the Australian construction industry. Including school, hospital and large-scale infrastructure projects. JLE started onsite work as the principal electrical contractor at St Matthews Catholic School in April 2022.

“We provided the electrical and data services, automated lighting control, security and CCTV across all five new buildings. This included some specialised areas, such as the science laboratories, performing arts space and the multi-purpose hall. We also completed the external lighting throughout the school grounds and the high voltage network upgrade,” said Operations Manager, Damian Rootes. “This was JLE’s first job with North Construction & Building, and by working in close partnership, we navigated a challenging period, including managing COVID restrictions and protocols, labour and material supply issues and wet weather.”

With 12 staff on the job, JLE was able to complete the project in July 2022, which was within the delivery programme.

Having been in business for over 18 years, JLE employs inhouse designers to provide a comprehensive service from the first estimation

through to delivery. Bringing experience in complex underground infrastructure projects across the commercial, industrial and mining sectors, JLE can service projects of all sizes and complexity.

“Our core work and experience in complex high voltage cable installation, civil construction and tunnel boring means we can deliver projects of all sizes efficiently and cost effectively,” added Damian.

JLE has also worked on the Mindyarra Rail Maintenance Facility in Dubbo, integrating the low and high voltage electrical services. They are also providing Trunk Services to the Future Generation Joint Venture on the Snowy 2.0 Project, including Installation & terminations of the 33kV temporary underground infrastructure for the construction of a new power station.

JLE is part of Maas Group – an integrated property, construction and infrastructure company specialising in construction materials, civil construction and hire, manufacturing and real estate.

For more information contact JLE Electrical, 17R Yarrandale Road, Dubbo NSW 2830, phone 02 6884 5973, email admin@jlegroup.net.au, website www.jlelectrical.com.au

Chill-Rite Refrigeration & Air Conditioning have years of experience providing Mechanical Services – air conditioning and refrigeration for residential and commercial projects. They are an experienced team specialising in the project delivery methods of D&C along with prescriptive client and consultant HVAC designs.

“We worked on the design for 12 weeks and this included all aspects of the mechanically and naturally ventilated systems including exhaust and extraction. Onsite works started in June 2021 and we increased our number of onsite workers to support North’s timeline, completing the job by May 2022,” explained Commercial Projects Manager, Drew Irvine

“There were several revisions to the design to achieve a high level of operating efficiency, now and into the future, as well as Green Star compliance. We installed enormous fans as well as automatically actuating smoke louvres in the hall and Chill-Rite provided high level specialised EWP's to avoid damaging the newly installed floor.

“Onsite challenges included the large number of trades working simultaneously and frequent wet weather that made access very difficult at times. However, North’s experienced team, in particular

Paul Campbell, Nick Windsor and Kristie Jones enabled a seamless resolution of these challenges, delivering client focussed outcomes.”

“Chill-Rite have completed several projects for North including the Dubbo Courthouse extension, finished in June 2021. This project was particularly challenging as we installed a modern HVAC system into a heritage listed building. Recently we completed a HVAC design and installation for the Wildlife Hospital at Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo for staffrooms, animal surgical and recovery facilities and specialist veterinary medical equipment, all integrated with the Building Management System. This project was completed for one of our foundation clients – David Payne Constructions, who we have a long-standing relationship with.”

“The future for Chill-Rite is very promising. With continued growth and investment across our branches in Dubbo, Tamworth, Orange and Mudgee we continue with our unwavering commitment to exceed clients’ expectations.”

For more information contact Chill-Rite Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, 52 Depot Road, Mudgee NSW 2850, phone 02 6885 2254, email reception@chill-rite.com.au, website www.chill-rite.com.au



St Matthews Catholic School, New South Wales