

# AN IMPRESSIVE RECOVERY



The \$454.6 million Cairns Hospital redevelopment provides an expanded range of facilities capable of meeting the needs of the Cairns and Hinterland Health Service District, and the broader catchment areas of Cape York and Torres Strait.

Developed in two stages since 2010, the Health Services at Cairns Hospital now include 13 operating theatres, an ambulatory cancer care centre with a new radiation oncology service, additional cardiac care facilities and additional surgical capacity, including day surgery. There has also been the expansion of intensive care capacity, expanded birthing services and a special-care nursery, a new low-risk Family Birth Centre, additional aged care and rehabilitation services, additional beds for mental health services, and new pathology facilities.

Designed by Jackson Architects, Brisbane, and Fisher Buttrose Architects in Cairns, the building layout and features have already won construction awards. Their design not only maximises the views and prevailing cool sea breezes, but captures the architectural character relevant to the region,

with defined entries and special screening to reduce the impact of the sun, as well as cyclones. The hospital's perfect tropical seaside location, between Lake Street and the Esplanade, creates a landscaped breezeway to the hospital's entrance. The building works seamlessly integrate the renovation and expansion of four existing buildings. Covered link bridges between buildings and over streets provide pedestrian access around the hospital and to multi-storey car parks. The exterior colours of yellow, white and crimson red are inspired by the many surrounding frangipanis, and mark the entry, identify spaces, and connect with the vibrancy of the interior layout.

Due to significant space constraints and the sensitivity of working in a hospital precinct environment, the project has involved detailed

planning and coordination to successfully allow hospital services to continue operating throughout the course of the project.

August 2014 saw the opening of the clinical services Block D, part of the redevelopment of Cairns Hospital. This marked a milestone, with more than 250 inpatients transferred and safely relocated in under an hour.

Block D is now the hub of the hospital. Housing half of the hospital's 531 inpatient beds, and the 32-bed Orthopaedic Ward on the top floor, it has panoramic views of the city skyline, mountains and inlet, for staff, patients and visitors to enjoy. The Orthopaedic ward has been years in the planning, with staff contributing to the overall ward design, as well as the furniture, fittings and equipment. It includes a dedicated plaster room, allowing patients to be conveniently treated in the ward and in a timely manner, plus a new gym for dedicated patient orthopaedic rehabilitation. Block D also features a newly developed main entrance to the hospital, a ground-floor pharmacy

service, increased short-stay beds with direct access to the emergency and medical imaging departments, new cardiology inpatient unit and coronary care unit, day surgery and procedural areas that are directly linked to operating theatres. This redevelopment moves the hospital into the next century.

The extra operating theatres in Cairns Hospital's new Block D are crucial in its aim to become the top choice for elective surgery in Australia. In the past eight months, the hospital has already managed to reduce elective surgery waiting lists by almost 90 per cent, from 769 patients to just over 80. Having these extra theatres will allow surgeons to work more normal hours, instead of through the night and on weekends.

The next stage of the redevelopment involves the refurbishment of existing Blocks A, B and C, and is scheduled for completion in early 2016.

For more information visit, [www.health.qld.gov.au/cbhredevelopment/](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/cbhredevelopment/)

Below Century Cranes provided crane services during construction of the Cairns Hospital Redevelopment.

Below PKF Queensland provided floor covering services for the Cairns Hospital Redevelopment.



When it comes to hiring cranes, Century Cranes, which has grown into “the largest crane hire company in Cairns,” is hard to beat. Century Cranes provided all the mobile cranes to the Cairns Base Hospital site, as well as erecting, and on completion, dismantling the tower cranes on site.

In 1979 Cairns Steel Fabricators was established and are now one of the largest steel fabricators in Queensland. The company purchased cranes to erect structural steel and it soon became a realisation that there was a need for a crane hire company in Cairns. Cairns Steel began hiring out cranes to local builders and as the demand grew, they established Century Cranes. Today, Century Cranes operates a fleet of cranes ranging from a 13T City Class to 200T All Terrain.

Century Crane’s had a crew of 34 that had worked on the hospital project. The tower cranes (owned by another contractor) were erected by Century Cranes. The tallest was 60m.

These cranes were used to lift a variety of materials for all contractors on site. The mobile cranes used were All Terrains due to the weather conditions in Cairns and varied in size from 13 ton up to 200 ton.

Century Cranes met the challenges of the difficult conditions produced both by high winds on the site was and the need of the existing hospital to continue its services.

Century Cranes works mainly in North Queensland, Central Queensland and Papua New Guinea, however, cranes are available on request to anywhere. The company does all that is requested of them, as long as they can perform the task safely.

“The secret to Century Cranes success is no secret - it’s about our cranes, our crew and our service,” says a company spokesperson. “Our management team and crew are passionate about what they do and it is through their passion, that each and every client experiences a level of professionalism and service that exceeds expectation.”

For more information contact Century Cranes Pty Ltd, 46 Redden Street, Portsmith QLD 4870, phone 07 4035 1754, email operations@centurycranes.com.au, website www.centurycranes.com.au

PKF Queensland Pty Ltd specialises in the supply and installation of commercial floor coverings. The company has extensive installation experience around Australia in hospitals, schools, supermarkets and large public spaces.

PKF has a well-established history spanning 40 years in New South Wales and 15 years in Queensland. The company has roughly around 100 employees.

The Cairns Hospital project involved floor preparation and the supply and installation of floor covering. The team of 16 professionals working on the project met the challenge of a very strict building program and high quality standards. A company spokesperson states that where vinyl flooring is concerned “PKF have established a solid reputation for this specialised sector of the market.”

Cairns Hospital is one of numerous hospital projects PKF has been involved in. The company has a long association with various construction companies including Abigroup (Lend Lease).

Other Queensland hospitals the company has worked on in the past include Wesley Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital, Nambour

General Hospital, Mater Hospital, South Brisbane and The Royal Brisbane Hospital.

PKF has worked on a number of aged care facilities including Carseldine Aged Care, Varsity Lakes Aged Care and Gladstone Aged Care as well as some correctional centres such as Lotus Glen, Mareeba, SEQ Correctional Precinct Development, Gatton, Wacol Correctional Centre and Townsville Men’s Correctional Centre.

PKF is very proud of its environmental policies that aim to ensure the best possible outcome for minimising environmental impact. The company’s aim is to “continuously improve our environmental performance.” No matter the job, PKF always demonstrate a professional profile. They focus on ensuring that all clients are happy by providing successful outcomes for all jobs.

For more information contact PKF Queensland Pty Ltd, 18b Windorah Street, Stafford QLD 4053, phone 07 3352 4888, fax 07 3352 4999, email qld@pkfloors.com, website www.pkfloors.com.au