



# ADVENTURE AWAITS IN GEELONG

**CLIENT :** Geelong Port  
**MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY :** Kane Constructions  
**ARCHITECTS :** Brand Architects and Select Architects  
**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER :** WGA

The Spirit of Tasmania project involved the construction of a state-of-the-art passenger and freight terminal for future Spirit of Tasmania operations, and includes a world-first three-level boarding ramp for cars, caravans and trucks to board simultaneously. The project also included an impressive terminal building providing improved amenities for passengers, staff and pets, and a boarding area that includes marshalling for 600 cars and a parking area for 150 semi-trailers.

**Kane was awarded the \$19 million Design and Construct contract to build the Spirit of Tasmania terminal at Corio Quay by GeelongPort in November 2021.**

Work on the development, which covers approximately 12 hectares, commenced in January 2022 and was completed in September. The scope of Kane's work covered modifications to the existing façade of the shed, integrating it with the working wharf and fitout of all its internals.

The construction site was internal to the structure and on any one day, up to 150 labourers working for various subcontractors could be found onsite. In addition to this, there were civil engineering contractors working on the roads outside and marine contractors working on the wharf structure.

Careful planning and logistics were required to effectively manage access to the site for trades, equipment and supplies, throughout the seven month programme.

The complexity of the building presented a number of unique challenges for the project. The sheer size of the canopies that are a major architectural feature of the façade, had to be fabricated with special attention to their geometry. Once these mammoth structures arrived onsite, they had to be carefully cantilevered and moved into place with erection procedures used to fix them in place.

Kane Constructions is proud of its role on the project. The state-of-the-art terminal features a world-first three-level boarding ramp for cars, caravans and trucks, more efficient passenger check-in, various amenities including food and beverage outlets and even a children's play area and pet exercise park.

Kane Constructions has a longstanding relationship with Geelong, with over 30 years' experience working in the region across hundreds of projects and partnering with local firms. They are one of the largest contractors in the construction industry operating in the Bellarine

Peninsula region. Over 30 of their employees reside in Geelong and the region and they employ a large local direct labour force as part of the company's structure division.

Kane has successfully completed projects in Geelong such as the multi-award winning Geelong Arts Centre Ryrie Street Redevelopment (Stage 2), Geelong Library and Heritage Centre and GMHBA Stadium Stage 4 Brownlow Stand Redevelopment along with hospital projects, St John of God Geelong Hospital Redevelopment, Geelong Hospital Emergency Department and Geelong Hospital Children's Ward.

Kane is currently delivering the Northern Aquatic and Community Hub in Norlane for the City of Greater Geelong.

**For more information contact Kane Constructions**, phone 03 8420 1200, website [www.kane.com.au](http://www.kane.com.au)

Below Select were engaged to interpret the concept brief to develop and integrate cutting-edge technology into the project.

Below Brand Architects created a design that transformed a pre-existing cargo shed into a state-of-the-art landmark.



Project team from left to right: Andrew Conte, Peter Serra and Liesa Nunn

Geelong based Select Architects started as a one man show in the laundry at the back of Peter Serra's home. 16 years later, the company boasts a team of 20 plus inspired professionals, and now Select is one of the teams assisting in the construction of the landmark Spirit of Tasmania terminal at Geelong's Corio Quay.

The overall design concept was authored by Brand Architects, Select were engaged to interpret the concept brief to develop and integrate the cutting-edge technology and exceptional facilities for the builder to construct a project delivering an unforgettable customer travel experience.

Select Architects are dedicated to helping their clients live, work and learn in inspired and purpose-built environments that balance a high-end user experience with strong client outcomes. Their portfolio of projects spans the commercial, retail, education, residential and retirement construction sectors. They are currently delivering projects nationally for their blue chip clientele.

The award winning practice also has an active community service portfolio and a commitment to growing the craft amongst subsequent generations of graduates. To this end, they provide training in their

graduate programme which allows students to obtain registration to fast track their pathway to becoming senior architects.

The ethos of community service is evidenced by their pro-bono work. This has seen the Select Team work on projects in places as far flung as Vanuatu and Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Cape York. They also have an active service agenda in Geelong, where they provide assistance to organisations for the dis-empowered and disenfranchised.

Over the years Serra has served on the boards of organisations such as St Vincent de Paul, Rotary, the Geelong Club and Samaritan House and currently serves as Director of the Barwon Health Foundation.

For more information Select Architects, Level 3, 117 Myers Street, Geelong VIC 3220, phone 03 5224 7300, email peter.s@selectarchitects.com.au, website www.selectarchitects.com.au

Brand Architects' ecological aesthetic is evident in its recent design of the Spirit of Tasmania's new terminal building in North Geelong. The Melbourne firm began working on the project in June of 2021, with completion earmarked for August 2022.

Adding to the challenge of transforming a pre-existing cargo shed into a state-of-the-art landmark, within a short timeframe, was integrating multiple functions within the structure. "It's a very busy building that's got a lot going on. There are the arrival and departure halls, a café, open-plan workspace and offices for staff, meeting rooms, as well as cabin crew accommodation and wellbeing areas" said Director, Gerard McCurry.

"Each function brought with it different functional and technical requirements, where an integrated and efficient architectural and building services design response avoided unnecessary capital cost. Another design challenge was the sheer size of the building idling against the landscape, as the 165m shed had a relatively flat façade. The re-designed exterior draws inspiration from the landscapes of both Victoria and Tasmania, especially Lake St Clair National Park, "with its beautiful mountains, rocky summits, lush greenery, quaint and historic huts, and hills rolling into its lakes," said McCurry.

Brand Architects incorporated chic dominion cladding to add texture, pairing this with perforated mesh sunshades which peak and pitch over angled windows across the line of the building, to mimic the contours of Cradle Mountain. The palette of neutral greys and bronze is also informed by the vision of the dolerite peak shrouded in cloud.

"It's the busiest we have been in the 30 year history of this company" says McCurry, but "also the most exciting" with a raft of other projects to come online including a broad range of public infrastructure projects.

For more information contact Brand Architects, Level 8, 176 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne VIC 3002, phone 03 9419 3500, email gerardm@brandarchitects.com.au, website www.brandarchitects.com.au



Below WT was able to deliver cost certainty for project stakeholders across design and construction phases of the project.



Project team from left to right: Stewart Lyons, Matt Gunn and Ben Ryan

**The Spirit of Tasmania (SoT) terminal is nearing completion and will deliver a state-of-the-art facility in Victoria's second city, Geelong.** Providing project Quantity Surveying (QS) services across the marine, civil and terminal building contracts was leading construction cost advisory firm, WT.

Previously sailing from Port Melbourne, the SoT will commence operations from Geelong Port in October 2022. The new terminal will result in improved overall efficiency in vessel operation, turn-around times and customer experience.

Through its construction cost management services, WT was able to deliver cost certainty for the Client and project stakeholders across design and construction phases of the project. The project delivered on relative tight project timelines and faced challenges in planning and execution of the works. Accurate QS and cost engineering helps ensure resource efficiency, predictability, transparency, and the longevity of a project.

WT employs 380 nationwide across major cities including a local Geelong office. WT in Victoria has specialist teams delivering a range of marine and infrastructure projects across the country. This expertise was called on to help deliver the role on SoT.

Innovation is central to all WT projects and operations. By leveraging their knowledge and data, the company creates efficiencies and helps simplify the sometimes complex cost paradigm for project stakeholders. WT utilised various software platforms on SoT including Cost-X estimating software and their own inhouse developed 'proClaim' utilised for monthly progress claim reporting.

This SoT project is a significant piece of infrastructure and is expected to provide a boon for regional tourism and commerce in Geelong and Victoria's South-West. While construction will be completed by end of 2022, WT's ties to the region are set to deepen with other major projects soon to start.



**For more information contact WT,** [slyons@wtpartnership.com.au](mailto:slyons@wtpartnership.com.au), 0413 943 848, [rdeed@wtpartnership.com.au](mailto:rdeed@wtpartnership.com.au), 0416 741 922, [www.wtpartnership.com.au](http://www.wtpartnership.com.au)

Below Strata Steel Detailing provided shop drawings for steel components for the re-engineered warehouse building.

Below MaddisonWright Engineering fabricated and erected 200 tonne of steel across the project including the bespoke sun canopies.



**Steel detailing may be a niche market in construction but it's emerging as an indispensable service provided by boutique firm Strata Steel Detailing.**

As part of the team building the Spirit of Tasmania terminal at Corio Quay, the Victorian company was contracted by fabricators MaddisonWright Engineering to provide shop drawings for steel components. The pre-existing warehouse had to be re-engineered to accommodate new architectural features along with an additional mezzanine floor and auxiliary parts.

Dwayne Job, company founder, relied on two technologies to model the environment and detail every last component. The first was a Trimble TX6 3D Laser Scanner.

"It's quite an amazing bit of kit," explained Job. "Rather than take a measuring tape, we use the laser scanner, so when we come into the office, we bring measurements of exactly what is there... It's millimeter perfect."

The Trimble TX6 sits atop a tripod and turns 360 degrees, capturing images whilst overlaying these on a three-dimensional point cloud.

Back in the office, Job uses the Tekla Structures software to process the data and model it on a computer screen, layering individual components to create a virtual building.

Job spent 27 years working all over Australia as an aircraft maintenance engineer, before starting the company a decade ago. The lateral move was easy, given that aircraft engineering is a process driven field.

"You follow the process at every point to keep aircraft safe, as is the case in steel detailing." Job found his career move to be very rewarding "because every building is unique; We are skeleton builders, if the skeleton is not right, the building is not right; we need to get into the architects head, the engineer's head, and come up with creative solutions to big problems."

His enthusiasm for Corio Quay terminal is palpable. "It's a nice iconic change for the Spirit of Tasmania, ushering in a new era for Tasmania and a boost to Geelong."

*For more information contact Strata Steel Detailing, 18 Josephine Way, Sebastopol VIC 3356, phone 0407 882 504, email dwayne@stratadetailing.au, website www.stratadetailing.au*

**MaddisonWright Engineering (MWE) were also responsible for the fabrication of the mammoth structural steel features of the Spirit of Tasmania terminal at Corio Quay.** They were brought in by the builder to fabricate and erect what has amounted to 200 tonnes of steel.

The project was challenging due to a narrow time frame, the sheer size of the steel pieces and ensuring connection to a brownfield environment. The bespoke sun canopies that shade the windows and run along the line of the pre-existing shed were particularly challenging. "They go right up the face and have perforated aluminium sheeting over them. They are very architectural, with their different angles, so it was not an easy job," explained Project Manager, Lance Rogers.

For the required lifespan warranty, the steel had to be protected but the usual galvanizing bath was impossible given the size of each piece. MaddisonWright instead used a three-coat paint solution that would provide longevity in both structural strength and protective skin. It was also speedier than galvanising to fit the six-month deadline. Erection works commenced in the second week of January 2022 and finished the first week of July.

The engineering was supersized on this building and designed to last for decades to come. But big jobs are what MaddisonWright Engineering do.

Established in Shepparton in 2016, MaddisonWright Engineering has grown from providing small fabrication and mechanical installation services in the food, beverage, and dairy industry in country Victoria, to becoming a multi-disciplined design, fabrication, construction, and maintenance company servicing Tier 1 companies across Australia.

Current projects under way for MWE include a 155 Tonne fabrication and construction project for a meat processing facility in country Victoria along with 350 Tonne fabrication and construction of the new Northern Aquatic and Community Hub in Corio.

*For more information contact MaddisonWright Engineering, G16/ 11 Mackey Street, North Geelong VIC 3215, phone 03 5814 5210, email info@maddisonwright.com.au, website www.maddisonwright.com.au*