

CONNECTING AUSTRALIA'S BRIGHTEST MINDS

DEVELOPER : Western Sydney University and Charter Hall
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Richard Crookes Construction
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER : SCP
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$350 million



Westmead Innovation Quarter is a visionary research, health, education and business hub spread across three state-of-the-art towers with flexible floorplates which will offer world-class facilities to accommodate the University and the wider community.

The heart of Western Sydney has just been given a major boost with the development of a visionary research, health, education and business hub that will see ideas, evidence and technology generated to achieve positive impacts in healthcare and medical research.

Western Sydney University, together with Charter Hall, has delivered the Westmead Innovation Quarter (iQ). The development will springboard the brightest minds from the healthcare industry and Government at the forefront of Australia's health and research future.

Situated between Westmead Hospital and Westmead station, the extraordinary \$300 million investment is part of Western Sydney University's 'Western Growth' strategy – an ambitious program of works that is re-shaping the University's campus network to co-create cities and transform educational infrastructure across the Western Sydney region

Development plans were unveiled in September 2019, with construction commencing one year later, creating 1,000 jobs. The project itself has attracted more than \$1.2 million in commercial and industry partnered investment in advanced health and education infrastructure and in turn will elevate Westmead's status as one of the world's most advanced health and innovation districts.

"Western Sydney University is committed to making a difference and the development of Westmead iQ demonstrates a significant expansion of our research presence in the southern hemisphere," said Bill Parasiris, Chief Estate and Commercial Officer at Western Sydney University. "Our intent was to ensure our world-class research institute aligned with relevant commercial partners including industry, Government and healthcare providers."

The development comprises 43,000m² of mixed-use research, health, commercial and retail space across three state-of-the-art towers. Within each building, large and flexible floorplates will offer a variety of office configurations, while future-proofed technology will support a forward-thinking workforce. The east and west towers will

share a central square, lined with cafés, restaurants, bars and boutiques, creating an expansive open-air lifestyle destination for Westmead.

Three of the University's renowned research institutes will reside in the world-class facility and together, the institutes will conduct research across mental and physical health, brain sciences, biomedical and human technologies, neuromorphic systems, integrative medicine, diagnostics and therapeutics, health and wellness across the lifespan and preventing and managing chronic disease.

The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, the NCIM Health Research Institute and the Translational Health Research Institute (THRI), which occupies levels four, five, six and seven, now call Westmead iQ home, alongside key tenant CSIRO, Australia's national science agency.

"The collaboration between the University, Richard Crookes Constructions and Charter Hall has met and exceeded the commercial and strategic objectives," Bill said. "Generating alternative revenue streams to help support and minimise the cost of delivering education is a big part of what we do and Westmead iQ was 100% tenanted prior to being completed. It's a very unique development with a medically strategic intent."

The Westmead precinct is expected to generate up to 50,000 new knowledge jobs by 2036 and contribute more than \$2.8 billion annual to the New South Wales economy, making it a critical part of Western Sydney's transformation.

The Westmead IQ Development is an environmentally sustainable building with whole-of-life considerations and impressive end-of-trip facilities to encourage greener transport options. The project boasts a 6-Star GreenStar rating in addition to a Silver WELL shell and core rating, setting the bar very high for health and research facilities.

For more information contact Western Sydney University, website www.westernsydney.edu.au/western-growth/projects/westmead-innovation-quarter

Below SCP was tasked with the design, documentation, inspections and correspondence for the Westmead Innovation Quarter.

Below Interior Marble supplied and installed unfilled Travertine to the lift lobby façade walls using mechanically fixings.



With more than four decades of experience in designing building and infrastructure projects that stand the test of time, SCP Consulting is well-known in the industry for providing innovative, practical and economical solutions that meet the deadlines on each and every project.

The Australian engineering firm is privately owned and operated and has a team of hands-on Directors at the helm, leading the best in-house engineers and technicians in the business. One of those Directors is Paul Siewert and his area of expertise includes structural steel buildings, reinforced and post-tensioned concrete and timber structures.

Paul led his team from SCP onsite at the Westmead Innovation Quarter for around 18 months, after winning the contract for a competitive re-design of the structural and civil design component. At Westmead Innovation Quarter, SCP was tasked with the design, documentation, inspections and correspondence for the world-class project.

“Our team has advanced expertise with all forms engineering analysis, design and modelling. At the Westmead Innovation Quarter project, the structural and civil design scope included concrete façade detailing and loadbearing shoring walls which support the tower external tapered

columns. These are on sliding bearings to minimise forces in the tower columns above the podium,” Paul Siewert said. “We opted for a post-tensioned framed concrete structure for the long span capability and efficiency and we also designed the acoustic, isolated roof theatre.”

The Westmead Innovation Quarter joins SCP’s extensive portfolio of projects, however, the exceptional research hub really is in a class of its own. “Westmead Innovation Quarter is a fantastic, grade A office project that is the result of a collaborative team approach to design and construction,” Paul said. “Charter Hall, Solutions Consulting and Richard Crookes Construction fostered a wonderful team environment where the quality of the project was always paramount when time and cost decisions needed to be made.”

SCP Consulting is designing building and infrastructure projects all around Australia and current developments which are underway include the restoration of the iconic Sirius building in Sydney, as well as the Loftus Lane redevelopment.

For more information contact SCP Consulting, Level 2, 507 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000, phone 1300 727 364, email mail@scpconsult.com.au website www.spcconsult.com.au

Interior Marble’s beautiful workmanship at the Westmead Innovation Quarter is indicative of their unique approach to working with stone, as the Italian’s say ‘the art of stone is in our blood’.

The second-generation family business, started in 1992, is proof that quality Italian craftsmanship is alive and well. Interior Marble works with natural stone, engineered stone and specialising in large format Italian porcelain panels.

Interior Marble’s forte in marble, granite, sandstone and large format panels offers limitless design possibilities for residential and commercial projects, both inside and out. Innovation Quarter was a natural fit for Interior Marble, who sourced the Travertine from Europe, for the project.

The scope was to supply and install the lift lobby façade walls using mechanically fixed, unfilled Travertine and followed a similar design brief to a previous project where Interior Marble used the same material. “The natural stone we’ve used here at Westmead Innovation Quarter is a vein-cut, first choice classic Travertine honed and unfilled and we opted for this one to match the benchmark project previously

designed by Architectus at 201 Kent Street in Sydney,” said Julian Goebel, Sales Manager at Interior Marble.

Interior Marble began sourcing material from Europe in May 2021 and once all components of the project were manufactured in their Sydney factory, a four-man installation team was deployed onsite in November, with a dedicated project manager on hand to oversee the works.

“The delays in shipping and the shortage of open-top containers worldwide were definitely challenging on this project and a lot of work was done behind-the-scenes for the highly detailed mechanical fixing system to support the natural stone lobby walls,” Julian said. “Overall, the end result at IQ Westmead is a really pleasing one and we look forward to working alongside Richard Crookes and Architectus on future projects, as well as expanding our mechanical fixing and façade work capabilities.”

Interior Marble is starting work on the Martin Place Metro upgrade and is also finishing works at the newly built Sydney Football Stadium.

For more information contact Interior Marble, phone 02 9748 0077, email julian@interiormarble.com.au, www.interiormarble.com.au

Below Austral Air Conditioning Services designed, supplied, and installed the HVAC and mechanical services across the project.

Below All Duct designed, manufactured and installed all 22 hearing testing rooms at the Westmead Innovation Quarter.



Austral Air Conditioning Services has been a trusted name in the construction industry since 1995, specialising in the supply and installation of electric and gas heating systems, cooling and ventilation systems, mechanical plumbing and pipework systems in large scale developments right across New South Wales.

The company's capability includes all facets of mechanical services, taking care of everything from estimating, design and engineering, to construction, project management and maintenance. "Our general industry feedback is that we deliver technical projects to a high standard and on time," said Sumen Pillay, Services Manager for Austral Air Conditioning Services. "Our inhouse engineering team is of the highest calibre and our structure ensures everyone is accountable and approachable to ensure the right outcomes for our clients."

Austral were engaged by Richard Crookes Construction under a Design & Construct Contract to provide the final design, supply, installation and commissioning of the HVAC and mechanical services across this project. Austral worked closely with George Floth & Associates (Mechanical Consultant) to ensure that the client's design outcome was achieved. This project was designed to meet very tight and specific parameters leaving no room for error. Austral opted

for the DESIGO Building Management System, along with Daikin chillers, BAC cooling towers and GJ Walker air handling units. Austral deployed a team of 52 onsite for just over one year to carry out the detailed and specific scope.

"We engaged a surveyor to set-out the rooftop plant room where there is a great deal of infrastructure and some tricky detail with the installation of duct work," Sumen explained. "We also used 3D scanning to allow us to speed-up the installation by essentially locating all the hangers and support structure for the equipment to ensure every duct was positioned exactly where it needed to be."

"Austral sees this project as a great achievement in the way that we navigated through COVID restrictions and equipment procurement hurdles and we demonstrated that by having good communication and working together with our suppliers and subcontractors, we were able to achieve a great outcome," Sumen said. "The project has been a valuable learning exercise on how to plan and work through projects with multiple services and major crossovers working within limited space."

For more information contact Austral Air Conditioning Services, phone 02 9999 6644, website www.australaircon.com.au

The Victorian-based company All Duct Fabrications is family owned and operated, and has been specialising in the design and manufacture of hearing test rooms and acoustic enclosures for 30 years.

All Duct and Western Sydney University have worked together for more than a decade and the valuable relationship between the two, the merging of like-minded people, is what led to this benchmark project coming to life.

"It was maybe four years ago when Western Sydney University put the idea up for this project and we went back and forth on concepts and designs for some time," Managing Director, Jono Davies said. "A lot of universities talk to us but when it came to the scope for Innovation Quarter and working with the researchers and scientists to develop what was required, it became clear that this wasn't just a pipe dream, but rather something very special."

At the Westmead Innovation Quarter, All Duct has designed, manufactured and installed all 22 hearing testing rooms, designed to both Australian Standards AS1269.4-2014 and International Standards ISO8253.2-2009 and in an exciting first for the company, they have

incorporated radiofrequency (RF) and electromagnetic frequency attenuation technology. "As always, we set out to achieve and beat the standard and we put in a lot of background work to go over and above what the client wanted and engaged specialist parties to get this right," Jono said.

Due to COVID restrictions, All Duct Fabrications manufactured all the components required, stored them in Sydney then had a team of installers complete the fitting the 22 rooms over eight weeks. "This job is more than a passion for me and I'm so proud of our family and our installation crew because there were some very stressful times and some very late nights on this project but at the end of the day, we all wanted the same outcome and that's what makes me so proud," Jono said.

All Duct Fabrications have a large-scale manufacturing site spanning 6,000m² and use the latest technology throughout the entire process. "We do everything inhouse and use only Australian-made materials from our door handles and hinges, through to air-conditioning ducting and sheet metal fabrication."

For more information contact All Duct Fabrications, phone 03 9775 0340, email jono@allduct.com.au, website www.allduct.com.au