

SAILING TOWARDS SUCCESS

CLIENT : Searoad Ferries
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Kane Constructions
ARCHITECT : F2 Architecture
ENGINEER : JBA Engineering
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$16 million
TYPE : Port / Infrastructure



The Queenscliff Searoad Ferries Terminal redevelopment includes the construction of a new building across two floors featuring a stainless steel façade, complete with modern facilities and bathrooms, safer access, improved car parking areas and opportunities for retail such as cafés and tourism ventures.

Kane Constructions was appointed to deliver the new \$16 million world-class ferry terminal building at Queenscliff for Searoad Ferries.

The new building provides local commuters, day trippers and international tourists an architecturally designed experience as they embark across Port Phillip Bay.

The development of the Queenscliff Searoad Ferries Terminal consists of the demolition of the existing terminal building and construction of a new building across two floors with a feature stainless steel façade, ticketing and retail area, toilets, kitchens, café, bar and passenger lounge.

The structure was designed by F2 Architecture and was extremely high level in its intent and execution. Every item in the structure was prototyped and thoroughly reviewed before fabrication and installation.

A key architectural feature of the new building includes the curved roof providing weather protection for passengers boarding or disembarking across all seasons.

“The design and shape of the structure is complex and it took longer than we were hoping for,” said Project Manager, Josh Delahunty.

“The curves in the roof are made from stainless steel and every element of this build needed to be measured, modelled, a template cut and then ordered and fabricated section by section.” Of course, what was most challenging has also provided the highlight of this unique building.

“The finishes are exceptional,” said Josh. “Mack Bros supplied the product. The stainless steel standing seam for the façade as well as some of the internal structure comes from Japan. It arrives in rolls and goes straight to Melbourne where it is cut and produced to suit the site standards.”

Every product used on this build had to be of the highest marine grade in order to withstand the elements. The stainless steel used is perfect for the conditions and will never rust.

Kane Construction commenced work onsite in May 2021 and estimated there have been 40-50 workers onsite each day. The project took place around a live, working environment and construction could not impact the ferry operations.

“The elements and the site conditions were tricky,” said Josh. “It was very windy and wet and part of the build extended out over the water which meant we needed to erect scaffolding over the water.” The fabrication and installation of the stainless steel pieces proved to be more time consuming than planned, with the project timeframe pushed out by two-three months.

Kane Constructions is a multi award winning, privately owned commercial construction company active in all sectors of the industry. The company has a turnover in excess of \$1 billion and over 450 full time employees.

Jonathan Forster established the company in Melbourne in 1973 and was Managing Director until 2001, Executive Chairman until 2015,



and Chairman since 2016. Kane Constructions operates throughout the east coast of Australia and overseas through offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Canberra.

Recent and current projects include the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre, Springwood Shopping Centre Redevelopment and St Vincent’s Private Hospital Fitzroy.

Kane Constructions was awarded the 2022 Regional Commercial Builder of the Year at the Master Builders Association of Victoria awards and the National Professional Excellence in Commercial Construction: \$60 million plus award at the AIB national awards in October for the delivery of the Ballarat GovHub project.

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