



KING GEORGE SQUARE

KANE CONSTRUCTIONS
BRISBANE QLD

PRECISE DEGREES OF EXCELLENCE

Brisbane's heart has been a work in progress for decades. Now Kane Constructions have undertaken the definitive revamping of part of the CBD with completion of the King George Square Redevelopment.

Their task started in June 2008 with demolition works, removing layer on layer of concrete right down to the roof of the basement car park. One surprise was discovering a complete fountain from the 1970s which had been concreted over.

The new look Square features a recycled water feature, an amphitheatre, a paved observation deck with a translucent roof, space for a restaurant below the observation deck, and stone paving of the Square right up to the steps of Brisbane City Hall.

Water storage has been installed so that water for the water feature can be harvested from the roof of the observation deck.

"This Square works very well with the Queen Street Mall, linking up the CBD public spaces" said Kane Constructions (Qld) Director David Rutter. "The Square is on top of the new Northern Busways entrance, so it is a transport hub as well."

Challenges in this \$16 million project came from the design by Urbis, who won a design competition for the square redevelopment. "The

paving layout and amphitheatre design was intricately detailed and rather than simple geometry, much of it was documented down to fraction of degrees, so if we made an error it would amplify as the works progressed. We used a licensed surveyor, essentially full time for much of the project, to provide accurate setout for all of the trades" explained David. "Much of the public space is driven by the paving setout, which is unique and complex. Everything had to line up with control joints in the structural slab below the paving so we needed to get it right from the very start.

During the entire construction process, access had to be maintained to City Hall at all times. Kane Constructions is very experienced working alongside the public, and implemented their third party certified WH&S procedures on this project to ensure there were no accidents or incidents.

Kane Constructions formed in Victoria in 1973, and now has offices in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. As well as projects throughout the Eastern States, they have been engaged in numerous projects in South East Asia and the Pacific.

One of these, the Vaiola Hospital Redevelopment in Tonga, won an MBA Victoria Special Commendation for Best International Project in 2006. Construction in Tonga meant taking special care to select materials which will withstand extreme cyclones and regular seismic events.

They have also received MBA NSW Awards for Argyle Stores at The Rocks in 2007 (Winner for Adaptive Reuse of Historic Buildings up to \$5 million) and for The Royal Australian Navy Heritage Museum in 2006 (Excellence in Construction Refurbishment \$5-\$10 million).

Privately owned, the company has over 200 full time workers, and tackles jobs ranging from small and detailed heritage restoration projects through to Design and Construct of large-scale multifaceted complex construction assignments.

With third party certified systems for Quality Assurance, Workplace Health & Safety and Environmental Management, Kane has also been prequalified by the Queensland Government Department of Public Works to PQC Level 3 (Industry Best Practice). Kane were also one of the first contractors in Australia to achieve Federal Safety Commissioner accreditation of their WH&S system. These systems demonstrate Kane's commitment to delivering the best outcome to clients without compromising wellbeing of the public, the environment or their workers.

All of the company's policies and procedures are published in a unique web based management system, which is accessible to all staff, regardless of their location.

Over 1,300 projects have been successfully completed by Kane Constructions and recent projects include Griffith University Information Services, Old Government House at QUT, Australian War Memorial Refurbishment, Zoos Victoria Hippopotamus March Exhibit at Werribee, Casula Powerhouse Regional Arts Centre Stage 3, Skilled Stadium Geelong (a Victorian MBA Special Commendation winner in 2006), Sandringham Yacht Club, RMAF Butterworth in Malaysia, and the Victorian Royal Children's Hospital. They have also completed numerous health facilities, educational & research facilities, commercial developments, sporting and recreation facilities, and heritage restoration projects.

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