

Haden awarded for excellence in construction



Buildings B&C, Section 84, Canberra

Master Builders acclaim for Section 84

Haden Engineering has won the Commercial Mechanical Services Subcontractor Award at the 2008 Master Builders Excellence in Construction Awards for its mechanical services design and construction work for Section 84 Building B - the new Australian Taxation Office building in Canberra.

David Rafter, Chief Executive of Norfolk's Mechanical division, said the company is especially proud of this award.

"While we have been increasingly involved with a number of ABGR and Green Star rated construction projects, Section 84 was the first 4.5 ABGR and Green Star building project where we had responsibility for the design as well as construction," Mr Rafter said.

"The project brief required an ABGR of 4.5, and while achieving this presented some challenges for us, it has led to several energy innovations that are new to construction. Some of the innovations in HVAC included low temperature supply air and low airflow rates. These have resulted in capital cost saving for the installation and also saved floor space for the tenants," explains Mr Rafter.

A high performance façade system was developed to minimise the external heat transmission and solar load into the space. Also, in order to reduce energy consumption, the quantity of air to be circulated was reduced significantly from traditional design levels. With a reduction in the air quantity an increase in the temperature difference of the air was required in order to provide the necessary cooling capacity.

"This presented another challenge of maintaining comfortable conditions at low air flows and low air temperatures as this situation can easily result in drafts, stuffiness and hot and cold spots. We solved this through the use of air diffusion capable of effectively supplying the air at these conditions into the space," Mr Rafter concluded.

The Master Builders Association is Australia's major building and construction industry association. The Master Builders Excellence in Building Awards is the building and construction industries' premier awards event of the year celebrating excellence in the industry.



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