

Industrial functionality without sacrificing construction excellence



STRONG STRUCTURAL STEEL ELEMENTS, SLEEK LINES AND A MASSIVE STATE-OF-THE-ART BI-FOLD DOOR SYSTEM HAVE HELPED PUSH ALL THE CONSTRUCTION BOUNDARIES ON AN IMPRESSIVE ULTRA-MODERN HELICOPTER HANGAR.

THE TEAM



WEST-VILLE
CONSTRUCTIONS

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Typically, the words 'helicopter hangar' conjure up the image of a large tin shed. And typically, that would be accurate.

But not so in this case!

Builder West-ville Constructions Pty Ltd has set a new standard with their recently completed Jandakot Helicopter Hangar, which is located in the helicopter zone alongside the FESA and RAC hangars at Jandakot Airport in Perth, Western Australia.

On approach, it soon becomes very evident that this is not just another hangar – in fact you could easily be forgiven for thinking that it isn't a hangar at all! Whilst the construction is essentially concrete tilt-up panels and structural steel, West-ville's hangar (which is set in a predominantly commercial area) looks more like a contemporary two-storey office building that belongs in the CBD or West Perth, than it does a hangar! In fact the only possible give-away (to the modern, clean Ultrapanel and Alucobond cladding and glass façade) that it isn't an office building, is the wide roller door on one side. Even then, this building would sit ▶



comfortably in the Herdsman Office Park area, or similar.

But the 'front' elevation is only the beginning of the 'excellence in construction' and 'overcoming of challenges' when we consider this building.

The real feature of this hangar is the working side of the building – the helicopter access door! Imagine a garage bi-fold door, and then build one which spans 17.5 metres wide and 7.5 metres high – as is the case on the rear elevation of the building. This is what gives this building its functionality and uniqueness. With a motor driving the door mechanism, once open, the massive bi-fold door allows complete uninterrupted access into the hangar without any intruding columns or supports across the opening. Now you are probably starting to get the idea of how challenging this building is to construct, and what West-ville have been able to achieve with its successful completion.

The electronically controlled, folding hangar door consists of about 40-45 components which are locked together to form the two large bi-folding door sections. When in the open position, the stacked doors are only around 350mm thick. The doors are supported on guides which are bolted into the concrete tilt-up

panels, and counterweights run up and down each side of the opening to counterbalance the weight of the doors.

"The door was designed and built in New Zealand, and is only the second of its kind to be used in WA. It had to be shipped over and assembled here, but will service the hangar's requirements exceptionally well" West-ville Constructions Director, Greg Falek said.

The building also incorporates its own built-in, industrial style, gantry crane inside its massive hangar, which aids in lifting. Apart from additional storage area available, the hangar accommodates three helicopters comfortably. Finished in polished concrete, the hangar floor offers minimal cracking and a low maintenance surface for its intended use.

Internally, the hangar occupies the majority of the ground floor footprint of the building – with the exception of a ground floor Waiting Lounge. The Waiting Lounge also has a polished concrete floor which is very serviceable, and floor to ceiling windows for natural lighting and connection with outside. It also features a large expanse of bifold doors and glass inserts providing views of the hangar and helicopters.

However, again this is not a typical industrial building by any means. A powdercoated staircase leads to the upper floor which comprises an Office, a Boardroom, and a luxury Kitchen and Bathroom. The Kitchen includes a multipurpose oven, dishwasher and fridge. The Bathroom includes a vanity basin, toilet and shower, and features detailed mosaic tiling. Both wet area vanities are finished off in dark timber laminates and contrasting white caesarstone tops. This Kitchen and Bathroom would easily rival the best quality available in any of the best homes or offices in WA.

Steel not only features in the structure of the hangar door, building framing and crane, it also becomes an architectural element in the Boardroom windows, adding interest and detail. Here the supporting steelwork is left visible inside the Boardroom, and again provides a contemporary reminder of the level of detail and calibre of construction required on this project.

Overall, the project requires attention on two levels; one

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The dramatic and modern street façade is complemented by curtain wall glazing, sun shading, louvres and composite aluminium cladding systems.

being the enormity of the construction in terms of size and scale, particularly the assembly and installation of the massive operable bi-folding hangar door – with the other level being the detail required by the finishing trades (painting, tiling, cabinetwork, etc.) which often lack the necessary attention and let a project down! This project is outstanding in many ways, and it has already earned a Master Painters Australia Award for Excellence.

Again this is a testament to West-ville's values - Construction Excellence through the use of Quality Trades, Superior Project Management, and Personal Service. As a family owned company with over 40 years experience, West-ville have successfully delivered many boutique residential and commercial projects for their clients. Their extensive experience in office, retail, industrial and commercial projects set them aside from many builders who simply specialise in one area and cannot combine skills from all facets of construction to maintain their construction excellence!

West-Ville Constructions Pty Ltd offers either a Design and Construct service or Construction only. Company Director, Greg Falek, can be contacted by telephone on (08) 9240 1001 or email info@westvilleconstructions.com.au **BC**

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