

STRICTLY EMBARGOED: UNTIL 10:30PM, FRIDAY 14 JUNE 2024

University of Auckland achieves top marks in 2024 Property Industry Awards

Auckland, 14 June 2024: – The University of Auckland's B201 Redevelopment has been awarded the Resene Sustainable Building Property Award at the prestigious Property Council New Zealand Rider Levett Bucknall Property Industry Awards tonight. This event which was held at Spark Arena is Aotearoa New Zealand's most prestigious property awards programme.

The Resene Sustainable Building Property Award has been commended by judges as one of the fastest growing categories with a significant number of entries and awards this year, making B201's winning achievement even more of a standout.

The genesis for this project came from acknowledging that the existing facility was no longer appealing to students and therefore not being used to its full potential. The 50-year-old Social Sciences building included extensive partitioning, limited natural light, end of life carbon-based building services and a poor earthquake rating, meaning it was no longer fit-for-purpose.

The forward-thinking development team pitched a visionary adaptive reuse of the existing concrete frame whilst developing new infrastructure and a façade. The redesign prioritised creating a generous opening to Symonds Street and linking Symonds with Wynyard Street below. New entries, lifts and stairs now connect the Waipapa Marae and the Fale Pasifika with the academic precinct on Symonds Street.

Now serving as a gateway to the cultural heart of the University's City Campus, the site has been totally transformed into a world-leading educational environment for the faculties of Education and Social Work, Arts, and Creative Arts and Industries.

Emerging in the early stages of the development was a clear opportunity to exceed the 5 star Green Star rating that B201 would have achieved based on the University's longstanding commitment to sustainable building practices. However, the team sought a 6 star Green Star rating. This ambitious goal subsequently steered every major design decision towards minimising embodied carbon and operational energy.

The sustainability benefits of the development are multi-faceted. The project reduces embodied carbon, energy consumption, carbon emissions, and water usage. The retention of the existing concrete structural frame right through to the replacement of the existing gas boilers with two-stage heat pumps and new façade, contributed significantly towards the 50% reduction in Lifecycle Carbon (A1–C4 & B6). This is also expected to contribute to a significant reduction in operational carbon and supported the decarbonisation of adjacent buildings within the sector.

Innovative materials have played a crucial role in B201, such as carbon fibre, renowned for its lightweight and high-strength properties. Significant operating plant decarbonisation has been achieved through an innovative two stage heat pump system that serves B201 plus two adjacent

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buildings in the precinct. Designed by the engineers, the system is the first of its kind in Aotearoa, yielding savings in use up to 940,00kWh/year.

Property Industry Awards chief judge Andrew Evans said, “There is a notable demand for educational facilities across the country, and it’s encouraging to see many of these projects prioritising sustainable practices in recognition that it is the right thing to do, but also the expectation of users and occupiers. What is outstanding about the B201 Redevelopment, is that virtually every element of the project has embodied this, with teams not only employing world-class techniques, but creating them too.”

The building’s cultural impact has also been met with a great deal of care and consideration. A prominent feature is the magnificent Ara Moana design in the glue-laminated timber roof adorning the atrium, embracing the voluminous space which embodies the cultural story through lines and patterns expressed in the woodwork.

The redevelopment of B201 has completely revitalised the building and transformed how it is used by the University. It provides a streamlined connection between existing facilities across the precinct and offers opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration between all those who work, learn, research, teach and socialise within it.

Having already picked up several awards, B201 has now established a new benchmark for sustainable buildings in Aotearoa with the redevelopment achieving the highest Green Star rating to date (93 out of 100 points). The new building will operate as a living laboratory and educational resource for the research, monitoring and teaching of the performance of the various sustainability initiatives and renewable energy measures incorporated into the design.

ENDS

Resene Sustainable Building Property Award

Best in Category: B201 Redevelopment

- Owner/developer: Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland
- Construction: Hawkins
- Architect: Jasmax
- Structural/mechanical engineer: Beca
- Service engineer: Beca, Pacific Commissioning and Coordination (ICA)
- Building enclosure engineer: Thermosash
- Quantity surveyor: Barnes Beagley Doherr
- Project manager: Precon
- Cultural consultants: Haumi
- Environmentally Sustainable Design: Beca

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- Te Kī a Alasdair Apartments, Wellington
- Te Whare Whakatore - Ashburton Library and Civic Centre, Ashburton
- Tuhiraki - AgResearch Lincoln Headquarter Building, Lincoln

Merit:

- 6-8 Munroe Lane, Auckland
- Hillmorton Specialist Mental Health Services, Christchurch
- Waiata Shores Neighbourhood Centre, Auckland

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**PR contact for B201 Redevelopment: Tristram Collett**

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Please do **NOT** contact this person prior to the stated embargo (10:30pm on Friday 14 June 2024)

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For media use: images for each of the winning projects are available [here](#). Please credit the photographer where mentioned in the file name.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MEDIA**ABOUT THE AWARDS**

The prestigious Property Council New Zealand Property Industry Awards are presented to outstanding property projects, developments or substantive refurbishments across New Zealand.

The Awards are highly regarded for their focus on efficient use of capital. Projects are awarded for meeting a wide range of criteria to provide an outstanding return and/or delivery of service potential on investment of funds and maximum community benefit for public buildings.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Each nominee is assessed against the following criteria:

- Economic and financial criteria 30%
- Project vision and innovation (includes degree of difficulty) 15%
- Design and construction 20%
- Owner and user satisfaction 15%
- Sustainability and efficiency of operation 20%

Visit the [Property Industry Awards website](https://www.propertynz.co.nz/property-industry-awards) for more information or to download the full list of nominees.

ABOUT PROPERTY COUNCIL NEW ZEALAND

Property Council is the leading advocate for Aotearoa New Zealand's largest industry – property.

Property Council New Zealand is the one organisation that collectively champions property, bringing together members from all corners of the property eco system to advocate for reduced red tape that enables development.

Property is New Zealand's largest industry, making up 15% of economic activity. As a sector, we employ 9% of New Zealand's workforce and contribute over \$41.2 billion to GDP.

A not-for-profit organisation, the Property Council connects over 10,000 property professionals, championing the interests of 570 member companies.

Our membership is broad and includes some of the largest commercial and residential property owners and developers in New Zealand. The property industry comes together at our local, national and online events, which offer professional development, exceptional networking and access to industry-leading research.

Our members shape the cities and spaces where New Zealanders live, work, play and shop.

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