Brisbane Markets Ltd

Stage one - trading floor roof and refurbishment of tenancies

BML owns and manages Queensland's largest centre for the marketing and distribution of fresh fruit and vegetables. More than 7,000 growers supply produce for sale at the BML. Since 2007, BML have committed to investing in master planning their $130,000 \, \mathrm{m}^2$ market precinct.

During trading hours, valuable produce was at the mercy of the elements. This complex roofing system was required to provide complete coverage to eliminate damage to trader's product.

- Rocklea, Queensland
- Advisory services, design and construction

Project scope

Installation of the columns required precision design and construction. The success of this process was entirely dependent on the skill of the people involved, who were working to millimetre tolerances.

This was unlike most structural steel projects, where a template is the default solution. In this case, there was no possibility of making a template to set the locations, due to the distances between each column and the varied lengths of the trusses

The first two trusses were successfully erected, with the aid of a 100t crane. The crane lifted and held each truss in place, as the team worked meticulously to slot 4 sets of 4 bolts at one end of the truss, and 2 sets of 4 bolts at the other end (over twenty metres away).

This presented a challenge for us to work at heights on the head stocks of the columns. In response, we designed and ordered manufactured, custom stairwells on wheels so we could mobilise and de-mobilise our construction team as quickly as possible. Each column placement point was managed as a micro construction site—each contained to 12m² areas. With only 1mm allowance on every template, the cages for the column footing and head stocks were precision laser cut, fabricated and welded off-site.

Business value to client

The roofing project increases shelter for more than 600,000t of fruit and vegetables traded each year. Over 50 primary, multi-million-dollar wholesalers rely on this critical roofing structure for operational continuity. Over 4,000 people work or do business at the market daily.

This new asset ensures a maximum standard of freshness and quality is maintained and wastage of trader's produce is minimised.

Understanding the unique requirements of our client, Wiley scheduled work outside of market trading hours, minimising impact on the vendor's daily operations. An elite combination of Wiley site management, teamwork and precision craftsmanship has provided the Brisbane Markets with a more controlled and modernised working environment.

Interesting statistics

Total volume under roof sheeting	99,500m³
Total roof area	> 10,500m ²
Length of structural steel	13,500m
Number of structural steel members	> 3,820
Length of steelwork	> 25,370m
Tonnage of steelwork	> 310t
Length of purlins	> 11,870m
Number of purlins	> 1,460



Complex services



Live environment



Danger / Safety



Restricted access







