

John Dee

Cold store and ASRS

(Automated Storage and Retrieval System)

A family-owned Australian company, with four generations of experience in producing outstanding beef products, John Dee is a trusted name in cattle husbandry, feed lotting and grain feed development.

This project was supported by funding from the Australian Government’s Building Better Regions Fund. The key objective of the project was to increase flexibility in picking product for orders and handling a high number of product variants, with a focus on operational workplace health and safety.

- 📍 Warwick, Queensland
- 🏗️ Design and construction

Project scope

Wiley delivered a fit for purpose cold store and storage, sortation and retrieval solution, purpose-designed to enable John Dee to scale up and increase its premium beef export market share.

The four-aisle, 30-level Dematic Multi-shuttle solution automatically stores product cartons coming out of production and builds and sequences the cartons for manual and automated palletisation and direct container loading. It has a range of benefits, including the flexibility to cater for temperature changes required for increasingly mature export markets.

Effective project management, coordination, and expertise are crucial when implementing complex solutions like cold stores and automated storage and retrieval systems (ASRS), particularly within operational plants where downtime can be costly. This innovative project solution was delivered safely, while maintaining production in John Dee’s operating plant, something Wiley has extensive experience in.

Business value to client

The facility upgrades reduced operational costs significantly, expanded storage capacity (1,400m²) and increased product sorting capabilities, driving a new era for southern Darling Downs beef processor, John Dee. With an internationally recognised brand, John Dee is shaping the next generation of global beef supply.



John Dee is one of the region’s largest employers and its expansion shows great confidence in the future of the local livestock industry. This is a positive step forward as the Southern Downs continues to grow and prosper.

Tracy Dobie, Southern Downs Regional Council Mayor (at time of project delivery)



This expansion not only protected 630 existing jobs; it creates 143 new full-time jobs and 138 indirect new full-time jobs. Securing \$4.8M for this facility bolstered employment opportunities in our region. Export opportunities from this development will come to about \$111M.

Hon David Littleproud, Maranoa MP (at time of project delivery)



Complex services



Live environment



Automation



ASRS

