



Landmark Construction

Carnarvon is a remote coastal town 900 kilometres north of Perth, Western Australia and now boasts a new \$52.5 million dollar Police and Justice Complex. It includes a police station, courthouse and community corrections office.

Local design influence

Carnarvon's local community heavily influenced the design of the new Complex. Consultation involved a community reference group, two Gascoyne Aboriginal Groups, the judiciary, the Attorney General's Department, WA Police and the Department of Corrective Services. The final design is a true reflection of local views and design ideas and the result is a state of the art facility with architectural significance. It also includes design features to improve the security of both staff and clients.

Precast perfect for coastal environment

Whilst a high quality finish was paramount for the Complex, also high on the priorities list were strength and speed of construction. Being a coastal setting, the Complex had to consider the climatic demands of the region - it had to meet structural cyclonic requirements. As well, durability and low maintenance were also important requirements.

For all of these reasons, precast concrete was chosen for this project and used for the primary building façade. Perth-based National Precast member Delta Corporation was contracted to supply the precast.

Precast manufacturer

Delta Corporation

Builder

EMCO Building

Engineer

Prichard Francis

Architect

Cox, Howlett & Bailey
Woodland

Client

WA Department of
the Attorney General -
Building Management
Works

www.nationalprecast.com.au



Architectural beauty

The various panels have high quality architectural finishes, coloured and sandblasted for a striking appearance for this imposing structure. Form liners were used on some of the panels for an impressive textured finish.

“There’s no precast concrete manufacturer in Carnarvon or the north west of the state capable of producing the finishes required for the project. It was challenging enough for Delta, even with our years of experience, but the result is really quite stunning” said Delta’s Jason Walsh.

The company also supplied an assortment of beams, columns, sills, window surrounds and reveals for this project, as well as 69 Deltacore hollowcore floor panels for more than 550m² of flooring.

Logistical challenges

According to Mr Walsh, the project’s remote location added complexity to the job. “The challenge for us was the logistics of transporting the panels that distance without damage to the high quality finishes. We achieved this with minimal damage.” The panel sizes were limited to appropriate transport dimensions for such a long journey. The longest was 13.30 metres and the widest was 3.80 metres.

As well as the location, the builder says the project was testing due to its overall complexity. The builder, engineers, architects and precaster however, all worked together to construct this architecturally significant project within budget.

The finished Complex has a character unique to the region and is designed for the conditions of the coast. It officially opened in April 2015.

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