

MIT TechPark Campus



Development
Project Management
Construction

Project
 Commercial

Location
 52-54 Manukau Rd
 Manukau

Client
 Haydn & Rollett Property Fund

Tenant
 Manukau Institute of Technology

Value
 \$30 Million

Period
 17 Months

Consultants
 Architect /
 ASC Architects

Mechanical /
 Thurston Consulting

For MIT, the South Auckland training institution's new TechPark in Manukau is a milestone building, bringing together all of its engineering and trades schools under one roof for the first time in 50 years. It was more than your average project, too, for Haydn & Rollett, who took on multiple roles here – developer, design manager, builder and, ultimately, owner via the Haydn & Rollett Property Fund.

Located on a greenfields site on Manukau Station Rd, the 6000m² facility incorporates administrative offices and classrooms through the spine, with a series of workshops on either side for hands-on training. The latter required Haydn & Rollett to get a thorough understanding of the various schools' needs, including working with MIT to help accommodate the migration of machinery from MIT's previously scattered sites. All of the workshop spaces have been designed to be flexible, allowing the tenants to reconfigure and expand or contract according to their needs.

True to the function of the building, the materials used are hardwearing, streamlined, pragmatic – the entire structure is wrapped in corrugated steel, for a start. Yet this is not your standard industrial-educational building. The design, by ASC Architects, incorporates Pasifika and Maori references, while timber brings a touch of flair to the atrium. In addition, the extensive use of patterned glazing at the entrance, along with dark aluminium fins and painted steel columns combine to create a real sense of arrival.

The result shows what a partnership between a private venture and an educational facility can produce when trust and good communication are prioritised from the start.

Awards

2021 Property Council NZ - Educational Property Award, Excellence

2021 Learning Environments Australasia Awards, Best New Educational Facility