

# FORUM

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# BORAL

Head Office, Sydney

Integrated wall

One of Australia's largest building products manufacturers, Boral Limited, has a new Head Office in Sydney's western suburbs.

The new building is located on a rise overlooking the company's better brick and masonry manufacturing facilities in Prospect.

The two-storey office houses Boral's administration, quarrying, cement, plasterboard, and masonry and IT operations.

Matthew Brindley of architects Kann Finch specified Robertson's Formawall FW1000 insulated panel for the facade, with Robertson taking responsibility for the engineering, supply and integration of all curtainwall elements including the Formawall, glazing, sunshields and louvres.

New glazing extrusions were produced as part of the overall design utilising Formawall in vertical panels. Formawall is one of the world's most widely used foam panel systems. Lightweight, and many times more efficient as a thermal insulation barrier than brick or concrete panels, Formawall allows designers to enclose large, energy-efficient spaces with minimal support structure whilst maintaining high architectural values.



# Solent Centre



Norwest, Sydney

Max Exterior panel



Robertson has now played a key role in the development of three structures at Sydney's Norwest Business Park, the premier high-tech precinct in Sydney's fastest growing region.

Architects Woods Bagot chose Robertson Formawall for Cathay Pacific, the Business Park's first major development, in 1993. Last year, German prosthetics manufacturer, Otto Bock, chose the same material for its head office (see Format 10).

Now Otto Bock architects, McPherson Smith King, have chosen Max Exterior from Robertson to serve as a feature material for the newly completed Solent Centre.

The Centre's extensive glass curtainwall is broken by external 'arches' delineating internal stairways, all clad in Max Exterior. Manufactured in Austria and available exclusively from Robertson in Australia, Max Exterior high-pressure laminates are widely used in Europe and are suitable for all exterior building applications.

Tough, bright, colourfast and versatile, Max Exterior panels are cost effective and provide an ideal material for use as an external cladding or short-order accent material for commercial, and industrial projects.

They are also widely used for public infrastructure projects such as road tunnel linings.



# 77,000m<sup>2</sup>



Dongguan Exhibition Centre

Roof, Soffits, Liner

Robertson has supplied more than 77,000 square metres of standing seam roof cladding and soffits for the new Dongguan Exhibition Centre in China's Hubei province.

Designed to mirror traditional Chinese architecture – on a massive scale – the new exhibition centre provides a world-class facility in close proximity to Hong Kong.

Finished in Silvergrey PVF<sub>2</sub>, the standing seam profile was produced on site, using portable roll-formers.

In addition to the roof cladding, Robertson also supplied the curved facias in 3mm aluminium plate, along with 50,000 square metres of inner liner.

Roll-forming Robertson coil on site allowed for the production of 20 metre sheets – speeding construction and reducing the number of end laps.

The contract, completed earlier this year, is one of the largest single cladding contracts won by Robertson, and the use of on-site roll formers helped meet the requirements of the designers, South China Design, and the contractors, Dongguan First Construction.



# MACAU

Olympic Pool

Versacor



In 1906, Robertson introduced the world's first industrial metal cladding system. Robertson Protected Metal – as this first system was called – resulted from the development of a coating system that successfully prevented steel from rusting, thus allowing engineers and architects to make use of a relatively lightweight material to enclose big spaces such as power stations.

Traditional massive structures built of brick and stone gave way to the modern steel structures we associate with industrial landscapes today, for not only was coated steel sheeting lighter and easier to use, but it allowed for the flexibility and constant change demanded by a modernising world.

Today RobertsonVersacor Protected Metal Cladding is the most widely proven worldwide.

In Macau, Robertson cladding, protected by our Versacor coating system, has been specified for the exterior and interior of the Macau Olympic pool which, by virtue of its function, exists in a highly-corrosive, chlorine-rich environment.

Robertson produced a 64mm thick insulated panel for the roof and double skinned IW60A cladding for the walls on this new project, with all surfaces protected by Versacor.



# Cisco recall

Singapore

Cladding

In Singapore, Robertson has completed the new Cisco Recall Total Information Management Centre on Chin Bee Drive for Lin & Wo Architects and builder Gammon Skanska.

Robertson won the contract to supply the cladding system to the project after sourcing a third party profile to suit the particular design requirements and contractor's budget for the project.

The use of horizontal wall cladding for a project of this size is unusual, with Robertson taking responsibility for sub-frame construction and the supply and installation of the roof and wall systems under a Single Responsibility contract.

The ability to source and supply product manufactured by others forms part of Robertson's drive to provide higher levels of customer service by focussing on the development of complete in-situ envelope solutions for designers, owners and contractors - enhancing Robertson's ability to be 'competitive by nature'.



New Territories post-tensioned

# Bridge



Robertson engineers in Hong Kong have worked closely with road engineers to develop and install soffit cladding to the underside of a highway bridge in the New Territories.

The project called for Robertson to develop, manufacture and install all cladding components for the bridge on the Hiram Highway.

While the project may appear to involve a simple embellishment cover, the post-tensioned construction of the bridge required the development of a complex engineering design.

Mounting anchors for the attachment of the panels were required to be discriminately located to clear post-tension wires and bolts designed to carry traffic loads and dynamic forces created by vehicle traffic on top of the bridge.

Robertson took complete responsibility for the design, procurement and installation of the PVF<sub>2</sub> coated aluminium panel system.

# Leaks

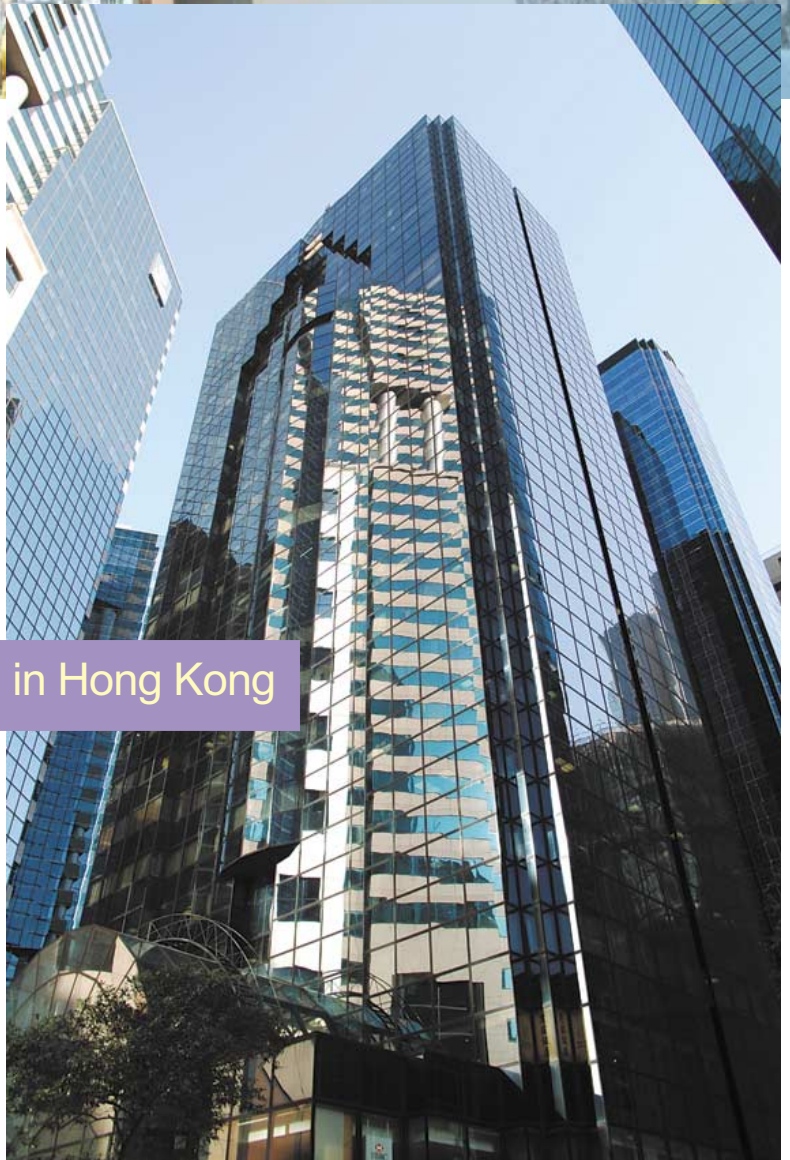
Repaired in Hong Kong

At Causeway Bay on Hong Kong Island, Robertson has completed rectification works to AIA Plaza, a multi-storey office development designed by architect, I. M. Pei.

Robertson conducted on-site testing and investigations following ongoing reports of leakage through the office tower curtainwall, then proposed a methodology for rectification works.

Working from swing scaffolds outside office hours to minimise inconvenience to tenants, Robertson crews progressively removed the existing cap extrusions and sealants.

The application of new sealants and redesigned cap extrusions was followed by full water testing to client specifications. Robertson's ability to provide repair and maintenance services further extends the company's range of Single Responsibility services to clients.



Singapore

VE Cladding

# First VE



Having clad a large number of Hong Kong's new generation rail network stations in Vitreous Enamel Panel, Robertson has now completed its first Vitreous Enamel project in Singapore at Dhoby Ghaut Station.

Robertson Vitreous Enamel panels are widely used for the interiors of high-traffic structures such as railway stations, and also for external cladding. Graffiti-resistant, scratch-resistant, and tough enough to survive heavy knocks in-situ they are available in plain or decorative finishes.

The new entry, to provide wheelchair access, is clad in Vitreous Enamel, with Robertson taking responsibility for the complete building envelope, including roof and wall panel systems, soffits and louvres.

Brisbane

Max Exterior

# Citilink



Brisbane's Citilink office centre has a brand-new wall system in place, with Robertson supplying a Max Exterior high-pressure laminate system fixed from top hats over the existing rendered blockwork structure.

Architects Peddle Thorp chose Max Exterior – manufactured in Austria and available exclusively through Robertson in Australia – for its durability and architectural appeal.

Available in a wide range of colours and finishes, Max Exterior provides a durable, flexible, and cost effective solution for commercial, retail, and high-rise apartment projects.

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