



RNA SHOWGROUNDS REGENERATION

History in the Making

STAGE ONE – NEW CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

AT A GLANCE

Project

Transformation of the RNA Showgrounds Industrial Pavilion into a world-class convention and exhibition centre.

Organisations involved

- The RNA owns and operates the RNA Showgrounds and is a not for dividend member based organisation governed by a 21 member council. Its charter is to promote and encourage the development of Queensland agriculture and business.
- Lend Lease is the master developer for the RNA Showgrounds Redevelopment. The development includes the upgrade of RNA facilities together with 5.5 hectares of new development comprising contemporary urban work and community spaces, and leading edge residential accommodation offering the people of Brisbane a new and more authentic way to live in their city. The project will be delivered via Lend Lease's integrated business model, with the Group providing funding partners, development management, project management, design management and construction.
- Architects – Cox Rayner
- Structural Engineer – Robert Bird Group
- Consulting Engineers – Norman Disney Young

Location

Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Brisbane, Australia – 1.6 kilometres from CBD

Size

22,000m² – an increase of 10,000m² on current floor space, as the new building will feature a second level. The original heritage facades facing the eastern and southern boundaries of the site along Gregory Terrace will be retained as part of the design.

Investment

The \$59 million project is being funded through an RNA secured loan from the Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Economic benefit / job creation

There will be approximately 120 employees on site per day for the duration of the project. The majority of employees will be sourced from Queensland, except where the expertise does not exist.

Timeframe

Construction on the RNA's \$59 million convention and exhibition centre is scheduled to start in April 2011 to be completed in late 2012. The annual Royal Queensland Show will continue to operate throughout the life of the project.

Vision

The RNA's vision is to provide the people of Queensland with a state-of-the-art convention and exhibition centre which will be home to leading educational and world-class events. It will also provide the annual Ekka with great new facilities.

Significance

The Industrial Pavilion was built in 1937 and is the largest building within the RNA Showgrounds. It plays an important role in housing events and functions year round, including the annual Ekka period.

Background

The Industrial Pavilion's current design limits its use and ability to be a multi-use facility and needs to be transformed into a new multi-level, multi-use convention and exhibition building. The new facility will house a variety of exhibitions and events on a year round basis, including banquets, conferences, exhibitions and seminars.

The project involves

The transformation of the Industrial Pavilion into the new RNA convention and exhibition centre. This will provide an additional 10,000m² of floor space (totalling approximately 22,000m²) by incorporating an additional level one suspended floor which will be used to house extra events and shows throughout the year. The new convention and exhibition centre will also front a revitalised plaza area that provides for additional exhibition space for indoor/outdoor events.





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The new convention and exhibition centre will include two separate levels, which will accommodate the following:

Ground Level

- A new car park which will ultimately accommodate approximately 280 cars
- Entry lobby/foyer providing access from Ekka Plaza
- Repair and workshop areas to support the operations of the facility

Level 1

- Main conference hall
- Meeting rooms
- Board rooms
- The RNA's new office
- Inhouse catering facilities

Design elements

- The design of the new pavilion will create a new multi-functional, multi-level facility, offering great flexibility for the events that will be held within the building.
- The design of the building will allow possible expansion towards the railway to the north – should this be an option in the future.
- The new building will retain the existing heritage facades along the eastern boundary of the site facing Ekka Plaza and the southern boundary of the site along Gregory Terrace.
- The Industrial Pavilion is located along the centre point of an historic and key route between St Pauls Terrace to the south and Bowen Park to the north. As it traverses through the RNA Showgrounds the design of the entrances into the building along Ekka Plaza will provide effective activation with the open space creating a sense of arrival and connection with the building. These works will be completed with the Pavilion.

Images

Visit the RNA website at www.rna.org.au/redevelopment to view or download an artist's impression of the RNA's new convention and exhibition centre.

More information

For more information on the Industrial Pavilion you can view or download a special Q&A at the RNA website at www.rna.org.au/redevelopment, or Lend Lease website at www.rnaredevelopment.lendlease.com.au.

Enquiries

For construction related enquires and residential, commercial and retail information please contact Lend Lease on 1800 148 019. For enquiries relating to the RNA or the Royal Queensland Show, please contact the RNA on (07) 3253 3900.

