Brand awareness for AECOM

The Maunsell AECOM, Bassett, ENSR Australia and EDAW AECOM brands are coming together as part of a global integration that will see each brand adopt the AECOM name.

AECOM regional chief executive for Australia and New Zealand Richard Jackson says the move is a natural evolution.

"It will make dealing with us simpler, and provide our clients with easier access to our full range of services and expertise," says Jackson. "Integrating AECOM brands and operations brings together the resources and shared expertise needed to deliver world-leading projects both locally and globally."

AECOM, a professional services firm, has more than 4,000 employees in Australia and New Zealand. Internationally it has 43,000 employees in more than 100 countries.

Staff specialists include designers, planners, engineers, economists, scientists and project managers working on influential infrastructure projects.

Richard Jackson

AECOM project involvement includes in Australia includes the North South Bypass Tunnel in Brisbane, the Australian Synchrotron, Olympic Dam Mine and Kunioon Coal Project.

Market theory put to test

An innovative solution for cooling cold rooms in Brisbane involved using the fresh ambient air from insulated and ventilated stairwells.

Summer Harvest is a fresh fruit wholesaler, exporter and broker dealing to Australian and international clients. In 2008 the company opened a state-of-the-art fully temperature-controlled warehouse at the South Gate East precinct of the Brisbane Fresh Fruit and Vegetable markets in Rocklea, Queensland.

Located in building D in South Gate, the Summer Harvest facility is capable of storing more than 300 tonnes of produce.

It has three cold rooms, each of about 1,000 cubic metre capacity held between 1°C and 4°C. This is surrounded by an enclosed loading dock area held at approx 15°C.

Brisbane-based Humidifresh Industries provided the refrigeration and electrical services for the project.

What's interesting about its design is that it utilises pre-conditioned fresh air (32°/26° db/wb) into the distribution loading dock area to meet the requirements of the Australian Standard Ventilation Code (AS 1668).

"We developed the process four years ago," explains Humidifresh project manager Wayne Willis. "It's been used in various installations requiring conditioned air within preparation areas. The process provides clients with a more energy-efficient solution to providing fresh air to the process workers in their facilities."

The air is pre-cooled and de-humidified using an Air Change energy recovery ventilator ERV-WM (wall-mount unit), and introduced into the loading dock area at approx 20°/17° db/wb, which is a 12°C drop. The refrigerated air from the dock "picks up" the heat and humidity from the outside air and discharges it back into the stairwell.

Approximately 7.5 kWr is saved by pre-conditioning this outside air, which reduces electrical energy consumption by approx 3kW or about 50 cents per hour.

There is an additional capital cost saving in reducing the capacity of the office air conditioning that would otherwise be required to provide the necessary fresh air to the loading dock. This represents a saving of around $4,500.

The other benefit is the elimination of condensate from untreated fresh air being admitted to the work area.

Client: Summer Harvest
Refrigeration and electrical services: Humidifresh Industries
The equipment: Air Change ERV-WM (wall-mount unit)