



Grate Insights

Issue 3, 2021

**Innovation,
Aesthetics &
Performance**

Brought to you by Stormtech.



Grate Insights - Welcome

There's no denying it - 2020 has been a rollercoaster year all round. For us here at Stormtech, we've dealt with fires, floods and the pandemic. But despite it all, it's been a good year.

Going back a bit, the unique climatic and economic conditions of the past few years have put a strain on certain sectors of the Australian construction industry, and this seems to have accumulated in a construction decline that has centred on multi-residential developments.

These trends had already begun before COVID-19 hit, and as a business we reshaped our strategy to target our marketing and sales efforts at the segments of the industry (such as single residential or renovations) that we thought would continue to perform well.

When the pandemic hit, it became evident - somewhat fortuitously -

that these were exactly the right steps to take, and as a result our business is in great shape.

As a business with an all-Australian supply chain, we were able to secure it quickly and avoid the transportation and logistical issues that have hit some other companies, which has allowed us to continue to focus on our core values.

To that end, we upgraded all of our existing equipment and acquired new equipment ahead of some very exciting new product releases for 2021. We continue to march down the path of industry 4.0 and have invested significantly in software development for business support and sales support.

Our commitment to sustainability is unwavering; we achieved Greenrate Level A Gold with Global GreenTag, and our product stewardship program was audited by Ernst &

Young and awarded Silver, with 90% compliance. This makes us a proudly world-leading business when it comes to ethical and sustainable practice.

We're not sure what 2021 has in store. The trepidation in multi-residential projects seems set to continue, but it seems that decline is being offset by solid growth in single-residential and renovations.

If anything, this year has shown us that we're doing things right. Our consistent focus on higher quality, affordability and sustainability is resonating with the market, which just goes to show that this is the future of business, not commoditisation.

TROY CREIGHTON
Managing Director, Stormtech



High performance linear drainage.
By Stormtech.



ARCHITECTURAL GRATES + DRAINS

Match the perfect drain to your outdoor environment with Stormtech's unmatched range of high performance linear drainage systems. Manufactured in Australia from marine grade stainless steel, Stormtech systems deliver style and durability to any outdoor environment. View our complete selection of outdoor drainage systems and product applications on the Stormtech website, or call for more details.

- Linear Drainage Systems
- Threshold Drains
- Pool Surrounds + Drainage
- Slot Drains + Vinyl Clamps
- Custom Design + Fabrication

Telephone 1300 653 403

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Main Image : Stormtech 'Special Assembly' Linear Drainage System. Marine grade stainless steel, 65mm wide punched slot grate. Copyright © Stormtech Pty Ltd FPAPR554





Case study - Rose by Moran

Builder: Rosewell Group

Products Specified: 100TRTDiS linear threshold drain, 100Tii2OMTL tile insert drain

Background

The Rose by Moran is one of Sydney's premier luxury retirement villages. Set in the leafy northern suburb of Wahroonga, the property is centred around the iconic 120-year-old Rosemorran mansion.

The project boasts a stunning collection of 34 luxury two and three bedroom residences, surrounded by established, well kept gardens. The apartments exist around the space, with the heritage mansion forming the communal social area.

The architecture and interior design of the property strikes a delicate balance between the clean lines of contemporary luxury design and the ornate beauty typical of the mansion's heritage past. In addition to these deluxe residences, the complex features five star hotel quality amenities and premium health support.

Challenge

As a retirement village, accessibility is a key concern across the property. All walkways, facilities and amenities have been designed to provide the utmost freedom and independence of movement to older people, and those who may be mobility restricted.

As any architect or specifier knows, when creating accessible spaces, effective drainage is paramount. Excess water on floors or walkways can create a significant slip hazard which can cause injury.

In a luxury development such as the Rose by Moran, drainage solutions must not only be effective, but have a sleek aesthetic that adds to the overall design.

Solution

Stormtech drains provided ideal solutions for the Rose by Moran.

The 50 indoor-outdoor entries in the complex were fitted with 100TRTDiS linear threshold drains. These drains sit flush to create the necessary level entry and comply

with accessible design guidelines. They provide effective drainage and feature a sill that is suitable for all track door types and removes excess water from the door.

In the showers, 100Tii2OMTL tile insert drains provide effective level drainage while complementing the luxury aesthetic of the bathroom design. The drains were installed with an Ironbark powdercoat finish that complements the brass fittings that can be found throughout.

Stormtech's luxury threshold and tile insert drainage solutions struck the perfect blend of functionality and luxury design aesthetic, making them a perfect choice for creating an accessible yet high-end space.





Case study - 60 Martin Place

Architect: Hassell

Products: 100TR40MTL linear drain, SQP100Ti30 Square floor waste tile insert drain, Full Custom drain

Background

Located on the Eastern edge of Sydney's Central Business District, 60 Martin Place is an icon within an icon. As the geographical heart of Sydney's financial district for hundreds of years, Martin Place is synonymous with industry and innovation, and the new construction at number 60 is well at home within this locale.

The striking 33-storey building sports a unique curved facade, designed specifically to fit within its footprint without crowding the heritage-style St Stephen's Church next door. While providing ample breathing room at the base, the upper floors gradually cantilever eight metres out over the church's roof.

The 'smart' building incorporates a range of innovative building technologies, including smart lighting and personalised building

services app, and boasts excellent sustainability credentials - with a 6 Star Green Star Design and a NABERS Energy 5 Star in Operation Rating.

Challenge

Drainage is a fundamental aspect of any build, but a project of this size and calibre calls for top of the line drainage solutions. Apart from being highly functional and able to contribute to the environmental credentials of the building, drains must be customisable to whatever specifics the project requires, and have a range of aesthetic options to complement the broader design.

In addition, a project like 60 Martin Place requires a range of drainage solutions - drains for shower areas for office workers who cycle their bikes to come to work; drains for the exterior of the building to avoid water entering the building.

Solution

Stormtech's vast range of drainage provided the perfect solutions for the job. 100TR40MTL drains were installed around the building to

facilitate surface water runoff from the surrounding areas.

The building has revolving doors at its entrances, and curved custom drains were fabricated for these areas. The arc-shaped drains feature slimline grates provide a level threshold for safe passage by people of all mobility levels.

Finally, Stormtech SQP100Ti30 square tile insert floor drains were installed in all toilets/washrooms. The tile insert on the drain cover means the drains are visually integrated with the floor tiles. The 5mm drain around the edge of the insert provides ample space to facilitate water runoff from cleaning, while stopping larger waste from entering the drainage system.

Across the diverse range of drainage needs and applications for the 60 Martin Place project, Stormtech was able to provide versatile and customised solutions to ensure the perfect blend of function and style for a building of such prominence was achieved; and exceeded.



In The Public Interest:

Solutions to maximise safety and visual appeal in public and urban space

In the increasingly litigious Australian public liability landscape, ineffective drainage can have potentially catastrophic financial ramifications should anyone be injured or property damaged in public areas. Specifiers must carefully weigh up the functional and aesthetic benefits of various drainage options in public and urban spaces to prevent slips, trips and falls, prevent flooding, and ensure minimal waste is returned to natural water sources. For such applications, linear drainage systems provide an ideal balance of aesthetics and performance.

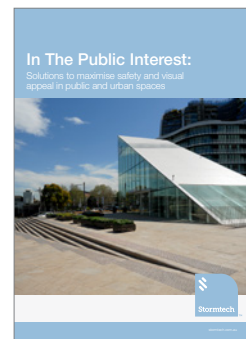
In The Public Interest: Solutions to maximise safety and visual appeal in public and urban spaces provides a detailed look at how linear drainage solutions can form a highly effective, safe, and visually pleasing stormwater management system in large, highly-trafficked public spaces. We discuss the

key benefits of linear drainage systems in comparison with traditional drainage solutions. We then cover in detail the key design considerations when specifying a linear drainage system for public spaces, including: aesthetics, environmental conditions, application-specific considerations, and safety and durability. Finally, we present a range of award-winning drainage solutions that meet the stringent design and functionality requirements of the modern market.

For 30 years, Stormtech have been leaders in the design of sustainable, innovative drainage solutions in Australia. Stormtech's linear drainage solutions are modular, durable, versatile, compliant with all relevant Australian Standards, and can be tailored to suit any public and urban space application including specific solutions for high catchment areas.

Download this whitepaper to find out how linear drainage solutions form highly effective, and visually pleasing stormwater management systems in public spaces.

KEEP READING
bit.ly/Stormtech_PublicInterest_WP







Style and Function:

Specifying linear drainage systems for the hospitality industry

Buoyed by high tourist numbers and plentiful investment, the Australian hospitality industry enjoyed a sustained period of growth accompanied with a boom in hospitality-focused architectural projects. However, the global economic havoc caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has decimated the industry, forcing it to adapt. Innovative drainage solutions are needed for future hospitality projects for a range of business types and use cases, with the aim of creating safe environments that are pleasing for patrons but also efficient, sustainable and compliant.

Style and Function: Specifying linear drainage systems for the hospitality industry examines the differences between linear and traditional drainage types and how they relate to the varied use cases relevant to the hospitality industry. We also consider the benefits

of linear drainage in relation to meeting accessibility standards and how they can help designers and specifiers meet sustainability goals in their hospitality projects. Finally, we present a range of Australian drainage solutions that represent the cutting edge in sustainable, accessible and forward-thinking design.

For 30 years, Stormtech have been leaders in the design of sustainable, innovative drainage solutions in Australia. Their award-winning grates and drains are versatile, efficient, and meet the stringent requirements of the modern hospitality market. They provide a safe and efficient means of drainage with a minimal aesthetic that fits seamlessly within contemporary architecture. Stormtech drains connect with all standard plumbing fittings and are compliant with all relevant standards and the National Construction Code.

Download this whitepaper to gain an understanding of the benefits of modern linear drainage systems over traditional drains and why they are ideal for specification in hospitality projects.

KEEP READING

http://bit.ly/Stormtech_StyleFunction_WP





Architecture & Design

Ian Moore

In his 30 years of practice, Ian Moore has designed a number of iconic residences and buildings in and around Sydney, and across the globe. With a reputation for using materials and products in new and innovative ways, he is known for pushing boundaries to create unique spaces.

Thanks for your time, Ian. Can you give us a bit of background about your career and your practice?

Yes, so I started in New Zealand, where I grew up. My father was a builder so I grew up on a building site. I always wanted to be an architect and used to work with my mother to design the interiors of our houses - we lived in 34 houses before I left home at the age of 17. Not all of those were built by my father, but he built a lot of houses for us, and she did a lot of interiors. So it was sort of in my blood. But my father didn't like architects much and he wanted me to be an engineer, so I had to go and study civil and structural engineering, which in retrospect was actually a very good thing to do.

After working for a few years at an engineering consultancy, I wanted to go and see the world. So I bought a ticket to go to London, came to Sydney for six months on the way to earn a bit of extra money, and did a little bit of work here in some engineering offices. I went to London to work for one of the biggest engineering firms in the world, working with

Norman Foster on the Hong Kong Shanghai bank headquarters in Hong Kong. So I got to work on one of the most important buildings of the 20th century, and in doing that, I knew that I had to get back to architecture.

So I enrolled in architecture in London. I got accepted, but then my visa expired. So I came back to Sydney, completed my degree and then established my own practice in 1990.

Where do you focus your practice?

I work primarily on residential projects, small and large - so both single residential and multi residential - primarily working in and around Sydney. At the moment, it's primarily single residential, which is fine. I like working on apartment developments, but I don't necessarily like the process of working with developers, project managers, development managers and so on. When you're working on a house with a client, you're dealing directly with the end user, and I think that makes a big difference, you know exactly what they want.

How did you first come across Stormtech products?

In 1994 or 95 I was designing a house in Redfern. We had a 7.2 metre wide aircraft hangar basically, this big box that we were building, and it was six metres high. And the client, who was a photographer, wanted to use it not only as his house, but also as a daylight photographic studio - and didn't want any shadows cast on the wall that he was going to use to shoot against. So he wanted all the doors and windows at the back of the house to basically disappear.

I designed six metre high doors, six panels that were 1200mm wide to get to 7.2 metres. People thought the doors would be too heavy, would get jammed, and wouldn't work - they worked, of course.

But the key to that whole system was the drainage. I'd seen a system of drainage where there was a 25mm wide channel that went down to the ground and had a 90mm diameter PVC pipe underneath. And it was a Stormtech drain that separated the lawn from paved areas. Everything was at the same level, there was no

step down or anything. And that was the whole key to it - it was just seamless. So I thought if I use a Stormtech drain, and take off the plastic bit with the perforations in it and put in an aluminium section to make it more durable, not only will it be the drain, but we will be able to put the two guide pins of the door into that slot so that they actually move along the slot. I asked Stormtech if it was possible, and they said, 'anything's possible'.

And you still work closely to this day?

I specify Stormtech drains in every single project - I don't know of a project since that time where I haven't used them to be honest. I know there are a lot of competitor drains that copy what Stormtech developed now, but we always specify the real thing. Dealing with developers and builders on those big apartment developments - I'm not always sure that what we specify is what we get because they're trying to look for a cheaper alternative. But for all of our houses, I can absolutely guarantee that they're all Stormtech.







Stormtech: Certified Sustainable

Not all certifications are equal. While some certifications are a legal requirement, others care little more than an extra badge for the company website. For Stormtech, certifications provide a critical industry barometer.

“Our philosophy is that the Australian standards set out the minimum requirements for compliant construction”, explains

Troy Creighton, Managing Director. “We take the minimum as a fail and we apply, as far as we can determine, best practice. Our drains are tested by the CSIRO and come back with a pass or a fail – but we’ve never had a fail because we pre-test everything in-house, well in advance. We know our products far exceed Australian Standards before new changes come into effect because we’re already looking at the next target”.

From Global GreenTag Level A Gold Certification to Excellence in Product Stewardship from the Vinyl Council of Australia (for adhering to best practice in use, reuse and end-of-life practice of PVC), Stormtech’s ever-expanding list of credentials is impressive.

[Read more >](#)

The Path to Sustainability

In recent years, sustainability has become a buzzword. As our impact on the environment becomes increasingly apparent, brands across every industry have been quick to promote their green credentials (commonly known as ‘greenwashing’). For many corporations, sustainability is simply the latest consumer trend; but, for a select few, it’s a core value that influences every single aspect of their business

Stormtech’s focus on excellence – both in terms of its products and processes – are at the heart of its impressive achievements. For Troy Creighton, Stormtech Managing Director, the most sustainable options are invariably also the best for the business and its people. “Time after time, we’ve found that when we adopt a more sustainable method, regardless of what it is, the cost takes care of itself in the long-run.

“Businesses will often take whichever option has the lowest-cost barrier to entry – but, while the set-up costs may be higher, sustainable is almost always cheaper overall. Renewable energy is the only sustainable option that costs us more than the alternative – but that’s a price we’re more than happy to pay”..

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