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+ PERFORMANCE



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DUNEDIN HOSPITAL INPATIENT BUILDING: WORTH WAITING FOR

The Dunedin Hospital Inpatient Building marks a significant milestone for D&H Steel and the wider construction industry, now started after years of uncertainty and providing a welcome boost to a subdued market, says D&H Steel Managing Director Wayne Carson.

D&H Steel was appointed as an Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) partner in 2022. At the time, the project was expected to commence within two years, but it was subsequently put on hold during one of the largest downturns the construction industry has faced. During this period, we engaged with government and ministers alongside industry body Steel Construction New Zealand, highlighting the importance

of substantial infrastructure projects for the sector. Our advocacy was on behalf of not just D&H, but the broader steel and construction industries, emphasising the role projects like Dunedin Hospital play in sustaining capacity and keeping the wheels of industry turning.

Throughout the ECI phase, we were actively engaged in the design process, providing value engineering, practical construction insight, guidance on buildability and analysing a range of design options.

With construction now moving forward, we have procured long-lead-time items and are well underway with the associated modelling and shop drawing processes. Fabrication has started, with site activities

expected to commence in July and continue for close to two and a half years.

We are delivering the structural steel package through a joint venture (JV) with Christchurch-based John Jones Steel. For both D&H and John Jones Steel, the project represents approximately 30 percent of our typical capacity. The JV allows both businesses to contribute their respective strengths while ensuring the broader market continues to be well supported, demonstrating the collaborative capability of New Zealand's structural steel sector.

Work will be divided largely by logistics: D&H will fabricate the labour-intensive but easily transported components, while John Jones Steel will deliver the oversized elements, taking advantage of its relative proximity to site.



STEEL CONSTRUCTION

— since 1972 —

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The inpatient building presents some distinct challenges due to its base-isolated seismic solution. Approximately 40 percent of fabrication labour hours for the 13-storey building will be concentrated in the first floor alone, which requires considerable planning and sequencing to address the complexity of the base-isolated design and front-loaded effort required.

Hospitals are also uniquely labour-intensive projects, generating significant flow-on work across multiple specialists, trades and suppliers. At \$1.88 billion, the Dunedin Hospital programme is New Zealand's largest health infrastructure investment to date. At peak construction, the inpatient building alone is expected to support more than 900 full-time equivalent jobs and contribute around \$100 million annually to the Dunedin economy, according to Minister for Health Simeon Brown. Projects of this scale provide critical backbone workload, particularly at a time when activity across the sector remains subdued.

As far as the market forecast is concerned, while there are early indications of increased activity at the front end of the design pipeline, we expect it may still be 12 months before that work flows through to steel construction. In the meantime, having a substantial, long-duration project underway enables businesses like ours to continue investing in plant, capability and people with greater confidence.

An important part of our involvement is engaging with the local community. Public sector projects place strong emphasis on using local capability where possible, and the duration of this project gives us a meaningful opportunity to do that. Over the two-and-a-half-year programme, we can employ and train local people, including younger workers, contributing skills and capability that will remain in the region long after construction is complete.

Beyond the commercial considerations, there is also a sense of purpose in contributing to infrastructure that will serve communities for generations. As a structural steel contractor, we take pride in building legacies, and the Dunedin Hospital Inpatient Building will be another one of them.

WAYNE CARSON

Managing Director,
D&H Steel Construction

Cover image: Artist's impression of the new Dunedin Hospital Inpatient Building.



JOE COWAN: 50 YEARS AT D&H STEEL

Recently, D&H Steel marked an extraordinary milestone: Joe Cowan's remarkable 50-year career with the company, culminating in his retirement.

Joe, 78, joined what was then Dixon & Haddon in 1975 as a fitter welder. His path to the company reflected the culture of the time: one of the founders, Bob Haddon, was heavily involved in rugby league and often recruited players from the sport, fostering a strong team ethic. Joe, a keen athlete since childhood, came through this network and was hired on the spot during his interview.

Five decades later, Joe continued to contribute to D&H Steel, working light duties from 7am to 3pm, three days a week – often arriving on his e-bike. "Health is my top priority; I really want to keep active," he said.

At a celebration held at D&H Steel, Joe was congratulated by colleagues and presented with a gold watch by Executive Director Mike Sullivan.

"Joe embodies the heart of this company. His loyalty, work ethic and the way he's contributed over five decades is remarkable," said Sullivan. "At D&H, we believe loyalty goes both ways – it's about valuing your people, investing in them and showing them a path forward. Joe is part of our story, and we're incredibly grateful for everything he has given."

Though the business has grown significantly since Joe first joined, his commitment and positive presence have remained constant. His long service reflects the strong sense of loyalty and community that continues to define D&H Steel today – values he has embodied for half a century.

JOHN AHVUI RETIRES

John Ahvui (centre), one of the original old-boys, officially retires after receiving his 45-year long-service award award from D&H Executive Director Mike Sullivan (left) and Operations Manager Dean Pouwhare. D&H wishes Johnny a long and enjoyable retirement.



CERTIFIED TO DELIVER

D&H Steel holds both ISO 9001:2015 and Sustainable Steel Council Responsible Product Certification – two independent marks that give clients confidence in the quality and integrity of the work it delivers.

ISO 9001:2015 is the global standard for quality management, meaning every D&H project is supported by robust, audited systems that reduce errors, improve consistency, and ensure clear documentation and traceability from start to finish. For clients, it translates into smoother delivery, fewer surprises and assurance that quality is built into every stage of fabrication.

Our SSC Responsible Product Certification adds another layer of value,

particularly for Green Star projects. It provides more points toward a project's Green Star rating, simplifies the submission process, strengthens procurement confidence, and ensures the steel supply chain is transparent and independently verified. In short, D&H makes it easier for clients to meet their sustainability targets while maintaining the highest standards of quality and performance.



PLANNING, PLANNING, PLANNING



D&H's disciplined approach to early planning and coordination is helping to drive progress on Auckland Airport's new domestic jet terminal.

A year on from the first steel being erected, structural works are well advanced and tracking slightly ahead of programme. For D&H Steel, that progress is no accident. It is the result of months of intensive upfront planning, close collaboration with the project team, and a disciplined approach to fabrication and delivery.

The domestic jet terminal is the centrepiece of Auckland Airport's terminal integration programme and comprises three interdependent elements: the passenger terminal building, the baggage handling system, and the surrounding airfield works. D&H's involvement sits firmly within the building scope, delivering the structural steel for the north and south headhouses.

Combined, those headhouse structures are now around 95 percent complete. Headhouse south – the more functional, multilevel component of the terminal – is nearing the end of its major structural phase, with only lighter roof and plant structures still to be installed. Headhouse north, home to the triple-height reclaim hall, is approximately three-quarters complete.

For D&H, the status reflects a strategy set long before steel arrived on site. General Manager Richard Hine says the emphasis was always on understanding the job's complexity early and breaking it down into manageable, buildable components.

"We often say construction is all about planning, planning, planning," says Hine. "We've done that, and it has led to a very smooth delivery of the project."

That planning effort extended deep into D&H's fabrication operations. The team reviewed the technical challenges of each element and refined methodologies. It also established multiple parallel workstations to ensure all the steelwork components were completed to a high level of accuracy and delivered to site as coordinated packages aligned with the erection sequence.

That preparation has been matched by a disciplined on-site delivery. Under the guidance of Project Manager Sam Wells and Site Manager Kyle Finch, the D&H site team has carefully coordinated crews, sequencing and deliveries.

On site, that preparation has translated into a steel erection phase that both Auckland Airport Senior Project Director Isaac Taylor and Hawkins Construction Director Phillip Helleur agree has been well-executed.

"The project sits in a great position," says Helleur. "D&H's understanding of construction in a tough operational environment has made a real difference."

"It's going at a rapid pace," says Taylor. "Seeing all the planning translate into real progress is pretty impressive."

Taylor points to early engagement with designers, robust shop drawing processes and close coordination with Hawkins as critical success factors.

"Good shop drawings equal quality fabrication. Quality fabrication then equals efficient erection on site," he says. "It's also about sequencing the work correctly so the steel can be installed smoothly."

The steel package is inherently complex, with multiple interfaces, design timings and technical demands.

"The fact that the superstructure has gone up so smoothly and on programme positions D&H firmly within the high-performing category," says Helleur. "The alignment with our programme is not by chance. The ability to deliver fabrication accuracy, clean tolerances and minimal rework is a key indicator of this."

Helleur describes the level of preparedness as "industry leading". "It is the primary reason the erection phase has felt controlled, predictable and professional, allowing the follow-on trades the assurance of completion, accuracy and QA certainty."

That confidence matters: completing the structural steel early creates a foundation for the rest of the programme, enabling follow-on trades to start sooner and build momentum across the site.

Underpinning this is a relationship built on transparency and trust. D&H has taken an open-door approach, welcoming the project team into its workshop and showing how such complex steel components move from design to manufacture to installation.

"It's great for our people to experience firsthand what goes into the process," says Taylor. "There's more to it than just design – it's how it's fabricated and installed."

As the project progresses, the benefits of early investment in coordination and planning are clear. In a live airport setting, where access, staging and safety expectations far exceed typical commercial builds, certainty is a powerful asset – one that keeps this landmark project moving forward with confidence.

Above: A group of D&H workshop and office staff in front of the baggage reclaim area during a recent site visit.

PROJECT TEAM

General Manager, Richard Hine; Project Manager, Sam Wells; Site Engineer, Jikun Jin; Estimator, Jamie Moxon; Quantity Surveyor, Tejinder (Happy) Kumar; Site Manager, Kyle Finch; Site Supervisors, Karl Muller, Jordan Brown, Matt Sinclair, Dean Rafferty, Jeremy Phillips; Detailers, Wayne Peachey, Wendy Sang, Billy Mougari, Jaeya Ibanez.

"The Hawkins and D&H relationship spans decades and many complex and large-scale projects that seem to grow in complexity and value as the years progress."

PHILLIP HELLEUR, HAWKINS

D&H STEEL PROJECTS RECOGNISED IN PRESTIGIOUS INDUSTRY AWARDS



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Earthquake Strengthening category – B201 Redevelopment

Originally constructed in 1971, the University of Auckland's Social Sciences Building was showing its age – with poor seismic performance, and deteriorating concrete facades and end-of-life services. Rather than demolish, the University chose to extend the building's life by another 50 years through a full seismic upgrade and complete transformation into a modern learning environment.

D&H collaborated closely with the University and wider construction team to integrate innovative solutions within budget constraints while meeting sustainability objectives. A key intervention was seismic

strengthening of the podium, enabling the creation of a striking new hybrid steel and glulam timber atrium roof. New lightweight curtain walling replaced the heavy concrete facades, reducing structural loads and cutting embodied carbon by over 30 percent.

The redevelopment has reimagined a 50-year-old structure as one of New Zealand's leading sustainable learning environments, setting a new benchmark for adaptive reuse and low-carbon design.

"This project has transformed a wasted courtyard space into a fantastic foyer linking the modernised and refurbished existing buildings, while keeping the original structures."

JUDGES' COMMENT

PROJECT TEAM

Project Manager, Richard Hine;
QS, Tejinder (Happy) Kumar, Michael Simpson; Site Supervisor, Brett Carroll.

D&H Steel was proud to have two projects selected as finalists in Steel Construction New Zealand's (SCNZ's) Excellence in Steel Awards 2025, with one project receiving special recognition in its category.

The annual Awards celebrate excellence in the field of steel construction. D&H's inclusion as a finalist is a reflection of its people's commitment to teamwork, best practice and innovation.

"Seeing our projects reach the SCNZ Excellence in Steel finals is always rewarding. It reflects our team's expertise and commitment to the 'D&H Way' – consistently delivering projects safely, efficiently and to the highest standards."

WAYNE CARSON
Managing Director, D&H Steel



SCNZ
CATEGORY
FINALIST
2025

FINALIST

Over \$3 million category – Beca House

The final stage of the Wynyard Quarter Innovation Precinct in Auckland brings together three interconnected buildings that combine commercial, retail and hospitality space with facilities for coworking and community use. The development is designed to create an agile and energetic environment, balancing sustainability with pedestrian flow and blending modern forms with heritage-inspired architecture.

Each building has its own identity: 124 Halsey Street comprises a nine-level tower and a six-level companion building with ground-floor retail and two levels of basement parking; 117 Pakenham Street West is an eight-level building with a brick

facade and two levels of underground parking; and the Flowers Building is a three-level annex with a hybrid steel and timber frame, purpose-built as an event space.

The structural design follows a low-damage philosophy and exposed steelwork is a prominent architectural element of the project. D&H Steel's early involvement with the builder was critical in aligning fabrication and construction methodologies with the design and aesthetic requirements. This collaboration also produced significant programme and cost efficiencies, delivering a technically complex yet efficient and architecturally distinctive development.

"A cluster of buildings showing architectural flair and good structural form, drawing on the full benefits of structural steel."

JUDGES' COMMENT

PROJECT TEAM

Project Manager, Colin Ross; QS, Tejinder (Happy) Kumar; Site Manager, Nick Yakas; Site Supervisors, Dean Rafferty, Jimmy Noble; Detailers, Mike Thompson and Guy Jamison.



BRIDGE PRECISION: D&H DELIVERS AT MURIWAI DOWNS

D&H Steel fabricated five structural steel bridges for the exclusive Muriwai Downs Golf Course. The project combined meticulous off-site preparation with innovative installation to protect the course and ensure flawless delivery.

At the heart of the Muriwai Downs Golf Course project, a series of 10 bridges and minor boardwalks provide essential connectivity. Designed by renowned American golf architect Kyle Phillips, the course is being developed to meet the strict criteria of an exclusive, international-standard tournament venue.

Of these bridges, D&H Steel fabricated five, with construction led by Fort Projects and guided by a D&H site specialist.

The bridges were designed to meet heavy-duty loading requirements, allowing large tractors to transport sand and maintenance equipment across the course. These demands made structural steel the material of choice for the superstructure.

Fort Projects opted to helicopter the bridge assemblies into place – an installation

method it has specialist expertise in – avoiding the need for substantial site roads or transporting equipment across delicate fairways. Damaging the fairways would have been extremely costly, as repairs require removing and rebuilding layers of imported sand to replicate the surrounding untouched ground exactly, explains Fort Projects Director Chris Smith. “In fact, two of the bridges are in areas that heavy equipment simply cannot reach due to the very steep surrounding terrain and strict environmental criteria imposed by Auckland Council.”

The D&H team, led by Operations Manager Dean Pouwhare and Workshop Manager Cameron Rogers, worked closely to plan and coordinate the fabrication and installation methodology, ensuring a smooth and efficient delivery. To reduce the risk of delays during the helicopter lifts – charged at \$3,600 per hour – D&H trial-assembled the bridges off site in its workshop. This ensured the galvanised prefabricated components, fabricated to match precise pile layouts and each weighing up to 1.2

tonnes, fit perfectly and could be installed quickly. “The trial assembly gave us confidence the bridge would go together on site without issue,” says Smith.

Collaboration between D&H and Fort was seamless. The D&H site specialist provided hands-on support throughout, facilitating a smooth installation process. “Dealing with the whole D&H organisation has been an enjoyable experience,” Smith notes. “The team were cooperative, knowledgeable and experienced. It was great to have that expertise alongside us.”

Fort also praised D&H's broader approach to fabrication and project support. “Their resources are truly world-class, and their philosophy aligns with ours: anticipate issues, assist the project team and uphold high standards. It's a collaborative approach that helps deliver successful outcomes while minimising risk and cost,” says Smith.

Above left: Custom welded beam bridge elements being lowered into position by helicopter.

Above right: D&H Workshop Manager Cameron Rogers (left) and Operations Manager Dean Pouwhare.



CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS DAY

Glorious sunshine set the scene for the D&H Steel Christmas Family Fun Day, where laughter and excitement filled the air. Families bounced through castles, tackled obstacle courses, enjoyed face painting, and were treated to candy floss, popcorn and a classic Kiwi sausage sizzle. The highlight of the day? Santa's grand arrival – complete with gifts for all the good girls and boys.

FAST-TRACK STEEL FOR F&P HEALTHCARE

Collaboration from day one made all the difference for Fisher & Paykel Healthcare's new facility, Building 5. D&H Steel's input helped streamline the build and deliver \$200,000 in value engineering savings.

The latest addition to Fisher & Paykel Healthcare's East Tāmaki campus marks another step forward for a site that has steadily expanded to support the design, testing and manufacture of advanced medical devices. As the fifth manufacturing facility on the campus, it combines large-scale office accommodation with manufacturing, modelling and prototyping spaces.

Dominion Construction engaged D&H Steel to deliver the structural steel package for this fast-track project, which includes approximately 2,000 tonnes of steel forming the primary structure, roof envelope and extensive secondary support systems for the new facility.

"This is a substantial building," says Dominion Construction Project Manager Kelvin Knight. "There's around 13,000 square metres of office space and close to 14,000 square metres of manufacturing and warehouse area." He adds that the key for any builder is getting the envelope closed quickly. "D&H have been very accommodating with small changes, helping us achieve roof and façade closure sooner." That flexibility extended beyond individual contracts, allowing a focus on the bigger picture. Working together to close the building quickly enabled the fitout to begin earlier, easing programme pressures.

From the outset, D&H was involved in more than just the fabrication and erection. "Dominion needed a fast delivery programme, so we focused on how the steel could be erected as efficiently as possible," explains D&H



Steel General Manager Richard Hine. "That included developing a methodology that used access both around and through the centre of the site, allowing multiple crews and multiple hooks to work at the same time." At its peak, five steel erection crews were working simultaneously under the leadership of D&H Operations Manager Dean Pouwhare and Lead Site Supervisor Dion Korewha.

This helped maintain momentum on the highly detailed structure, which incorporates not only the primary framing, roof purlins and girts, but also thousands of underslung purlins supporting ceilings and secondary systems. D&H worked closely with Steel & Tube, whose purlin manufacturing facility is located less than 100 metres from the site, supporting just-in-time delivery and reducing on-site handling and storage constraints. Being a local fabricator also proved advantageous. "There are always day-to-day changes on site," Knight adds. "Because D&H is local, those changes could be accommodated quickly."

Early involvement also allowed D&H to collaborate with Dominion and engineering consultant BGT Structures on value engineering. "By refining the connections, we were able to reduce the labour component, saving the client \$200,000," says Hine.

One of the early challenges on the project was progressing shop drawings quickly enough to support the fast-track programme. Knight notes that D&H exceeded expectations in this phase: "D&H managed to get through the shop drawings faster than we anticipated." This allowed steel to arrive on site earlier, helping push the programme ahead.

D&H began on site in August 2025, and the project has tracked slightly ahead of programme throughout the structural steel phase.

"The value D&H have brought has been massive. They were involved in methodology, constructability and sequencing from day one. We've effectively adopted D&H's programme and worked closely together throughout."

**KELVIN KNIGHT,
DOMINION CONSTRUCTION**

PROJECT TEAM General Manager, Richard Hine; Operations Manager, Dean Pouwhare; Quantity Surveyor, Shabbir Rajkotwala; Lead Site Supervisor Dion Korewha supported by Ina Taikakara, Brett Carroll, Heneliko Taimorai and Jimmy Noble; Site Engineer, Jon Bondoc; Estimator, Mark McKeown

Above: D&H site team at the F&P Healthcare site.



HEALTH & SAFETY FOCUS

Safety awards were presented to several employees to recognise their contribution:



Receiving a safety award for their work on the CDC HV2 Hobsonville Data Centre, our site team (L-R): Vincent Alfred, Tevita Filo, Marloun Carino, Benjie Manalo, Aron Pasia, Emerson Mamangun and Jeffrey Tan.



(L-R): Mahabub Mihazi, leading by example as a health & safety rep; Desmond Rozario, consistently safety-first in every task; Edgardo Encinas, raising gas-bottle transport risks, proposing an improved method and building a custom trolley; Peter Mata, ensuring lift plans are always followed.

Services

- + Project Management
- + 3D Modelling & Shop Drawings
- + Fabrication
- + Protective Coatings
- + Site Management & Erection



Accreditations

D&H Steel was the first steel constructor in NZ to achieve both ISO 3834 and Steel Fabrication Certification.



ISO 3834 Part 2
Certificate No. 001NZ/2014



NEW STARTERS



Procurement and QA Manager **Schalk Van der Zandt** has more than two decades of experience leading quality control and managing compliance in the construction and engineering sectors. He is a keen single handicap golfer and enjoys the outdoors and making things on his 3D printer.



Piniel Chingorivo is a fabricator welder by trade with 25 years' experience in steel fabrication and welding, and joins D&H Steel as Night Shift Supervisor. When he's not at work, Piniel enjoys watching and playing soccer, and exploring new places.

APPRENTICESHIP COMPLETED

Congratulations to **Zac Iosefo** on completing his apprenticeship and receiving the New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication.



Phone one of our team today. We'd love to hear from you.



Wayne Carson – 021 949 277
Managing Director

Richard Hine – 022 032 6622
General Manager

Dean Pouwhare – 021 523 788
Operations Manager/Director

Cameron Rogers – 021 835 950
Workshop Manager

Mike Thompson – 021 526 102
Detailing Manager

John Frederickson – 021 534 435
CWB Manager

Colin Ross – 021 422 819
Project Manager

Desmond Knowles – 021 526 008
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