

Concrete Solutions

SAME SUPPORT...CITY OR OUTBACK



Kase Soliman...inner-city project.

Despite a world of difference, building projects in inner-city Melbourne and a remote part of Northern Territory had something in common.

Both drew on Kennards' big range of equipment for concrete work. General hire centres have everything from mixers, trowels, and vibrators to grinders, mowers, edgers, renovators, planers and saws, while Kennards Concrete Care has more specialist items.



Abigroup...new grandstand at Areyonga.

Slab specialists, Melbourne City Concrete, used a power trowel from Kennards Hire Richmond on a new apartment block in Collingwood. Kase Soliman said the 600sq m job called for an additional trowel. "We hire from Kennards because they have quality equipment and the service is good," he said.

Construction company Abigroup hired a concrete vibrator and other items from Kennards Hire Alice Springs while building a grandstand and other



A delighted community.

facilities around the local sports fields for the remote community of Areyonga.

In a unique cultural exchange program, carried out in partnership with indigenous health promotion organisation Red Dust, five Abigroup construction workers spent a week helping to build the sports facilities before five Areyonga men returned with them to Sydney and spent a week working on Abigroup's Hunter Expressway project.

ADVICE WAS RIGHT ON THE MARK

Two heavy-duty, 240V concrete grinders from Kennards Hire succeeded where others failed in removing line markings in the vehicular backstage area of the Sydney Opera House.

Some of the markings were painted during construction of the iconic building, which opened in 1973, and have been repainted several times since.

Simpson Building Group had to remove more than 300sq m of line markings while carrying out a major Building, Electrical and Mechanical upgrade of the area called Central Passage, which is the delivery and dispatch point for a huge amount of equipment and other goods.

To avoid disruption to events, work had to be done at night, and speed was of the essence.

After a sub-contractor struggled to make progress with other machines, project manager Gerard Nellestein searched the internet and found the Kennards' heavy duty grinder, which is the most powerful in the 240V class. It attaches to a high-performance industrial vacuum unit.

"As principal contractor for the entire project, we made the call to do the job ourselves, due to the heavy restrictions of the facility and our commitment to get the works completed on schedule," Gerard said.

"We hired one of these grinders from Kennards at Penrith on advice from staff at the branch who were also in contact with the Concrete Care



Scott Peatman removes layers of line markings dating back 40 years.

division. It went so well, we picked up a second one from the Rydalmere branch.

"They are very efficient, and they have interchangeable discs, allowing the unit to complete rough finishing or light sanding, which was perfect for areas on soft concrete and epoxy right through to areas reaching 40-50Mpa, and they are almost dust-free."

Night shift foreman Shane Clarke said, with the two grinders, they covered more than 20sq m an hour. "They are brilliant – certainly the best I have worked with," he said.

"They are basically dustless, which is much better from OH&S perspective and you are also not left with a big clean-up. The handle adjusts to suit the height of the operator."