



Qantas Flight Training Centre

Qantas approached Architectus in 1999 to create a master plan which would develop their existing site in Airport West into a national facility for flight training.

The first stage of the development, the extension of the Simulator Centre to house four new flight simulators, was completed in October 2002.

The building sits on Matthews Avenue and is highly visible from the freeway going to and from the airport. The siting was seen as an opportunity to display to the outside world the high-tech training undertaken by the pilots. The transparency of the building advertises Qantas' commitment to flight safety.

The new extension houses four simulators in one large hall, surrounded on three sides by a first floor balcony.

A curved metallic blanket wraps the southern façade and contains the eastern section of the building. This simple device unifies the disparate volumes within the building.

The simplicity of the building's form and the restrained colour palette works to underscore the importance of its purpose in comparison to its neighbours.

Project Details

Client: Qantas
Location: Essendon, VIC
Approx. Value: \$16m
Floor Area: 2213 m²
Completed: 2003

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