

PRESTON HIRE ASSISTS WITH STARSHIP CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EXPANSION

BRIEF

Clients	Built Environs
Projects	Starship Children's Hospital Expansion
Location	Auckland, New Zealand
Equipment	1 x MAEDA 285 & 1 X UNIC 547

Built Environs reached out to Preston Hire for a specialised lifting solution as part of their Starship Children's Hospital expansion project. As New Zealand's only dedicated specialist paediatric intensive care facility, this unit of the Starship Children's Hospital provides critical national and regional services. Once completed, the expansion will lift Day Stay patient capacity by 45%.

THE CHALLENGE

Working within an operational hospital environment posed unique challenges for Built Environs. They needed specialised lifting equipment that could operate efficiently while adhering to strict noise restrictions. The equipment also had to be capable of hoisting large, heavy materials such as steel beams, large column braces, and stag timber flooring, all while ensuring quiet and safe operations.



OUR SOLUTION

Given these unique requirements, Preston Hire knew just the machines to recommend. We supplied Built Environs with a UNIC 547 and a Maeda 285 mini crane. The UNIC 547, the largest crane in our fleet suitable for indoor use, was chosen for its impressive load-bearing capacity and electric-powered function, which minimized operational noise—ideal for an active hospital environment where reducing disruptions was crucial.

Meanwhile, our Maeda 285 was deployed specifically for offloading stag timber flooring. Its compact build and precision controls provided the flexibility to navigate tight spaces effectively, making it ideal for indoor work within the constraints of the hospital structure.

On site since January, our mini cranes have ensured efficient operations without compromising the comfort of hospital staff and patients.



CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Built Environs was highly impressed with the Preston Hire team, praising their professionalism and adaptability: “The guys on-site have been nothing short of outstanding in their capabilities, work ethic, and professionalism,” remarked Duncan Cowell, Site Manager. “There truly doesn’t seem to be a challenge that these lads can’t or won’t rise to meet [...], helping us deliver what some have dubbed as ‘the most challenging’ healthcare project in NZ.”

The behind-the-scenes support also received high praise: “Francois and Werner have always been extremely prompt in catering to our site needs, understanding the constraints, and being absolutely forthcoming with their knowledge and experience—critical for early and ongoing planning. All top blokes!”



LOOKING AHEAD

As the expansion of Starship Children’s Hospital moves toward completion, we’re proud to have played a role in a project that will ultimately benefit countless children and families across New Zealand.

“We extend our heartfelt thanks to Built Environs for their trust in our services,” said Francois Buys, National Manager of Preston Hire, “and look forward to continuing our partnership as we complete the final phases of this important project together.”

