

Welcome to the Project Maunga newsletter. The newsletter is published monthly and available on the Taranaki DHB website [www.tdhb.org.nz](http://www.tdhb.org.nz) and on the staff intranet.

## Got a burning question about Project Maunga?

Email your questions through to [Project.Maunga@tdhb.org.nz](mailto:Project.Maunga@tdhb.org.nz) and we will do our best to answer them in the December issue of this newsletter. All questions must be emailed by 26 November 2011. For last months Q&A's see below:

## Profiling Stahlton Engineered Concrete

Stahlton Engineered Concrete is a specialist manufacturer of prestressed and precast concrete products and have a large role to play with Project Maunga.

They have been busy producing the prestressed Double Tee flooring units, and precast beam's and panel's for the new building. Some of the panels on the outside of the building will have an exposed stone finish.

They have been operating in Taranaki since the 1970's under the name Stresscrete, until 5 years ago when they became Stahlton. Stahlton Engineered Concrete is subcontracted to Fletcher Construction, the main contractor for Project Maunga. They currently have nine full time staff and seven casual staff working at the New Plymouth Stahlton workshop in Fitzroy.

### Why use Precast Concrete?

Ron Seymour from Stahlton Engineered Concrete says that precast concrete is used to speed up the erection of the building.

"Having all the pieces ready to put together, rather than build everything on site makes for a more efficient build" said Ron.

### How is it made?

The flooring for Project Maunga is 'prestressed' which means long lengths of steel wire is stretched and then concrete is poured over them. When the concrete is strong enough the wire is relaxed compressing the concrete and making it much stronger.

The exposed panels that will be used for Project Maunga are made by sandblasting the finished concrete so that the stones are showing. See over the page for photos.

For more information about Stahlton Engineered Concrete visit their website [www.stahlton.co.nz](http://www.stahlton.co.nz).

## You asked and we answered!

**1. How heavy are the precast beams?** Lets just say you would need to eat a lot of weetbix to pick one up! On average our precast beams weigh between 5 and 9 tonne depending on the size.

**2. What has happened to all the dirt that was taken from the site?** About 3000m<sup>3</sup> of dirt was donated to the local BMX club, a small amount went to a an old quarry to help landscape back to farmland and the rest has gone to a local farm.

**3. Why are the flooring units called Double Tees?** Simply because once moulded, they look like two letter T's. See below:





Steel wire is prepared to be tightened before pouring concrete into the Double Tee mould.



Stahlton workers prepare a Double Tee mould for pouring. On average six of these are produced daily.



Precast beams which are placed on top of the columns for the flooring units to sit on.



An example of what the exposed finished panels will look like.

## Mock Up Theatre - Take Two

From Tuesday 15 November until Friday 25 November the most recent Mock Up Theatre will be available for Taranaki DHB staff to take a closer look.

“Theatre Mock Up - Take 1”, opened to operating theatre staff in October 2010, was a basic mock up designed to give staff the feel of the size of the room, location of doors and to review the design of the medical services pendants.

“Take 2” has been further developed in conjunction with Fletcher Construction, to include samples of fixtures and fittings that will be used in the actual construction.

Project Director Ian Grant said, “all staff who work in operating theatres are invited to visit and provide feedback to the Project Maunga team on the final position of these fixtures to help us make sure they are in the best location”.

Staff can make an appointment to visit the mock theatre by phoning the Project Office on Ext 8350.



## John Key visits Project Maunga

Prime Minister John Key walked and talked with construction workers on the Project Maunga site with a visit to the redevelopment on Monday 7 November.

Mr Key was taken on a tour of the site by Fletchers Construction Project Manager Chris Goldsbury.

