



Melbourne Market

The Melbourne Market is Victoria's central wholesale fruit, vegetable and cut flower trading centre. The market provides the critical link between growers, wholesalers, retailers, and the fresh produce supply chain.

More than 4,000 businesses use the market as a base, buying and selling fresh produce, in the early hours of the morning, for distribution across Victoria and Australia.

Compelling need for the project

The Melbourne Market Authority needed to create a solution that would provide market users with greater protection from inclement weather during business operations (delivery, pickups, and staging).

Sustainability is a focus for Melbourne Market, and this project fits in perfectly, being environmentally-sound design and with solar electricity generation.

Solar canopy and undercover parking expansion Epping, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Wiley services delivered: design and construction (in progress)

Business value created for the client

Continuous trading is vital to the success of the markets and their tenants. Expanding the undercover area will reduce the affects and hazards caused by inclement weather, on both the traders and their food products. On completion of this project, traders will be able to continue with regular business operations and movement of produce, regardless of Melbourne's unpredictable weather conditions.

A key feature of the design extending the undercover area, is the use of minimal columns supporting the structure. This design element ensures the safety of all people on site, allowing vehicle and human traffic to move efficiently and safely.

The environmentally-sound design incorporates a solar electricity generation solution. This approach will reduce ongoing electrical demand and costs, allowing The Melbourne Market to operate in a sustainable way well into the future.

The challenging scope Wiley delivered

Wiley in-house design specialists provided an alternative, environmentally sustainable and cost-saving design solution during the tender stage; ensuring minimal disruption to operations during the construction phase and ease of maintenance in the long term. This design solution differed from the conforming bid by:

- Running services aerially, rather than in trenches
- Building roof access to the canopies via new bridges spanning from the existing building—replacing the vertical ladder access to each canopy in the conforming tender.
- A parapet design that complements the existing market facility, in place of Monowills handrail system.

The brownfield project includes:

- Six structural steel canopies spanning 2.2 hectares
- 4,332 solar panels generating 1.95-megawatt power to support onsite energy requirements
- 8,200,000 litres of rainwater catchment capacity per year