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SOLUTIONSFORBIOCLIMATICFAÇADES



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Case Study: Queensland University of Technology Science & Engineering Centre



CASE STUDY

Queensland University of Technology Science & Engineering Centre

Located next to the Brisbane River and the Botanic Gardens, QUT Gardens Point is Brisbane's inner-city university campus. The \$230 million development of their Science and Engineering Centre has created a world-leading model for teaching and research in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The dynamic new centre was designed to dramatically re-engage both the community and students and houses more than 1,200 staff and students in the centre.

At the heart of the Science and Engineering Centre's redevelopment is The Cube, one of the world's largest digital interactive learning and display spaces. It soars across two levels and is designed to support interactive displays using advanced digital technology. Focusing on sustainable and secure infrastructure, the centre aims to reduce greenhouse emissions and energy consumption with integrated systems and sensor technologies. A perfect match for Somfy's range of façade control options for commercial buildings.

In keeping with the high level of technology used throughout the project, along with the goal of enhancing the occupant's thermal and visual comfort, a sophisticated system for high performance façade was crucial. Somfy's animeo KNX provided the perfect façade management system for this project and is the first of its kind in Australia. The fully automated system is intuitive and provides simplified programming of all functions, including sun tracking. It also provides the option of manual override at a room level.

Controlling multiple blinds, animeo KNX guarantees natural light management, glare protection and better viewing comfort. This not only saves energy spent on artificial lighting and improves and harmonises the lighting conditions in the room; it also actively enhances the occupants' well-being and learning capacity.

The automated solar shading system ensures that the centre's high performance façade quickly adapts to the changing weather during the course of the day and the changing seasons over the course of a year; utilising multi-point sun sensors. Somfy's intelligent controls ensure the impressive display contained within The Cube is always protected from the sun's harsh light. The displays include 14 high-definition projectors, and over 40 multi-touch screens and sound technology.

The Somfy animeo KNX system also has the ability to give occupants the flexibility to adapt to their needs by overriding the control of blinds in their local area. The system is remotely linked and is accessible at any time through the use of the internet or smartphones.

The Science and Engineering Centre has achieved a 5-star Design Education V1 Certified rating from the Green Building Council of Australia.



QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



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Project Details

Location Brisbane, Australia	Builder Leighton Contractors	Somfy Solution animeo KNX	Project Manager KWA Blinds
Type of Building Educational	End-products Motorised blinds by Vertilux	100 KNX Moco's	317 Sonesse WT
Architect Donovan Hill + Wilson Architects		17 Sonesse RTS	8 Sun Sensors (lux sensors)