

Case Study

Analytical Testing / Environmental Research / Research & Development



Seafood Research Centre Port Nelson and Plant & Food Research

Completion Date: 2017

Location: Nelson

Services: Specialist Laboratory Architects

Awards: Nelson / Marlborough Architecture Award 2018

Lab-works Architecture worked in partnership with architects Jerram Tocker Barron on the award winning design of the new Seafood Research Centre for Plant & Food Research at the Port Nelson site. The building has been specifically designed to accommodate core research product development and analytical testing related to coastal and marine science.

The modern future-proofed laboratories, support facilities and offices consolidate the seafood research team onto a single site, providing a safe, efficient and collaborative working environment for one of New Zealand's foremost research organisations.

The centre accommodates for 50 science staff and comprises of open plan offices, collaborative spaces, focus room pods, meeting rooms, AV rooms, seminar room, cafeteria and a feature entry foyer. Specialist science areas provided include chemistry laboratories, PC2 molecular laboratories, wet, dry and refrigerated laboratories, a flow tank and work





shop spaces, walk-in fridges and a -40°C freezer room to support fish research. The large seawater workshops and computational modelling spaces provide the base for product research, development and testing such as new fishing net design.

The laboratories are set out on a module basis that provide very efficient workspaces, with modular laboratory furniture and fittings that can be relocated within the facility to allow for change in science, technology and working practices in the future.

Safety and laboratory user comfort is paramount with safety stations located throughout the spaces incorporating safety showers, eye washers, hand wash basins, first aid kits, spill and containment kits as well as fire extinguishers.

Extraction of hazardous vapours and gases is provided by energy efficient fume cupboards, specialised extraction arms as well as a localised grid of non-specific task extraction inlets that provide general task connection points throughout the facility.

Windows viewing into and between laboratories and work rooms provide a transparency for safety and comfort and allows for visitors and staff to view 'Science on Display'.



2018 Winner
Nelson / Marlborough
Architecture Award