

CASE STUDY

The EY Centre

200 George Street, Sydney



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The EY Centre – global leadership in the city centre

It is the latest landmark building in the centre of Sydney – and winning accolades from all corners. The EY Centre at 200 George Street offers a new paradigm in corporate office buildings with an innovative blend of curves, timber finishes and energy efficient solutions.

Designed by architects Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp and built by Mirvac, 200 George Street defies the standard protocols of modern office towers made of cold steel and glass. Instead it showcases twin curved forms and the use of softer “more human” touches such as a spectacular wall of timber blinds that provide natural light into the building. Structural materials have been chosen to provide a warmth and patina to the building, allowing it to age well.

Critical to the energy efficiency is the closed cavity façade by façade manufacturer Permasteelisa, with automation developed by Somfy. The façade’s innovative design allows the use of highly transparent glazing to filter natural light into the workspaces.

A total of over 2,900 automated timber venetian blinds controlled by Somfy algorithms provide shadow management and sun tracking, automatically tilting to

allow light into the building without the accompanying heat.

This unique façade is the first of its type in Australia and the first in the world to use timber blinds. The automation of the façade was project managed by Somfy, who provided the motors, designed the automation and delivered the electrical installation for the animeo blind control system.

Somfy’s animeo system utilises KNX the global standard for home and building automation along with WebRemote which gives occupants the flexibility to adapt to their needs by overriding the control of blinds in their local area. As its name suggests, WebRemote is a virtual remote control and is accessible at any time through the use of the internet or smartphones.

These developments have led 200 George Street to become one of Australia’s most environmentally advanced and sustainable buildings. The building has been awarded a 6 Star Green Star – Office Design (v3) rating, representing ‘World Leadership’ in environmental sustainability practices, together with a 5 Star NABERS Energy rating.



200 George is one of Australia’s most environmentally advanced and sustainable buildings, leading the way for a new breed of office buildings with its organic and responsive warm timber and glass façade.

Project details

Location:

Sydney, Australia

Type of Building:

Commercial Office 40,000 m²

Owners:

AMP Capital Wholesale Office Fund, Mirvac Property Trust

Architect:

Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp

Builder:

Mirvac Construction

Façade Manufacturer:

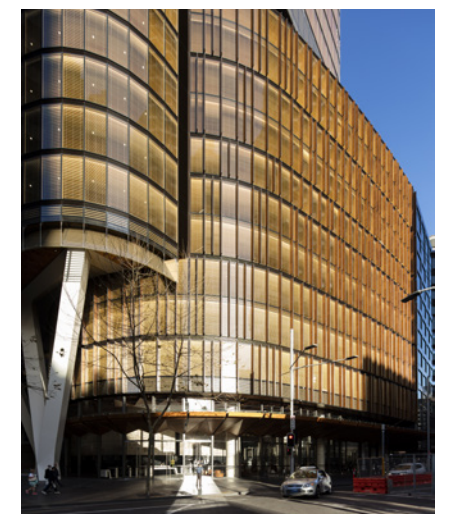
Permasteelisa

End Product:

2,900 Timber Venetian Blinds

Somfy Solution:

animeo KNX Blind Control System, J4 WT Motors





Somfy brings innovation and sustainability



KNX

Somfy's animeo system utilises KNX the global standard for home and building automation.



Sun Tracking

Somfy produced a 365-day model for all parts of the façade meaning the blind control system always knows where the sun is and adjusts the angle of the blades accordingly. This reduces glare and solar loading whilst maximising external views.



Shadow Management

Shadows cast on the façade by surrounding buildings have been mapped using a digital model of 200 George St and the city. Unique shadow management algorithms allow zones that are in shadow to remain open while adjacent zones in sun can close.



Control Strategy

The solar shading control strategy manages the transfer of heat and light into the building reducing energy consumed by the mechanical services. Solar radiation and glare are controlled depending on the location of the sun relative to the building while also maximising external views whenever possible.



Timber Venetian Blinds

Over 2,900 timber venetian blinds are powered by Somfy motors and controls to give an intelligent high-performance façade.



Somfy J4 WT Motors

The universal solution for motorisation of external venetian blinds in residential and commercial buildings.



KNX Motor Controller

The standout feature of the KNX MoCo is that each motor connected to the controller may be individually addressed, providing greater user comfort thanks to its advanced operating mode.



Sensors on Roof

Light sensors are located on the roof of the building and constantly monitor the external light intensity levels.



WebRemote

WebRemote is a virtual remote control and is accessible at any time through the use of the internet or smartphones. If needed, it gives occupants the ability to fine tune the position of the blinds to their needs.



Zones

Windows are grouped into control zones depending on their location on the façade and also the building's fitout. These zones are used for shadow management and WebRemote control.



BMCS Interface

There is a high-level interface which allows the Building Management Control System to read and understand how the façade is reacting to the immediate environmental conditions and potentially adjust the control of the building's mechanical systems.



Somfy – your partner in every phase of the project



Specification

We can assist during the planning stages to make your life just a little easier. Somfy's Project Development experts provide the support you need to meet the requirements of each project and make sure that every solution is correctly specified.



Commissioning

Somfy offers a range of services depending on your project location and size. Our Projects and Services team, including Somfy Electrical Services, a specialist electrical contractor for solar shading installation, supports projects with electrical installation, project commissioning and/or project management.



After-Sales Support

We offer one-off troubleshooting, visits to adjust/optimize settings and check functionality and ongoing maintenance agreements in order to give the solution a long lifespan and optimum performance.

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