

Waikeria Corrections NZ and Treatment Facility



Client: CPB Contractors

Contract Value: \$52.25M

Completion: 2025



MOST ADVANCED NZ FACILITY

LEVEL IL3 SEISMIC COMPLIANCE

Project Overview

The Waikeria Corrections and Treatment Facility is a landmark development located within the existing 1,200-hectare Waikeria Prison site in New Zealand's Waikato region. Spanning 21 hectares, the project delivered 28 new buildings and associated infrastructure to create a purpose-built correctional and treatment facility.

Designed to set new standards in correctional care, the facility provides accommodation for 500 prisoners along with a dedicated secure mental health treatment precinct delivering world-class care for an additional 96 prisoners. Delivered under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, the project was led by a consortium of CIMIC Group companies CPB Contractors and Pacific Partnerships, in collaboration with the New Zealand Government

Our Approach

Over the six-year build, VAE worked hand-in-hand with CPB Contractors, our subcontract partners, and other trades to deliver a fully integrated mechanical services solution. Designed to Importance Level IL3 seismic compliance, every system was engineered and installed to ensure resilience, safety, and long-term performance.

By leveraging the expertise of our in-house engineering and drafting teams across both New Zealand and Australia, we provided a complete design and construct solution, utilising advanced 3D drafting for seamless coordination. Our New Zealand team led the way in project and site management, supported by skilled site labour delivering pipework, ductwork, electrical services, and seismic installations.

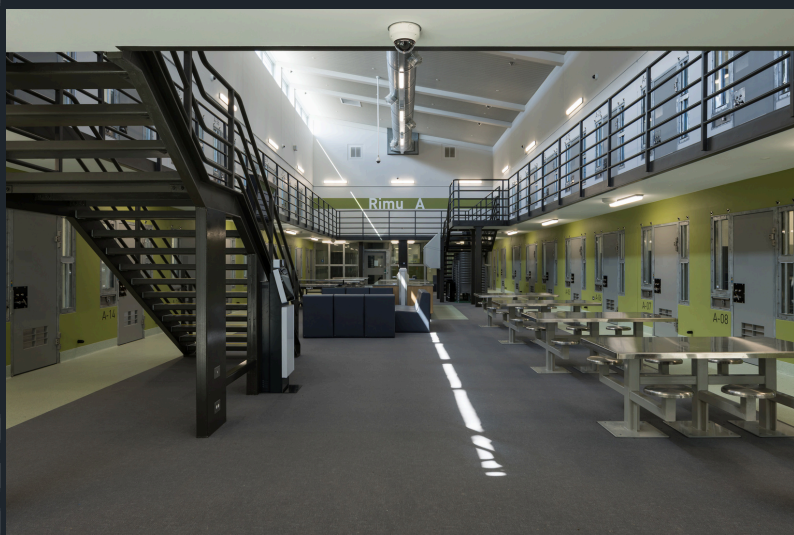




Scope of Works

In 2019, VAE was awarded the contract for Mechanical Services by CPB Contractors. Our scope included:

- Central Chiller Plant – Four air-cooled chillers, chilled water pumps, and pipework connected via seismic couplings to the sitewide underground chilled water distribution system.
- Central Hot Water Generation Plant – Four high-efficiency boilers, ventilation systems, and associated pipework.
- HVAC Systems – Complete design and installation across all 28 buildings, covering administration, cell blocks, education and rehabilitation hub, commercial kitchen, medical centre, visitation spaces, multifaith facilities, and recreational areas including a gym.
- Electrical for Mechanical – Mechanical switchboards (MSSBs), cabling, support systems, and fire system interface.
- Commissioning & Handover – Comprehensive testing and commissioning to meet client requirements.



Solution Outcome

The Waikeria Corrections and Treatment Facility is now one of New Zealand's most advanced correctional and mental health treatment facilities, setting a benchmark for complex, large-scale infrastructure projects. VAE is proud to have contributed to its success through our expertise in mechanical design, engineering, and project delivery.