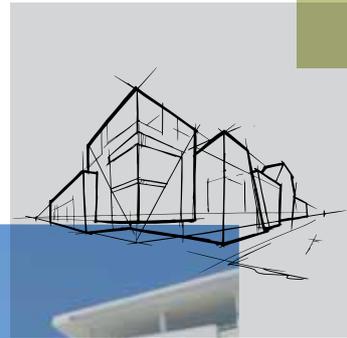
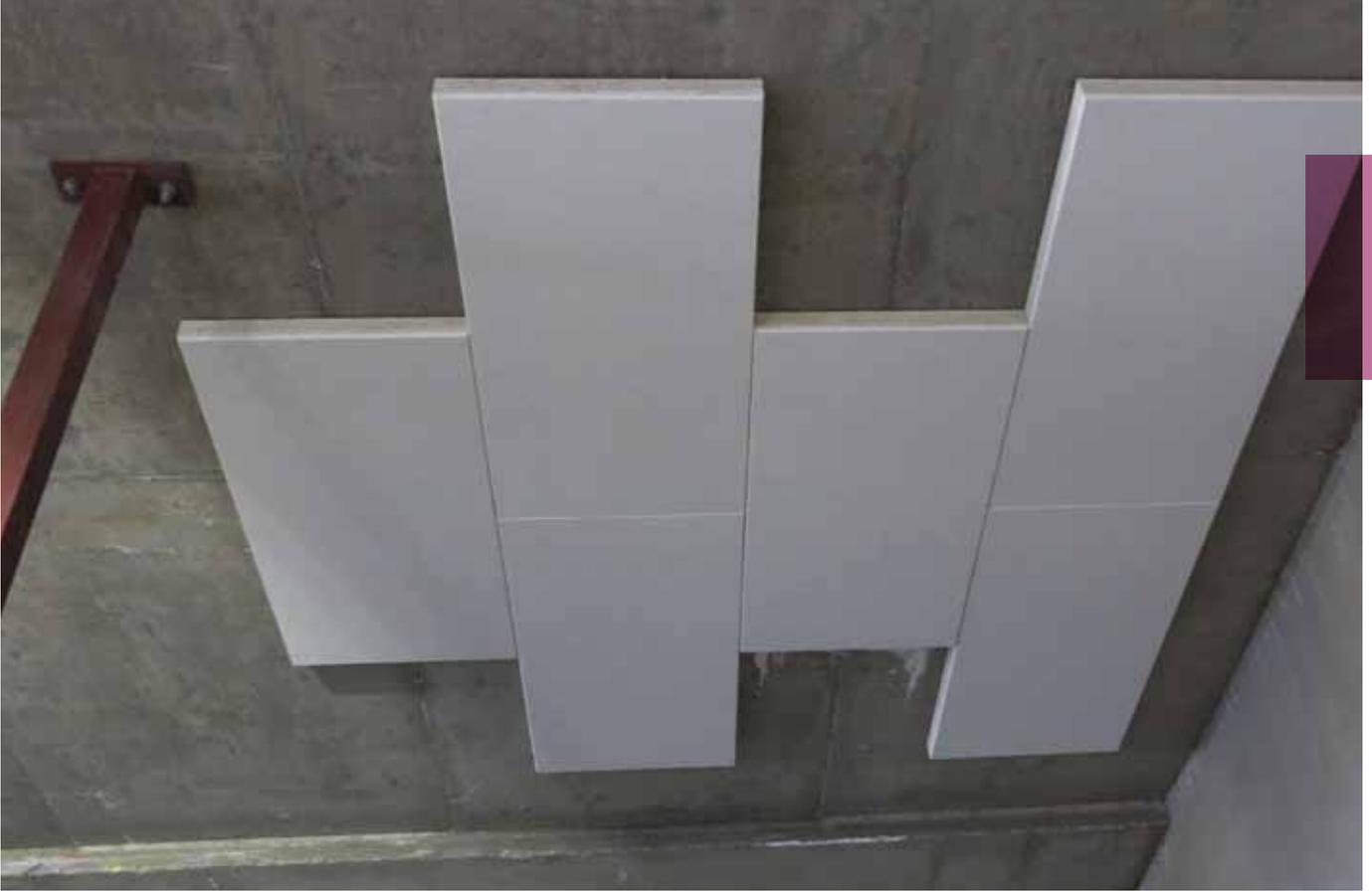


# Parking a Facett at Railway 23

Case study





*The Rockfon Facett tiles adhere directly to the concrete soffit.*

## The Client

Less than four kilometres west of the Perth CBD, along the Perth-Fremantle railway line is the hip inner suburb of Subiaco.

The area has long been home to the indigenous Nyungar people and is now abuzz to a thriving hive of bearded hipsters. Between times came the Benedictine monks who settled the area in 1851 and named their monastery New Subiaco after the birthplace of the Benedictine Order – the town and commune of Subiaco in the metropolitan city of Rome in the region of Lazio.

The art deco era Simon Chugg building at 23 Railway Road sat directly opposite Subiaco station and was purchased by a property

investment group some years ago. Chugg commenced trading in funeral furniture and soft furnishings at the premises in 1897. The shop front was one of Subiaco's oldest retail outlets.

The developer retained the art deco façade of the Simon Chugg building, while incorporating new elements of art deco architecture into a \$7 million mixed-use development, named Railway 23.

Designed by local architects McDonald Jones, the building incorporates ground floor retail, three levels of office space, and luxury apartments on the top floor.



*The direct adhesion method of install makes Rockfon Facett tiles quick and easy to install.*

## The Design & Installation

The Rockfon Facett product was selected for the parking garage soffit to ensure compliance with Section J of the National Construction Code (NCC). The NCC, incorporating the Building Code of Australia (BCA), requires that building work on Classes 2-9 buildings meet minimum energy efficiency requirements under its stringent Section J Energy Efficiency provisions.

Rockfon Facett offers much more than just a thermal solution. It aids in moisture management, enhances acoustic performance and mostly importantly, provides stringent fire compliance.

Railway 23 plastering sub-contractor Barry Reeve is a man that knows his way around a soffit. He credits an apprenticeship served in the U.K. over 30 years ago as a key contributor to his attention to detail, particularly when it comes to delivering an installation that is easy on the eye.

"It was my first exposure to Rockfon Facett soffit panels," says Reeve, "and I found it really easy to work with. Variations are inevitable in new buildings, but I found the ease with which you can chase out grooves to accommodate services that move a real bonus. These changes can be a challenge with more rigid products, but with Rockfon Facett it was a seamless process."

Reeve explains that replacing panels when services move after installation is usually a nightmare for installers. Sections or even entire panels needs to be cut or drilled out, leaving unsightly repairs

and forcing the contractor to waste time redrilling and retaping sections. Reeve explains replacement tiles were incredibly easy to install with the Facett product.

"It is as simple as popping a panel out and replacing it with another one," he adds.

*"It was literally seconds before the tile was able to hold its own weight"*

Barry Reeve, Contractor

The direct adhesion method of install using the specifically developed Rockfon Rockfix glue makes it a lot quicker to install than competitive products that require mechanical fixing and foil taping. It is also less intrusive in terms of disruption as the system eliminates the noise associated with drilling and shot firing. Reeve suggests a hidden gem is that is probably also the cleanest soffit product he has ever worked with.

"I was flabbergasted at just how quickly the Rockfon Rockfix product adhered to the substrate," continues Reeve. "It was literally seconds before the tile was able to hold its own weight and this really assisted with a speedy and less physically taxing installation."

## The Result

Rockfon Facett product is renowned for its performance characteristics and outstanding aesthetic finish.

"As a first time installer, there was some preplanning and forethought required to retain an even, geometric finish," says Reeve. "The thing I would really emphasise to those unfamiliar with a grid style installation is to start with squares in the visually focal mid-point and radiate out to the edges. This retains the sought after geometry in the centre and the tiles on the outer edges can be cut to size if necessary. This is easier than it sounds with today's modern laser measuring devices," he adds reassuringly.

*"I found it really easy to work with"*

Barry Reeve, Contractor

Specifiers are quick converts to the Rockfon Facett direct adhesion method. It has an appealing even finish and this is in no small part due to the absence of fixings and tape in the direct adhesion installation method.

Last word goes to Barry Reeve.

"I would absolutely love to use Rockfon Facett again," he says.

"I have been an installer for decades and I don't think I have ever come across a better product from a contractor perspective."

"More awareness of the product is required at a design level, they need to know just how good this product is," he enthuses.

For more information on the performance, compliance and versatility of Rockfon® Facett™ please go to [www.ais-group.com.au](http://www.ais-group.com.au)

Project:	Railway 23
Location:	Subiaco, WA
Description:	Commercial/Residential multi-level
Architect:	MJA Studio
Sub-Contractor:	BSR Gyproc
Products:	Rockfon Facett - 60mm

Available from:

