

DESIGNER PROFILE - Noel Jessop



Noel Jessop and the Wow factor

Like a vintage red, Noel Jessop's growing body of design work has matured to a point where the judges had to dispense with lesser accolades and uncork the supreme award at this year's ADNZ national conference.

Jessop has won regional and national category awards before but the 2008 entry of a small, tightly packed, infill home in Mt Eden (shown above) finally did the trick where his other more expansive or 'headline' projects had merely tickled the judges' taste buds in earlier years.

The winning home has all the hallmarks of the Jessop label – clean, contemporary geometry, a focus on space and light, modern materials applied for a 'wow' – as well as functional – effect, and bold use of windows and doors to link indoors and outdoors.

"The designer responded to this restricted site with well conceived tight planning," said the judges citation, "which fulfilled the clients' brief to include intimate internal spaces, yet provide the indoor-outdoor connection with the living areas."

Part of Noel Jessop's solution for his clients was a window and door schedule which included wide opening APL Architectural Series corner sliders (see next page), full height second floor sashes (on restrictors) and

an eye-catching six-metre strip window to illuminate a passage way and interior room. (The exterior joinery was supplied by Vantage manufacturer Able Aluminium Ltd).

This direct, decisive approach to joinery configurations mirrors Noel's overall design philosophy – "I take a simple view of forms and elements," he says, "I don't like aesthetically complicated homes, although the most simple looking building can often be the most complicated structurally."

One influence has been the Los Angeles 'case study' homes of the 1940s-50s, which architect luminaries of the day hoped would provide modern, economically constructed dwellings for the post-war generation. The movement's chief motivating force was *Arts & Architecture* editor John Entenza, a champion of modernism who had all the right connections to attract the design world's cleverest up-and-comers. The resulting portfolio of designs has had a pronounced effect on American and international architecture. "I admire their simplicity and what they were able to achieve in small spaces," says Noel. (Continued on page 3)

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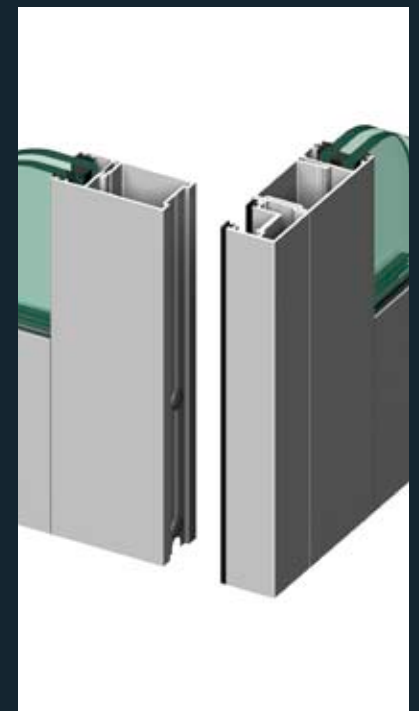


Special Meeting Stiles Used

The corner sliders used at Noel Jessop's award winning Mt Eden project (above) featured special 90-degree meeting stiles that are designed to ensure a highly functional and secure junction with no corner post or exposed screws required.

The units were made from the high performance Architectural Series but corner meeting stiles are also available in APL's mainstream residential ranges as well.

The junction features a meeting stile adapter with a side cavity for the receipt of the opposing door panel (see graphics at right). A lock striker fits in the cavity. This cavity also features a second small striker to receive a locating knob designed to ensure a snug, tight coupling resistant to wind load when the doors are closed and locked.



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The Jessop 'look' has slowly solidified over 10 years as an architectural designer, the last seven as principal of Noel Jessop Architecture. Prior to that he had worked as a draughtsman for four years after graduating from Waikato Polytechnic.

The move to a design role has brought both enjoyment and challenge. "As a designer the biggest satisfaction is dealing with clients – the relationship. At the same time it comes with a strong sense of responsibility – a house at any level is a big investment."

Despite its modest three-person staff, the Jessop practice also has a large commercial focus and has been responsible for several significant projects in Hamilton, including Winger Hamilton, the prominent motor vehicle dealership in Anglesea St (see below).



The award winning Mt Eden home used APL's top tier APL Architectural Series, a window suite that Noel frequently specifies.

"I like its square profile: very sharp, clean – not a lot of add-ons," he says. "It's functional capabilities mean that I can also use it to achieve sizes and formats that are not possible with mainstream residential joinery."

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ABOVE: This Hamilton Home won Noel Jessop the 2007 ADNZ Resene design award (Waikato/BOP, over 250s.q.m). Windows and doors supplied by Vantage manufacturer Huntly Joinery Ltd.

LEFT: Noel Jessop

BELOW: This Hamilton home, supplied by First manufacturer Origin Windows Ltd, was Waikato/BOP award winner in 2005 and received a national highly commended.

BOTTOM, LEFT & RIGHT: Hamilton commercial buildings by Noel Jessop and supplied by Origin Windows Ltd.

