

SEEK PROJECT SOLUTIONS

Project Location
 3 Wellington Street
 St. Kilda
 Melbourne

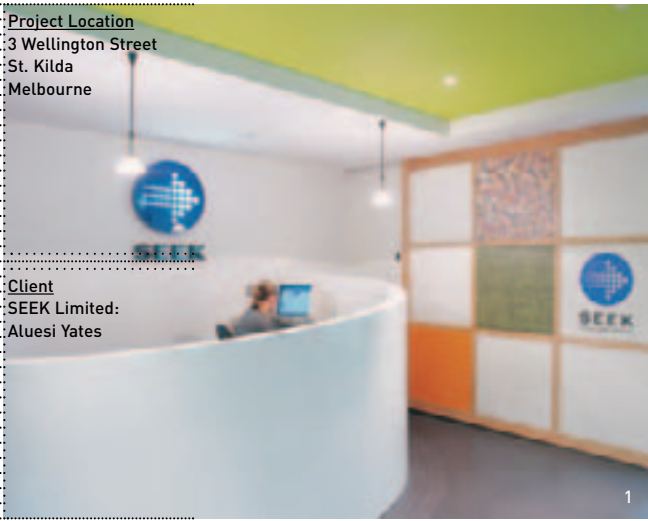
Client
 SEEK Limited:
 Aluesi Yates

Design
 Bruce Henderson
Architects:
 Keith Wright
 Lorraine O'Donnell
 John Lawrence
 Penny Wheeler
 Amanda Thomas

Schiavello Project Solutions
 Peter Thompson
 Charlie Zammit

Schiavello Vic Fitout
 Gary Edwards
 Tommy Virgato
 Zane Danielis

Area
 1,700 m²



1



2

TOP JOB

Named one of Australia's best places to work in the Hewitt Associates 2003 and 2004 Best Employers to Work For, SEEK is committed to developing a creative, flexible and enjoyable workplace for its staff.

Delivering Australia's most popular employment website, SEEK's increased growth expanded beyond their existing Melbourne head office tenancy at Wellington Street, St. Kilda. The company sought Bruce Henderson Architects and Schiavello Project Solutions (responsible for the whole building upgrade), to undertake the 1,700 square-metre refurbishment over two levels at the existing location. The new space was based on an open office approach with integrated breakout areas.

In line with SEEK's market image, the design brief needed to accommodate a young, dynamic team. The company actively promotes itself as a flat structured organisation with a distinctly 'family feel' approach to its office operations, instilling a sense of 'belonging' to staff.

Whilst company disciplines are clearly defined, the frequent use of breakout spaces, some equipped with sport and recreation facilities, further enhance the communal spirit. It is this philosophy of open planned groups separated by communal areas.

The design approach was based on the creation of an informal environment that could be adapted and personalised by users. Since most of the floor spaces are open plan, new partitioning stimulates interest with the use of simple, applied strappings and strong colours to offset this. Building perimeter walls and selected partition walls are low key to allow staff to add their own

posters and messages. Specialised joinery is finished in a variety of materials including feature panels and fusion laminates.

As part of a whole building upgrade, Schiavello stripped the building of all services, including floor coverings to ceilings. Working with the building owners and tenants, Schiavello was able to provide an integrated fitout, designing changes that would provide reduced building running costs. This included rebuilding new ceilings, air-conditioning, lighting, power, voice and data, internal partitions, floor coverings, joinery, workstations and all general furniture. Schiavello were able to deliver the project whilst allowing SEEK to remain functioning during the course of works.

According to Keith Wright of Bruce Henderson Architects, the design characteristics of the project required careful attention to detail and finishing by Schiavello. This has been achieved throughout.