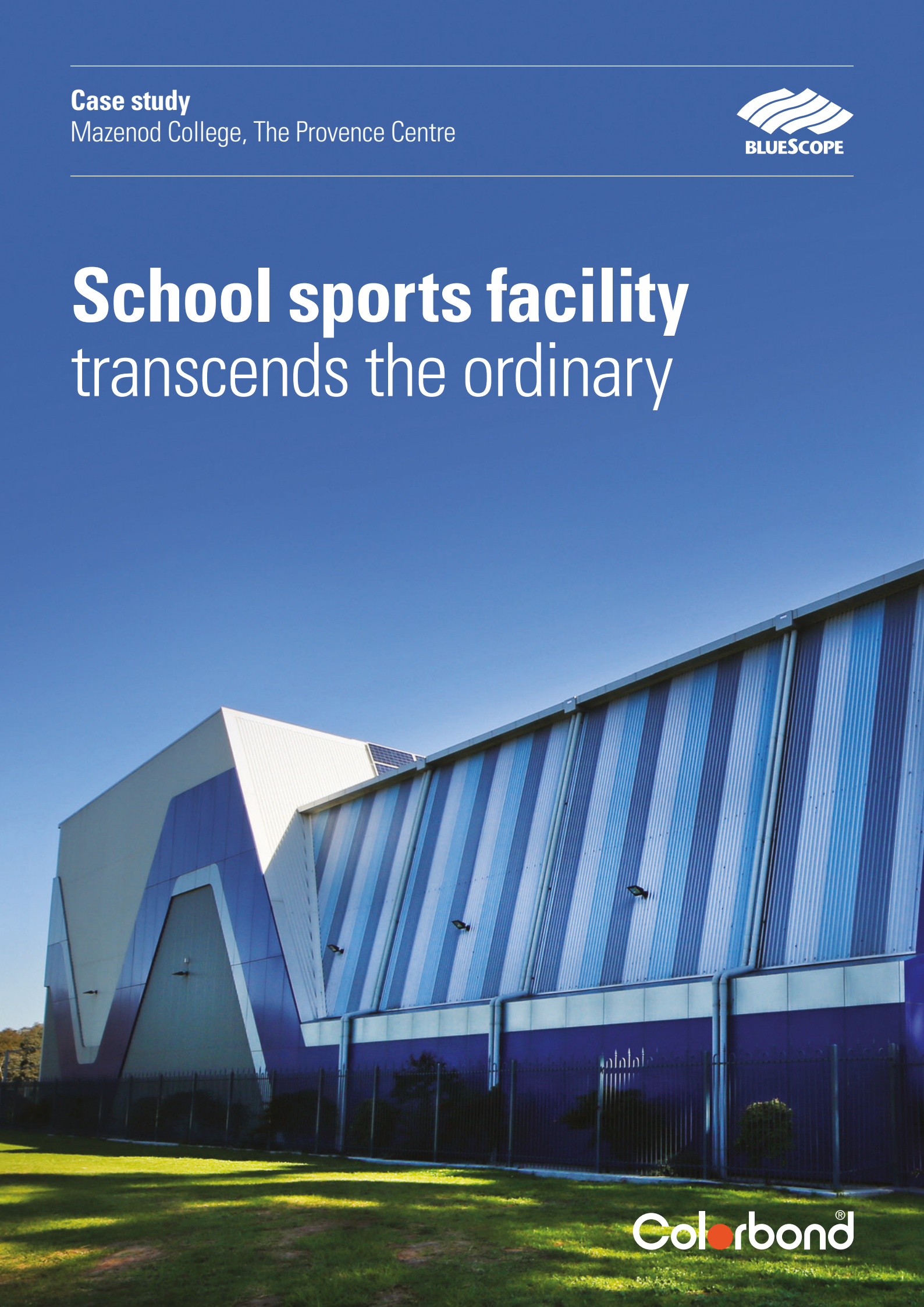
**Case study**
Mazenod College, The Provence Centre

# School sports facility transcends the ordinary



## Case study
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Used to excelling at sports and games, the students of Mazenod College have a new sports facility that surpasses its utilitarian brief to become a triumphant centrepiece for the entire school by harnessing wall cladding made from BlueScope's COLORBOND® Metallic steel.



"BlueScope's COLORBOND® Metallic steel's colour appears to change throughout the day... it has a dynamic effect as the sun passes over it"

**The Provence Centre** at Mazenod College includes an international-standard volleyball court, a basketball court, four badminton courts, two table tennis rooms, a function space for chess, change rooms and a basement car park. It occupies a prominent site on campus, and its size means it can accommodate the entire school population – more than 1500 students and staff – at assemblies.

Having completed several other projects at the College, Latitude Architects principal Tony Cotter said he wanted to push the envelope with this design. "Sports halls can be fairly static buildings, but the use of structural steel allowed us to crank columns and create dramatic cantilevers over the entry to imbue the building with a sense of movement," Mr Cotter said. "The building appears to be leaning over to one side, and the coloured bands of COLORBOND® Metallic steel in the colours Axis®, Facade® and Skybridge® that run around the walls add to the impression that this is anything but a static building."

The Centre was erected quickly and easily, thanks to the use of prefabricated Ritek Building Solutions Ecotek™ insulated panels for the roof. The roof panels incorporate LYSAGHT TRIMDEK® profile made from COLORBOND® steel in the colour Surfmist® on the outer skin and LYSAGHT CUSTOM ORB® profile made from COLORBOND® steel in the colour Surfmist® on the underside.

The Centre's exterior wall panels are made from COLORBOND® Metallic steel in Stramit Longspan® profile, in a combination of three different colours: Axis®, Facade® and Skybridge®. The interior wall is also made from COLORBOND® steel in Stramit Longspan® profile, in this instance in the colour Surfmist®, making a seamless finish.

Mr Cotter said he chose COLORBOND® Metallic steel colours for a number of key reasons. "The COLORBOND® Metallic steel allowed us to create a language on the site using the school's colours," he explains.

"Also, BlueScope's COLORBOND® Metallic steel's colour appears to change throughout the day under different light conditions: it has a dynamic effect as the sun passes over it."

**According to** Ritek Building Solutions' Victorian Account Manager Michael Poort, architects and builders favour the Ecotek™ insulated panels for their flexibility and ease-of-use. "We've done several projects with Tony and he likes the use of colour and to play with angles: he's a very creative architect," Mr Poort said. "We can customise our panels in terms of thickness – to meet various insulation requirements – and outer profiles, and we can use any colour and finish in the COLORBOND® steel range.

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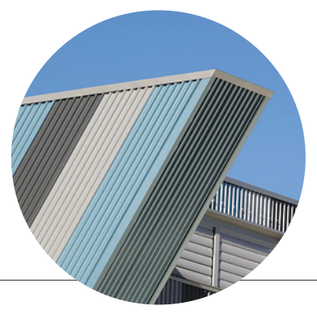

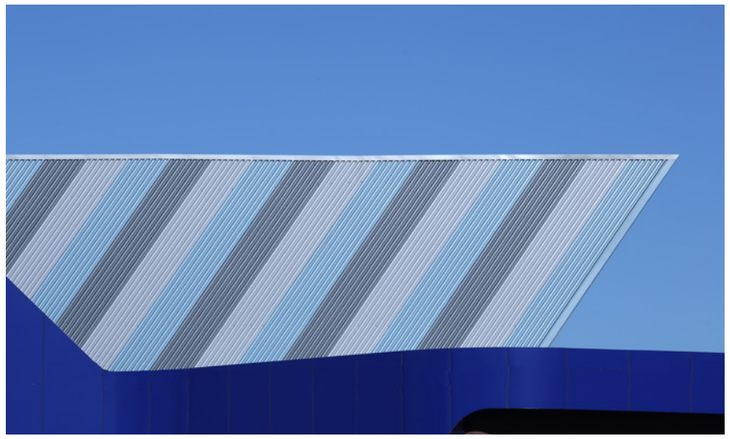

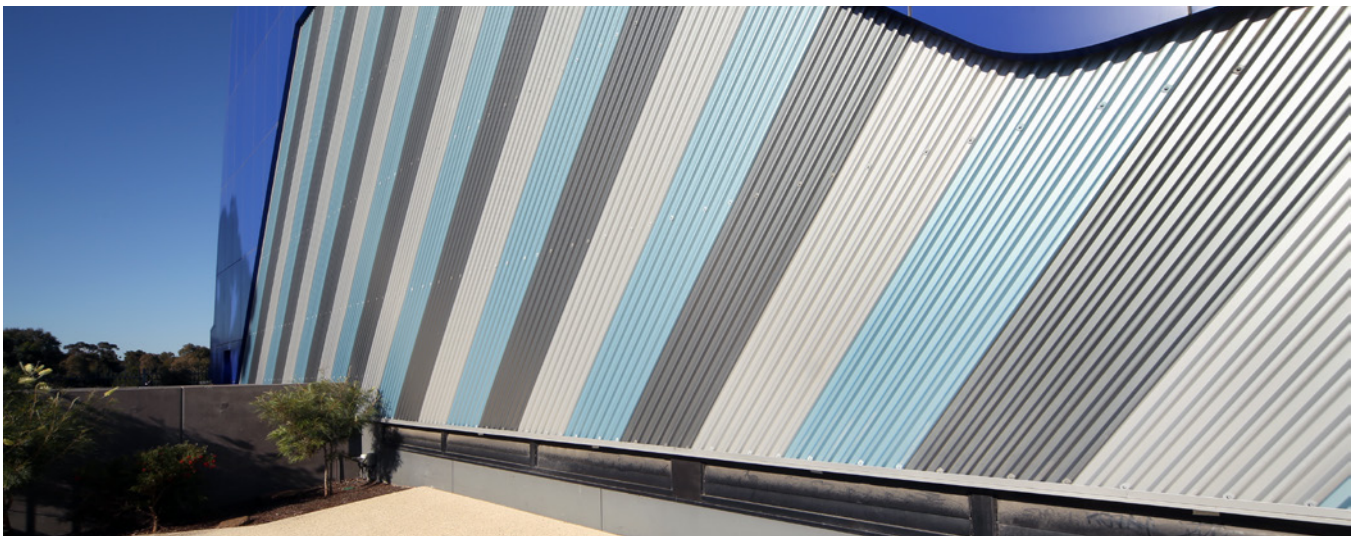

From the outside, the building's striking appearance speaks volumes about the high-level physical and intellectual achievements that take place inside and the building's excellent acoustic and thermal qualities make it a special gathering place for all of the College's students and staff.

"Using COLORBOND® Metallic steel on a project such as this is somewhat unusual, and the decision to do so was driven by the architect who was keen to produce a unique building," Mr Poort adds. "I think Latitude Architects has created an eye-catching design, particularly for a school environment, where buildings can often be a bit bland."

Mr Poort added that another key selling point of Ritek Building Solutions Ecotek™ panels is their considerable spanning capacity that reduces the need for structural steel. "There are no purlins at all in this project: the panels stand between structural steel members," he said. "The Ritek Ecotek™ insulated panels were brought to site pre-fabricated to size and craned into place at an amazingly fast rate. We estimate about 400 square metres of product was installed per day."

Mr Cotter agreed that speed-of-installation was a major advantage. "The construction phase went very well on this job, which is part of the benefit of building everything in steel," he said. "The Ritek Building Solutions panels helped to cut down on construction time, which was important because the school continued to operate during the 12-month build period.

"Most importantly, using Ritek Building Solutions Ecotek™ panels in this project allowed us to meet the Building Code of Australia's Section J (energy efficiency) requirements in an inexpensive way," he added. "In fact, they were so cost-effective that we were able to improve the building's performance with additional internal acoustic linings and still deliver the project under budget. That enhanced the performance of the hall as a gathering space so they can now conduct Mass in the Centre, which has great acoustics."

**From the outside**, the building's striking appearance speaks volumes about the high-level physical and intellectual achievements that take place inside. But that kudos is not just confined to those with sporting or chess prowess: the building's excellent acoustic and thermal qualities make it a special gathering place for all of the College's students and staff.

"We really wanted to achieve something special on this project, and steel allowed us to do it," Mr Cotter said. "We're very proud of this building."

**Project details**

**Project:** Mazenod College, The Provence Centre
**Location:** Mulgrave, Victoria
**Principal steel products:** Roofing: Ritek Building Solutions Ecotek™ panel made from COLORBOND® steel in LYSAGHT TRIMDEK® profile, in the colour Surfmist®, on the exterior skin and made from COLORBOND® steel in LYSAGHT CUSTOM ORB® profile in the colour Surfmist® on the underside; Wall cladding: made from COLORBOND® Metallic steel in Stramit Longspan® profile in the colours Axis®, Facade® and Skybridge®; Wall interiors made from COLORBOND® Metallic steel in Stramit Longspan® profile, in in the colour Surfmist®
**Architect:** Latitude Architects
**Builder:** Devco Project Management and Construction
**Engineer**: MacLeod Consulting
**Steel fabricator:** Barra Steel
**Cladding contractor:** Sun Installations
**Client:** Mazenod College
**Project cost:** $9.7 million
**Photographer:** Ben Wrigley

steel.com.au/colorbond
To learn more about COLORBOND® steel

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