



MASTER GLAZIER PROJECT PROFILES

REECE VAN VLIET

Reece joined the AGWA Master Glazier program in 2016 and is employed with Express Glass in Alexandria, NSW. The project Reece has chosen to highlight is the replacement of a fully framed floor to ceiling window in the Australia Square Building in Sydney, and he explains it as follows:

The project was the replacement of a fully framed floor to ceiling window in the lobby of Australia Square in Sydney in February 2019. This is an iconic premium commercial building in the heart of the Sydney CBD. The existing glass, 12 mm annealed measuring 7000 mm x 2450 mm, had been damaged by impact from debris from nearby construction activity. The new glass was engineered being 17.52 mm Heat Strengthened Laminated with a structural interlayer.

Our regular crew from Botany Cranes helped us with material handling and enabled glazing off the hook from the concealed laneway down one level and outside the building perimeter.

There were many challenges involved with the project. First, due to the size of the glass and exceeding local manufacturing capabilities, the supply

of the glass was from offshore, which meant that there could be a delay beyond our control. Another big challenge was that the site had no access from the street due to ongoing light rail development. Thus, all access equipment and materials needed to be craned from a concealed laneway adjoining the building, including scissor lifts and all glass and materials. This, of course, led to increased risk for both the people and the products involved.

There were so many things in this project that made it very rewarding and that I am proud of; cutting out annealed glass in such a large setting is rare and certainly not commonly encountered by the new generation. The material handling in such a challenging environment imposed by the construction of the light rail, while maintaining safety standards is also something that makes me proud. The care of the site shown by the team was excellent, with full internal and external protection of all surfaces implemented before the commencement of work. Finally, we had a thrilled client, and that is what matters.

If you would like to know more about this project or the products used, please contact Reece van Vliet at Express Glass.

