

ZIPTRAK'S SEASONAL SOLUTION TRANSFORMS RURAL EATERY

A large commercial job finished late last year in conjunction with retailer Alfresco Blind Company; Wyndham Cache in rural Werribee, South of Melbourne, presented an opportunity for the Ziptrak system to showcase its adaptability in fulfilling the design brief and meeting the customer's needs.



Wyndham Cache is a farm-gate restaurant and function space with a large alfresco dining area overlooking rural surroundings. A unique mix of cafe, restaurant and gourmet produce store, the client project required consideration of a number of factors in order to achieve an effective outcome.

Although the restaurant itself was not a new build, the client had been searching for a solution to create a comfortable dining space in both winter and summer seasons, whilst still maintaining the view of the Cache's beautiful surrounds. After consultation with Alfresco Blind Company, working closely with authorised Ziptrak fabricator All Weather Blinds, it was the flexibility of the Ziptrak system that met the client's demands.

Ziptrak Marketing and Communications Officer Jason Battista confirms that despite navigating substantial height requirements, a successful end result was reached with fourteen Ziptrak systems, all between 2.1 to 3.0 metres in width, installed at a height of three metres. The Ash Outlook Mode PVC mesh was utilised due to its ability

to provide protection from the elements in all seasons, as well as its suitable material weave, necessary to maintain picturesque views.

"The remaining open spaces of the spans above the hoodboxes (pelmets), around 1.2 metres above each blind, were enclosed with custom fixed panels in matching Ash Outlook Mode mesh. The end product meant easily operated Ziptrak systems were installed, without disruptive joins in the material skins, whilst still meeting the client's needs."

"With a number of design concerns to consider, including structural steel 'I' Beams as the primary fixings on each side of the blinds, the experience of Alfresco Blind Company and All Weather Blinds was integral to the success of the job," says Battista. "The need for a number of fixings to be installed in order for the Ziptrak system to effectively operate was a painless task that maintained the aesthetics of the location. Although the angles of the space meant that the vertical side fixings ran at almost 45 degrees, rather than straight up and down, the Ziptrak system was

easily manipulated to suit these obscure requirements."

"Once the client had been introduced to the Ziptrak System by Alfresco Blind Company, the project took just six weeks from the initial quotation until project completion, including three days of labour on site, along with meticulous planning. Consultation between, client, retailer and fabricator meant few hiccups, if any, over the course of the roll out. The Ziptrak system achieved an attractive and functional finish to a project requiring almost 165 square metres of space to be covered, and a number of design characteristics that required attention."

A quality finished product also meant that the capabilities of the client's restaurant, in terms of seating capacity and functionality of the space, was almost doubled along with the ability to utilise the area year round without obstructing or impeding the location's views.

Battista adds that with an increased capacity to provide a comfortable customer experience, the financial outlay for the systems was accounted

for in a short period of time due to the area's increased capacity.

"The restaurant staff can easily transform the space into an enclosed area at a moment's notice, and operate each blind itself to customise the immediate conditions to the individual customer's preferences. By pushing the spring-balanced blind to any height, the customer can protect themselves from wind, rain or sun at any time."