



# Shipping container café wins design award

A North Shore café with a unique design philosophy has taken out the supreme title at the 2013 ADNZ Resene Architectural Design Awards.

Constructed from four shipping containers, the striking Long Bay Showroom and Café by Cameron Cotton of Cubular was named best architectural design from 130 entries across New Zealand.

ADNZ general manager Astrid Andersen says the judges were delighted to see an entry which tackles the housing affordability crisis. "This design is robust, environmentally sustainable, energy efficient, affordable and relocatable. It is also beautifully designed and constructed.

"The industrial nature of the shipping containers has been embraced, left unclad and painted with heavy duty matt black container paint.

"It is a beautiful mix of solid, ribbed, robust steel combined with smooth, translucent glass. ADNZ encourages all of its designers to look at solutions to New Zealand's building problems – particularly designs which are as simple and as elegant as this one."

Though 'Long Bay Showroom and Café' is a commercial design, Cotton's company Cubular has produced a suite of residential and commercial designs that aim to provide an answer to housing affordability.

Each design is custombuilt, innovative, well designed and can be shipped and relocated to anywhere in the world.

The company uses a combination of 20ft and 40ft, single and multi-level shipping containers in their designs.

A Bay of Plenty bach Mr Cotton designed using the same design and construction principles won the ADNZ Resene Architectural residential compact new home up to 150m<sup>2</sup> design award at the Bay of Plenty regional awards.

Eco-conscious, compact and created from a 40 ft shipping container clad in cedar and black powder coated aluminium, the total construction cost of the Cubular bach was only \$85,000.

Judges of the ADNZ Resene Architectural Design Awards were Duncan Joiner, Tony van Raat and Italian architect Caterina Steiner.

The judges said of the Long Bay Showroom

+ Café, "This building reflects the systems approach, to the procurement of buildings, is essential in situations like the Christchurch rebuild, where large numbers of buildings were needed in a hurry.

"These buildings can be factory-prefabricated and moved on to site. This building ended up looking far, far better than you would expect the assemblage of containers to look."

The ADNZ Resene Architectural Design Awards were held in Dunedin at a gala awards dinner.

The awards recognise successful design in residential and commercial architecture across a range of categories including new homes, multi-unit dwellings, interiors, alterations and additions and industrial design.

In addition to the supreme award winner, six designers from across the country were awarded national awards for their designs.

Waikato had a strong presence with three designers from the region coming away with awards.

Designers from Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland also each took home one of the prized awards.

A Waikato home, the Campbell house designed by Kris Wilson of Design House Architecture Ltd won the residential compact new home up to 150m<sup>2</sup>.

The Residential New Home between 150-300m<sup>2</sup> award went to Potter Hart House in Wellington by Brynn McCauley of BMC Design Ltd. Christchurch architectural designer Cymon Allfrey of Cymon Allfrey Architects took out the residential new home over 300m<sup>2</sup> award. A Waikato home, the Blake Residence, designed by Diana Blake of Diana Blake Design won the residential interiors architectural design award.

The residential alterations and additions architectural design award went to an Auckland home, a Rothesay Bay house designed by Mark McLeay/ Daniel Eiem of Creative Arch.

RA Design Studio by Tane Cox of Red Architecture in the Waikato won the best commercial interior award.

More than 130 entries were received from architects and architectural designers across the country.



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## Long Bay Showroom and Café \



Long Bay Showroom and Café was designed by Cameron Cotton of Cubular.

The cafe is perched on the hill of the North Shore, Auckland and looks out over the Gulf Harbour.

It has been fabricated from four shipping containers and a glass atrium.

Two 40ft containers have been joined and large holes were cut out of each side opening up the containers to house a full commercial kitchen, two bathrooms and a seated area. Steel

beams and frames were welded back in to the container to ensure structural integrity.

Large stacker slider doors frame the panoramic view and open out to a large decked area with more cafe seating covered by shade sails.

The building has been designed to be taken apart a further three times and relocated around the subdivision. The total construction cost was \$400,000.