

URBAN

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PUSHING THE BOUNDARY

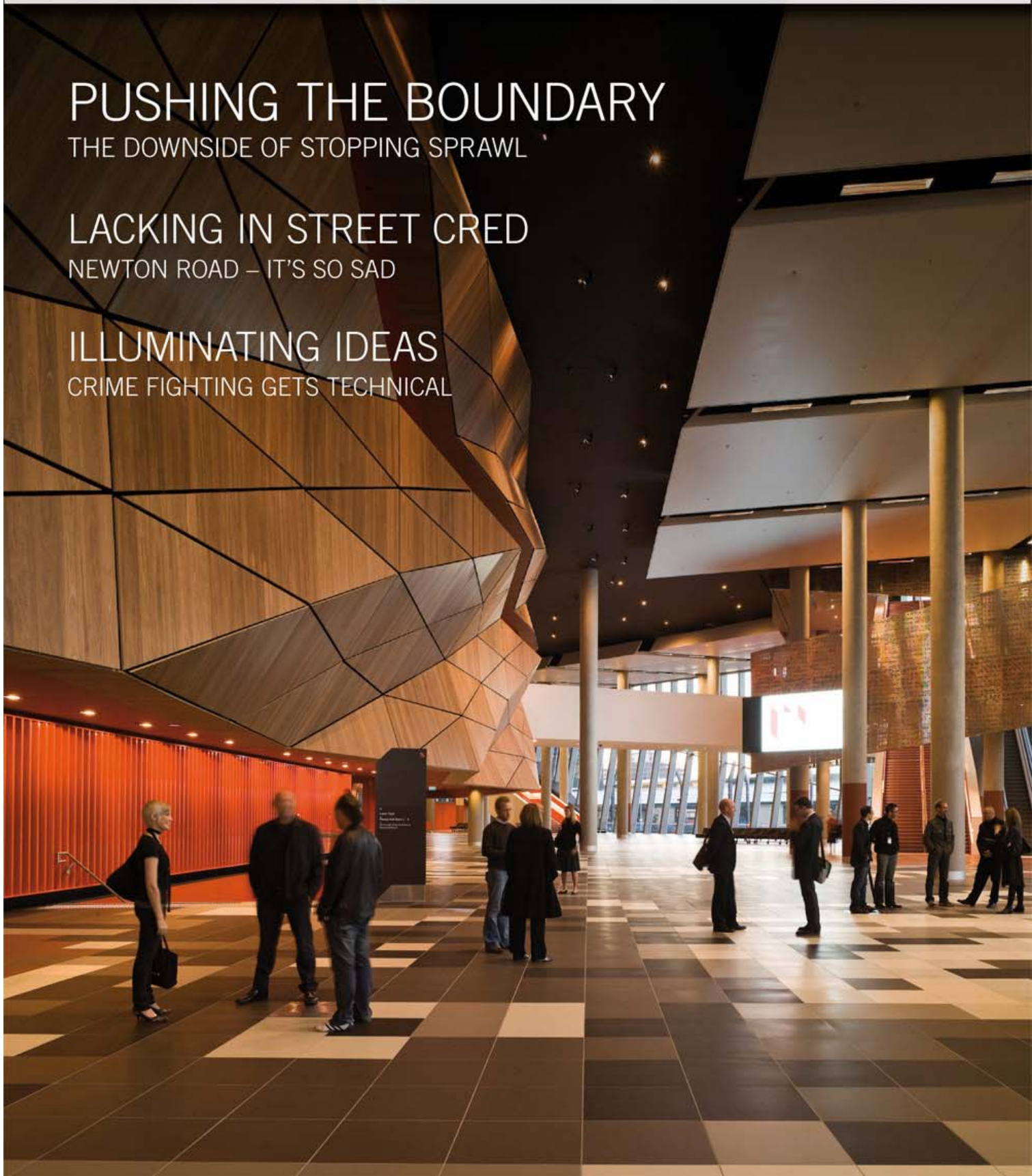
THE DOWNSIDE OF STOPPING SPRAWL

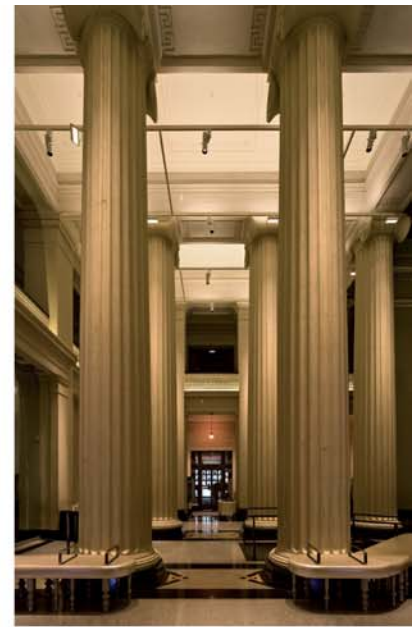
LACKING IN STREET CRED

NEWTON ROAD – IT'S SO SAD

ILLUMINATING IDEAS

CRIME FIGHTING GETS TECHNICAL





Museum shines out like a beacon

Auckland's much-loved War Memorial Museum has been given some LED 'jewellery' to brighten it up of an evening.

The Montreal-based lighting design company Lightemotion has installed 400 LED fixtures using between 50 and 74 watts per unit, but it says the power they use accounts for only 1 per cent of the building's annual energy consumption.

Both the outside of the building and its magnificent grand foyer have benefited from the lighting project and Lightemotion founder François Roupinian says the project always had to be viable in terms of energy consumption.

He says beyond that aspect of the project, the most important aim was to

deliver a design that was traditional yet adaptable, given the museum's protected heritage status.

However, his company was still able to provide a lighting system that can readily be programmed to create the ambience for whichever event is being held there.

Part of this rejuvenation project was to also include a design for the Museum's Grand Foyer and its neo-colonial columns. The columns have been illuminated to increase the dramatic effect of their sheer size, and Roupinian says the result has given the "rich and diverse" museum another dimension. **U**

Melbourne Convention Centre chalks up wins in design awards

The Melbourne Convention Centre has been named overall winner of the 2009 BPN Sustainability Awards and is the category winner of the prestigious Public Building and Urban Design award.

Judges said: "This project provides positive urban design outcomes, including improved connectivity. It avoids the typical black box concept of a convention centre and opens up the surrounds to include mixed uses to better activate the precinct."

The winner of a string of recent environmental awards, the Melbourne Convention Centre is the brainchild of Joint Venture Architects Woods Bagot and NH Architecture and has been built from the

ground up with the environment in mind.

An 18 metre glass facade provides the convention centre's foyer with an abundance of natural light and sweeping views of the Yarra River and Melbourne city skyline.

Additional environmental features include the sustainable use of building materials; the first privately funded black water treatment plant in a public building in Australia; solar hot water systems; displacement ventilation; and radiant slab heating and cooling.

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre's chief executive, Leigh Harry, said the awards were testament to the stunning design and environmental features of the Melbourne Convention Centre which opened in June this year.

"As the world's first '6 Star Green Star' environmentally rated convention centre - this is one of the most impressive architectural and environmental buildings in Australia and a public building that truly reflects the city it occupies." **U**