

Capability Statement.

"100% Indigenous Owned, Managed and Operated"

"Specialising in Construction, Developments and Defence Projects in NT & SA"

AKJ SERVICES



Acknowledgement of Country.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters on which we live, work and meet, including the Larrakia People of the Darwin region and the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise their continuing connection to Country, culture, community and heritage, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and acknowledge those visiting from other regions who may be present today.

Our Mission.

AKJ Services are committed to delivering quality and comprehensive civil construction and development services whilst exceeding our client's expectations.

Being a local Indigenous owned, managed and operated company, we are dedicated to building professional and long-lasting relationships with our clients.

We are committed to provide training and career development opportunities to our people.

Our Vision.

To provide career opportunities for our family and other Larrakia people that will last generations. Building a business that be giving back to our community while making a difference.



"A multi-award winning building and civil construction company, with over ≥$110M of works delivered for Defence and an average annual turnover of ≥$40m. Locally recognised 100% Aboriginal owned and managed company operating in the NT and Nationally with self-performing capability and capacity.

Our team includes experienced project managers, engineers, site supervisors and operational teams to deliver Defence projects."

A 100% owned and managed Larrakia Aboriginal business, dedicated to fostering opportunities for local businesses to enhance their capabilities through employment and supply chain. Proudly boasting:

- *30% Aboriginal Employment*
- *18% Female Employment*
- *12% Apprentices*

Our Story.

AKJ Services is a 100% Larrakia female owned, managed and controlled civil construction company. We deliver across three streams: Civil, Development and Defence.

Established in 2018, AKJ Services has grown a strong reputation for successful project delivery and capable project management. Our relationship contracting approach is nuanced by our Larrakia cultural protocols and social impact benefits across employment and supply chain opportunities.

As a Territory family company we have a unique, internal management structures and systems that make us the right fit for any client. AKJ Services is known for flexibility, dynamism, skill, speed, quality and efficiency.

Our Directors.



Jessie Risk

Managing Director, BTchLn

Bachelor of Teaching, 2024 NAIDOC Northern Territory Woman of the Year, 2023 NAWIC NT Crystal Vision Award Winner, 2022 NTIBN Female Business Leader and Business of the Year award winner.

Jessie Risk is a proud Larrakia Aboriginal woman, entrepreneur, property developer, and the Founder and Managing Director of AKJ Services. Since establishing the business in 2018, she has led AKJ's growth into one of the Northern Territory's leading Indigenous-owned civil construction companies, delivering major civil, development, and Defence infrastructure projects across the Territory.

Under Jessie's leadership, AKJ has grown to employ more than 100 personnel and operate a fleet of over 180 pieces of plant and machinery. She provides strategic direction across all areas of the business, including governance, business development, financial performance, workforce development, and long-term growth planning.

Passionate about creating opportunities for Indigenous people and Territorians, Jessie actively supports Indigenous business growth, mentors emerging entrepreneurs, and contributes to community initiatives across the Territory. Her leadership, industry achievements, and commitment to making a positive impact continue to drive AKJ's success while inspiring future generations of business leaders.



Antal Reti

Director, BEng (Hons)

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control (IECA), Diploma of Project Management, Contract Management Registered by Building Practitioner NT (unrestricted).

Antal Reti is a Director of AKJ Services and has been instrumental in the company's growth since its establishment in 2018. Working alongside his partner, Jessie Risk, Antal has helped build AKJ into one of the Northern Territory's leading Indigenous-owned civil construction companies through strong leadership, strategic planning, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

With more than 18 years of industry experience, Antal is a highly accomplished Project Director and Manager with extensive expertise in civil construction, infrastructure, land development, and project delivery. His comprehensive understanding of technical, operational, and commercial project requirements enables him to successfully oversea various projects from concept and estimation through to completion.

As both a business leader and developer, Antal drives innovation, estimating, business improvement initiatives, and project delivery across AKJ's diverse portfolio. Known for his practical problem-solving ability and forward-thinking approach, he continues to play a key role in identifying opportunities, improving project outcomes, and supporting the company's ongoing growth and success.

Our Team.



Richie Ward

General Manager, BEng

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control (IECA), 10+ years as Regional Manager of a National Company overseeing operations in WA, Victoria, SA and NT.

Richie Ward is the General Manager and Chief Estimator at AKJ Services, bringing more than 22 years of experience in civil construction, infrastructure delivery, urban development and executive leadership from across Australia. Richie is a qualified and highly experienced Civil Engineer, successfully leading delivery of major civil, transport and land development projects throughout the Northern Territory, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.

Having progressed through engineering, project management and senior leadership roles, Richie has extensive expertise in estimating, strategic planning, commercial management, project delivery and operational leadership. Throughout his career, he has overseen large-scale business growth, managed multi-disciplinary teams of more than 100 personnel, and led the successful delivery of some of Northern Australia's most significant infrastructure and residential development projects.

Since joining AKJ Services in 2022, Richie has played an integral role in driving the company's growth and project success, providing strategic direction, commercial oversight and leadership across the business. He is recognised for his strong technical expertise, practical leadership style and commitment to delivering safe, high-quality outcomes for clients and communities while championing local participation, Indigenous employment, training and workforce development initiatives which is why he makes such a good fit with AKJ Services.



Kris Zechef

Operations Manager - SA & NT

Certificate IV in Leadership and Management, 25+ years of Industry Experience.

With more than 25 years of experience across the civil construction, mining, and infrastructure sectors, Kris brings exceptional operational leadership and industry expertise to AKJ Services. Having successfully delivered projects throughout Western Australia, the Northern Territory, and South Australia, he has developed a reputation for driving performance, efficiency, and project success across diverse and challenging environments.

As Operations Manager, Kris provides strategic oversight of AKJ's people, plant, logistics, and resources across multiple projects, locations, and jurisdictions. His extensive experience spans major developments, bulk earthworks, mining infrastructure, and general construction, giving him a comprehensive understanding of project delivery from planning through to completion.

Kris combines strong commercial acumen with proven capabilities in risk management, capital expenditure (CapEx) planning, and operational optimisation. His ability to coordinate complex project requirements while maintaining a focus on safety, quality, and productivity is instrumental in supporting the continued growth and success of AKJ Services.

Renowned for his organisation, attention to detail, and hands-on leadership style, Kris ensures the seamless day-to-day operation of the business, providing clients and project teams with confidence that every aspect of delivery is managed to the highest standard.

Our Team.



John Klaas
Construction Manager

Bachelor of Engineering (civil) (Hons).

John has 35 years' experience in urban and rural civil design and construction across multiple States and Territories in Australia. He has been employed across all sectors including Local and Northern Territory Government, various construction companies and as a consultant. Since 2005 John has lived and worked across all Regions of the Northern Territory with vast knowledge of the working conditions in both urban and remote locations. John's passion for the Construction Industry is demonstrated through his commitment with 4 years as a board member followed by his current 4 years of presidency of the Civil Construction Federation of the Northern Territory.

Suzie Myerscough
Systems/HR Manager

Certificate IV in Workplace Health and Safety & 15+ years of Industry.

Suzie joined the AKJ Services team in June 2024 as the Systems and Human Resources Manager with over 15 years' experience in the construction industry. She has spent most of her recent career delivering systems, work health and safety and HR services across Australia for a National construction company. Her knowledge and experience provides effectiveness and necessary risk management through Business systems and processes (incl. HSEQ), reviewing business systems for suitability, fit for purpose, best quality & affordability and; Human Resources: onboarding of new employees, employment contracts, personnel records management, employee support and guidance, coordination of staff training needs, ensuring adequately trained staff in the business systems, have the competencies to do their job and managing training resources as well as Reporting.



Brendan Lam
Project Manager, Civil

Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Diploma of Project Management & 15+ years of Industry.

Brendan has been a Project Manager in the construction industry since 2015 having prior been a site engineer and gaining key experience for delivery for a large national construction company. He brings with him to AKJS experience delivering to clients such as the Australian and Northern Territory Government as well as private developers. Brendan's personal reputation for project delivering in the Northern Territory has seen him manage his own consultancy company delivering Project Management on behalf of Power and Water as well as Airport Development Group.

Our Team.



Matt Christophers
Project Manager, Civil, Building, Defence

Bachelor of Engineer (Civil) & Diploma of Project Management

Matt joined the AKJS team in June 2025 as a Project Manager, bringing with him over 20+ years of experience in civil construction and project delivery. Matt has an extensive knowledge of EWP projects, Defence Stakeholders and the processes surrounding delivery on the Defence Estates from his role with JLL.

Matt is a highly skilled Project Manager, having managed and delivered a diverse range of projects across the Northern Territory and South Australia, he demonstrates an understanding of the regional conditions, logistical challenges and client expectations. Matt has led and mentored teams to provide superior problem solving and delivery with a focus on outcomes.

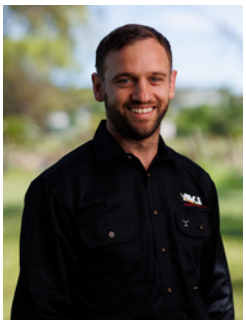
He is skilled at foreseeing and heading off issues and provides confidence through rigorous risk management and quality assurance. He has managed multiple projects from initiation phase to completion of the project lifecycle, while managing consultants, designers, budgets, resources, procurement and stakeholders to deliver the highest quality construction product.



David Ward
Project Manager, Civil

Bachelor of Engineer (Civil) & Bachelor of Business (Banking and Finance).

David began his career in 2012 and is a highly experienced Project Manager and Engineer. He has worked with a diverse range of clients on large scale infrastructure and land development projects across Queensland, Western Australia, Northern Territory and Victoria. David has demonstrated the ability to build robust relationships with stakeholders and contractors to achieve project deliverables and milestones effectively. He also applies the highest priority on health, safety and environmental management systems across projects to ensure efficiency and compliance to HSEQ requirements and regulations. David is highly competent and a strong member of project teams, with demonstrated ability of project operations entailing project and construction planning and integrations, schedules and subcontractor work scopes, cost control, resource utilisation and risk management. He brings a vast degree of knowledge and extensive experience acquired across a variety of multi-disciplinary projects including subdivisions, residential estate developments and major and minor road upgrades.



Geoff Holcombe
Project Manager, Civil

Bachelor of Engineering & Bachelor of Information Technology.

Geoff is an experienced professional with engineering and managerial experience with extensive exposure delivering civil and infrastructure works (including sewer) on existing infrastructure. Having experience with project managing large sewer works coupled with AKJS defence readiness and defence processes in place ensures Geoff will achieve high quality outcomes and meet program deliverables, while maintaining environmental and safety standards. Geoff's strong interpersonal and leadership skills allow him to interact effectively with clients, as well as being highly respected by his colleagues.

Our Team.



Shane Ratcliff
Project Manager, Civil

Bachelor of Engineering (Civil).

Shane is a skilled Project Engineer with over seven years of experience in civil construction. He possesses a diverse background in handling projects across multiple sectors, including defence, residential and civil construction. Shane has been involved in various Northern Territory defence projects, such as the Larrakeyah Defence Precinct Redevelopment Program (LDPRP) project and the construction of a new access road at RAAF Base Tindal. He has also worked on larger projects, including the successful completion of BMD's Donnybrook Road Upgrade in Melbourne, which was valued at $32 million. Shane is a highly valued member of our project teams, and he consistently impresses with his exceptional performance, continual growth and natural leadership in his role as a Project Engineer. Shane is well-versed in project operations and plays an instrumental role in the day-to-day activities of the project. He collaborates seamlessly with subcontractors to ensure timely delivery of contractual requirements and successful project outcomes. His exceptional work ethic, extensive civil engineering knowledge, and strong interpersonal and communication skills make him an indispensable asset to every project.



Naveen Pulipati
Engineer, Building and Civil

Master's Degree Civil & Structural Engineering.

Naveen joined AKJ Services in 2021 as a graduate engineer and has been a project engineer on multiple large projects, growing from strength to strength with the support of AKJ Services' extensive engineering team. He is highly competent and a strong member of the project teams, with demonstrated ability of understanding project requirements, and knowledge of quality management and testing.

Having completed his fifth defence project with AKJS, he is across all requirements for defence and is confident in interpreting the relevant project documents and testing requirements for quality.



Anthony Mustica
Engineer, Building and Civil

Bachelor of Engineering Civil & Infrastructure (Honours)

Anthony joined AKJ Services in 2026 as a Project Engineer, bringing over four years of experience delivering complex infrastructure projects across the road, water, energy and defence sectors in Australia and the UK. He has strong experience in both Design & Construct (D&C) and Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) projects, with demonstrated capability across tendering, design coordination, procurement and project delivery.

Anthony is a proactive and detail-oriented engineer with strong skills in cost control, risk management and construction planning. He works collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams to deliver safe, high-quality outcomes while supporting efficient project delivery and continuous improvement.

Our Team.



Ash Barnett
Project Coordinator / HOTO Manager

Cert IV in Project Management, HOTO Specialist, 2025 NAWIC NT Winner of the Leadership and Mentoring Award.

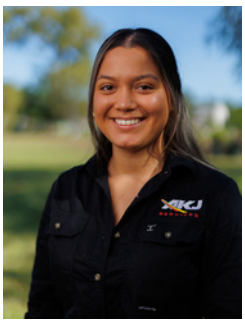
Ash has over 12 years of experience in construction and project delivery, with extensive knowledge of Hand Over, Take Over (HOTO) processes and Defence Stakeholders. She has facilitated the delivery of over 500 projects in her role with Defence Project Support Services (PSS) Ventia, gaining a deep understanding of the processes surrounding delivery on the Defence Estate. Ash has now taken carriage of the AKJ Services portion of HOTO and the associated deliverables. Ensuring effective and timely delivery for our Head Contractors with a strong focus on communication throughout the process/lifespan projects. You will find, Ash is a result driven individual. She is tenacious and passionate about delivering outcomes that exceed stakeholder expectations, consistently and on time



Jarred Taylor
HSEQ Manager

Cert IV in Work, Health and Safety, Cert IV in Training and Assessment & Cert III in Civil Construction, 2019 Winner of the CCF Victoria Achievement Award in Workplace/Occupational Health & Safety.

Jarrad is a highly skilled Safety and Environmental Representative with industry experience. Jarrad has worked on projects all around the country including for Defence, urban developments, road upgrades, water main infrastructure upgrades, and building projects in the Northern Territory, South Australia, Western Australia, and now Victoria following his relocation to the state in March 2018. Jarrad has been nominated three times by his peers as part of BMD's annual Dare Awards for his outstanding performance and significant contribution to the business, including winning the Achievement Award in Workplace, Occupational Health and Safety by CCF VIC Training Awards. Jarrad is an excellent team leader who is focused on successfully contributing to a safe working environment, creating a team atmosphere through motivation and production, enabling greater organisational efficiency and compliance.



Evelyn Caddy
Business Manager

Bachelor of Accounting & Enrolled in CPA.

As a qualified accountant with experience in bookkeeping, auditing and financial management, Evelyn supports the financial and corporate functions of the business from on the ground with Project Managers and Site Supervisors to the Directors of AKJS. Being involved in AKJS throughout its growth and supporting the development and management of financial controls for the business she overseas the accounts and payroll team.

What We Do.

A leading provider of integrated construction services for Defence, Government and Private projects, specialising in:

- Building and Civil Construction
- Defence
- Developments

Our team includes experienced Project Managers, Engineers, Site Supervisors and Operation teams to delivery high quality and risk assured projects.

Capability.

AKJ Services is a leading provider of integrated construction services in the North. Whilst specialising in civil construction projects, AKJ Services also boasts the ability to deliver significant building and refurbishment projects.

Our capability includes:

- Internal capability and experience to self-perform and manage contractors
- Project Management and Engineering
- Critical internal quality management and safety systems (OFSC Accreditation)
- Internal environmental and HOTO management capability
- Expertise as sound Defence contractors - who understand the niche environment of PDS and Estate Works Contracting
- Experience in Piling, Civil Service Installation, landscaping and High Security Fencing.
- Significant experience in building and maintaining roads across both the defence and civilian industries
- Ability to continue to collaborate and partner with Defence Primes to deliver critical infrastructure projects
- Relationship contracting approaches that enable risk assurance and project deliver with minimal disruption on live Defence bases/communities
- Design and Construct Building and Civil Projects
- Successful delivery of major projects under Northern Territory and Federal Government contracts
- Urban and Remote Project Delivery

AKJ Services is Defence Vendor registered:
Vendor ID 1219063

Quality Safety & Systems.

AKJ Services is quality assured and has met the requirements of the Australian Government building and construction WHS accreditation scheme and was awarded and been reaccredited by the Office of the Federal Safety Commission (OFSC) since 2021 – Accreditation Number 633. With a strong HSEQ approach that spans the entire company, Safety and Quality are front and centre of everything we do. At AKJ Services, all staff are offered the opportunity to undertake a Cert IV in Work Health and Safety. AKJ Services works closely with Work Health Safety consultants and our internal safety teams to conduct internal audits and ongoing professional development to risk assure your projects. AKJ Services operates using a third party accredited Integrated Management System that conforms with the requirements of AS/NZS 4801 – (Occupational health and safety management systems). This certification ensures businesses comply with WHS laws and create a safe workplace for their employees and stakeholders.

Accreditation.

AKJ Services is accredited under the Territory's Contractor Accreditation Scheme, providing confidence and assurance to industry that we and the sub-contractors we choose are up to the job. This accreditation provides surety for our clients in relation to our technical competence, financial capacity and ethical behaviour. We are also recognised through Power and Water Corporation's accredi¬tation scheme, as a trusted provider for Building and Land projects, which is critical for civil construction and development activity.



Australian Government

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner

The Federal Safety Commissioner

certifies that

AKJ Services Pty Ltd

having met the requirements of the Australian Government building and construction WHS Accreditation Scheme, is hereby awarded accreditation from 8 June 2024 until 7 June 2027.

David Denney

Federal Safety Commissioner

FSC APPROVED • GET ACCREDITED • GET BUILDING

Accreditation number: 633



CONSTRUCTION | DEVELOPMENTS | DEFENCE



100+ Employees

100% Female Owned

180+ Plant and Machinery

Delivering projects in SA & NT



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NTBN CERTIFIED MEMBER BLAK BUSINESS

Supply Nation CERTIFIED