



## Media Release

Friday 18 May 2012

### **Sydney's Port Botany expansion project wins the 2012 Australian Construction Achievement Award**

The expansion of facilities at Port Botany for the Sydney Ports Corporation by the *Baulderstone – Jan de Nul Joint Venture*, was chosen over six other Australia-wide finalists as the most outstanding example of construction excellence at the 2012 *Australian Construction Achievement Award* in Perth last night, Thursday 17 May.

The annual ACAA was hosted by Mr Peter Brecht, President of the Australian Constructors Association, and Mr David Hood, National President of Engineers Australia, with the announcement of the winner made by the 2012 Young Australian of the Year, and engineer, Ms Marita Cheng. The award was accepted by the project's Construction Manager, David Packer, and the project's General Superintendent, Matt Clothier.

The \$515 million Port Botany project involved construction of 1.85 kilometres of new deep water shipping wharves, and dredging of over 11 million cubic metres of material to create new shipping channels and provide fill for the land reclamation operation. The scale and nature of the works required the development of cutting edge solutions in reclamation compaction, seismic engineering and reinforced concrete marine structures. The outcome has set the benchmark for establishing new technical standards in design and construction for future infrastructure projects.

Other finalists were:

#### **Darra to Springfield Transport Corridor - Stage 1 - John Holland Group**

The \$800 million project was the first integrated road and rail project for south-east Queensland. Stage 1 involved building a new passenger railway line, a railway station, a bus interchange, as well as an upgrade and duplication of the Centenary Highway from two to four lanes. The project was delivered four months ahead of schedule in a busy precinct and with a focus on a comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement program for thousands of households, businesses, schools and community groups.

#### **Gateway Upgrade Project - Leighton Abigroup Joint Venture**

The upgrade project included the construction of the second Gateway Bridge over the Brisbane River, refurbishment of the original bridge, construction of a new 7 kilometre six-lane motorway north of the bridges, and an upgrade of the 16 kilometres Gateway Motorway south of the bridges. The sustainability benefits include the 300-year life solutions that will be enjoyed over a design life three times longer than that traditionally specified for bridge structures in Australia.

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### **Inner West Busway Along Victoria Road - *Baulderstone***

The project along one of Sydney's busiest transport corridors implemented a new city bound bus lane on the 3.5 kilometre section of Victoria Road between the Gladesville Bridge and Anzac Bridge and included a new 470 metre long bridge across Iron Cove and lane management schemes through Drummoyne and Rozelle. The project, challenged by tight space constraints and complex traffic conditions, was delivered 2 months ahead of time and on budget by pioneering solutions.

### **National Fibre Program - *Leighton Telecommunications***

The construction of 7,800 kilometres of optic fibre through all mainland States and Territories has provided the backbone for the National Broadband Network as well as immediate competitive broadband outcomes within an ambitious timeline. One of the most complex challenges involved the sheer enormity of the logistics of providing materials, plant, electronics and machinery given that the vast majority of the construction occurred in remote and often hostile environments.

### **The Hilton Surfers Paradise - *Brookfield Multiplex***

With the stalled project rescued by ANZ and Brookfield Multiplex working in close collaboration, the challenges of this twin-tower development included the rigid delivery schedule and the need to limit the impact of construction in and around the busy Surfers Paradise precinct. The solutions included re-programming for simultaneous construction of the two towers and implementation of a Top Down methodology, the first time it was used in such a large scale environment. As a result, the hotel was able to begin operations a year earlier.

### **West Gate Bridge Strengthening - *West Gate Bridge Strengthening Alliance***

Providing absolute certainty of the safety and structural integrity while strengthening the fully operational, 2.5 kilometre span of the West Gate Bridge in Melbourne, over the navigation channel of Australia's busiest port, meant that virtually every location required a customised design and installation solution to meet exacting accuracy. The \$400 million project also incorporated existing systems and innovations to increase traffic capacity from four to five lanes in each direction during peak periods.

Previous winners of the ACAA have been: Upgrade of Melbourne's West Gate Freeway; Melbourne Convention Centre; EastLink, Melbourne; Perth Seawater Desalination Project; Southern Cross Station, Melbourne; Runway Main Construction Works, Tullamarine; The Bond, Sydney; Alice Springs to Darwin Rail Link; Brisbane's Inner City Bypass project; Woronora Bridge in NSW; Queensland Clean Fuels project; Stadium Australia in Sydney; Wandoo B Offshore Oil Platform, WA; and the Glebe Island Bridge, now ANZAC Bridge, Sydney.

### Further information:

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