

Media Release 15 May 2015

## INDUSTRY APPLAUDS WINNER OF AUSTRALIAN CONSTRUCTION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Australian Constructors Association (ACA) and Engineers Australia (EA) today applauded the Victorian Regional Rail link Project, the winner of the Australian Construction Achievement Award for 2015 announced last night at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Australian Construction Achievement Award is the peak annual award for the major players in Australia's construction industry. The competition is fiercely contested by Australia's largest construction and engineering businesses whose projects must first qualify to be finalists and then submit to the most rigorous assessment by a panel of experts. The total value of the 6 finalist projects this year exceeded \$9 billion.

Commenting on the announcement of the winner, ACA President, David Saxelby, said that the winning project, which brought together the combined efforts of 6 major industry alliances and joint venture partners, showcased what could be achieved when the industry and its client were able to work together cooperatively to plan effectively to achieve a common goal.

"The project came in 8 months ahead of schedule and \$900 million under budget because the industry was able to work with the client to properly and effectively plan each stage of the project", Mr Saxelby said.

Dr David Cruickshanks-Boyd, National President of Engineers Australia, praised the quality of the 6 finalists and said they highlighted the exceptional expertise of the engineering profession in the design and implementation of major commercial and infrastructure projects.

"Each year the Judging Panel shortlists only the very best of the projects nominated. The fact the Award process has again attracted such a diverse range of projects exemplifies the skill and expertise within the industry, and the competitive nature of its participants in vying for this major Award," Dr Cruickshanks-Boyd said. The finalists were:

Adelaide Oval Redevelopment in South Australia, a \$535m project by Lend Lease

Australia Pacific LNG (APLNG) Project in Gladstone QLD, a \$1.12bn joint venture between McConnell Dowell Constructors (Aust) Pty Ltd and Consolidated Contracting Company Australia Pty Ltd.

Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth, a \$1.63bn project by Brookfield Multiplex.

**Gold Coast QLD Light Rail (GCLR)**, a \$1.2bn project constructed under a Joint Venture between McConnell Dowell Constructors and Bombardier Transportation Australia, as part of the GoldLinQ consortium.

**One Central Park in Sydney**, a \$596m project constructed by Watpac as part of the \$2bn Central Park precinct

**Victorian Regional Rail Link**, is a \$3.9bn project comprising 6 integrated Alliance and Design/Construct components headed by contractors John Holland, Thiess, Baulderstone, Lend Lease, Leighton Contractors, Downer EDI and UGL Limited.

The Chair of the Judging Panel, Mr David Singleton, said:

"The Award for 2015 showcases the outstanding achievements of the best project teams comprising constructors and designers, demonstrating the industry's capacity for design excellence, construction innovation and management".

Full details of the winner and finalists, including videos of the projects and other information, may be obtained by visiting <u>www.acaa.net.au</u>

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The ACA is the peak industry body representing leading construction companies while Engineers Australia represents the engineering profession that is responsible along with the constructors for the design and delivery of Australia's major infrastructure projects.