



3 March, 2008

## Leighton Contractors paves the way for Ipswich Motorway Upgrade

---

Leighton Contractors has been appointed as the principal contractor by the Queensland Department of Main Roads to deliver the \$700 million Ipswich Motorway Upgrade - Wacol to Darra, as a key member of the SAFElink Alliance.

Leighton Contractors will join Main Roads, BMD Constructions, Arup and Maunsell Australia in the SAFElink Alliance to design and construct the road upgrade.

The works include widening the Ipswich Motorway to six lanes between Gailes and Darra, upgrading the Centenary Highway interchange, bridgeworks and new pedestrian and cyclist paths. Additionally earthworks and bridgeworks for the Darra to Springfield rail line, passing through the Centenary Highway interchange, will be constructed as part of this project.

Peter McMorrow, Managing Director of Leighton Contractors said his team are looking forward to working as part of the SAFElink Alliance to deliver this vital infrastructure project.

“Leighton Contractors to date has participated in 13 alliance projects across Australia and New Zealand, with a capital value over \$2 billion. Delivering infrastructure through an alliance framework creates new thinking, energy and better understanding of the unique needs of our clients and partners,” Mr McMorrow said.

“By recognising the needs of this growing region, the state and federal governments have provided the opportunity for the SAFElink to deliver this vital piece of infrastructure,” Mr McMorrow added.

Darren Weir, General Manager Northern Region of Leighton Contractors, said the project would make a significant difference to those living on the Western side of Brisbane.

“With up to 76,800 vehicles using the road every day, the Ipswich Motorway is under huge pressure. The upgrade will provide a vital second route to Brisbane



and assist with the growing traffic burden,” Mr Weir said.

The Wacol to Darra upgrade works will include:

- Widening the Ipswich Motorway from the Logan Motorway at Gales to Jarvis Street at Darra (5 kilometres) from four lanes to a minimum of six lanes, with provision for eight lanes in the future.
- Upgrading the Centenary Highway interchange to a system interchange to improve safety and traffic flow between Ipswich Motorway and Centenary Highway. The upgrade will involve the removal of on and off ramps from the local road network. Motorists are encouraged to use service interchanges at Harcourt Road, Sumner Road, Progress Road and Garden Road to access their local road network for shorter trips.
- Construction of new bridges over Bullockhead and Sandy Creeks.
- Removal of motorway access at Campbell Avenue and Akenside Street at Wacol, and Bullockhead Street at Sumner, which will improve safety by bringing the Ipswich Motorway up to current motorway standards
- Building of new bridges over the Ipswich rail line (Centenary Highway)
- Provision for new pedestrian and cyclist paths, and
- Constructing earthworks and bridge works for Darra to Springfield rail line, passing through the Centenary Highway interchange.

Leighton Contractors is one of Australia’s leading construction, mining, services and telecommunications groups with over \$8 billion work in hand, employing more than 7,500 people across Australia and New Zealand.

**For further information please contact:**

**Matthew Sullivan**  
**General Manager, Corporate Affairs and Communication**  
**Leighton Contractors Pty Limited**  
**Telephone: 02 8668 6100**