

Media Release



**MASTER BUILDERS
AUSTRALIA**

10 November 2007

BUILDERS SUSTAIN THE ENVIRONMENT

Statement by Mr Wilhelm Harnisch, Chief Executive Officer

Master Builders Australia, in conjunction with the Department of the Environment and Water Resources, announced the 2007 winners of the *National Environment & Energy Efficiency Building Awards for 2007* at its *National Awards for Excellence in Building* at the Gold Coast Convention Centre on Saturday 10 November 2007.

Master Builders' Chief Executive Officer, Mr Wilhelm Harnisch, said "The Awards recognise the contribution that our builders are making to reduce the environmental footprint that buildings place on our fragile environment".

"The winners have demonstrated excellence in constructing projects that are adopting cutting edge innovations in sustainable development that not only contribute to reducing harmful environmental impacts but significantly improve the lifestyle of all occupants", he said.

This year's winners are:

National Environment and Energy Efficiency Building Award - National Housing Project – Open

Paul Craig Building (SA)

This open plan property has a north aspect with the bulk of windows/doors to that orientation. Solar panels are installed and appropriate insulation to external facades is in place. A feature is the "comfort" glazing which reduce heat transfer yet serves as a thermal insulation feature in winter. The materials are low-embodied energy performance coupled with some use of recycled timber. Water features include the use of a water tank, 4 star rated toilets and use saving taps. High quality lighting systems with low electricity usage are a feature. In constructing the home great care to protect the environment was achieved and building waste minimised with effective use of recycling. In summary an excellent example of sustainable environmental development and energy and water saving advances that serve as a benchmark for other developments.



A proud sponsor of
Master Builders Australia
National Awards and
International Conference 200

Master Builders Australia Inc
Level 1, 16 Bentham Street
(PO Box 7170)
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600
A.B.N. 70 134 221 001
Incorporated in South Australia with limited liability

Telephone: 61 2 6202 8888
Facsimile: 61 2 6202 8877
Email: enquiries@masterbuilders.com.au
Website: www.masterbuilders.com.au

National Environment and Energy Efficiency Building Award – National Commercial Project – Open

Multiplex Constructions Pty Ltd (ACT) – Centrelink Complex Canberra

The complex is a six level building housing over 2800 employees of Centrelink. The complex boasts a large central atrium that is glazed so to allow maximum penetration of the sun during winter and the reverse in summer which allows natural light to penetrate the offices. Passive heating and cooling systems in the atrium include chilled beam technology and heated floor space. A complex automation system controls the operation of all systems in the complex leading to comfort of occupants yet overall cost savings which is monitored through smart metering. Shading panels protect the facade and this is linked to extensive insulation for maximum performance in all seasons. All grey water is treated on site and returned for toilet flushing use. Roof water is harvested and car park runoff filtered and then released to the river system

National Environment & Energy Building Efficiency Building Award – Civil Construction– Open

The Village Building Co (ACT)

This residential development has turned a disused quarry and brickworks into a fine example of environmental management that has covered all bases – protection of the fauna and flora and re-generation , recycling of fill left from the brickworks process, with all salvageable material cleaned and reused. This work was time consuming but essential to return the area to a pristine state. Watercourses were reclaimed and rebuilt, endemic plant communities were established and a continuous plant replacement process put in place. The estate now provides a mix of attractive waterways, sensitive plantings, local fauna, natural breezeways – all through a civil construction project that was conceived with the environment in mind during construction and site preparation. An excellent benchmark project.

For further information contact:

**Wilhelm Harnisch: Mobile 0402 039 039 or
Steve Keys: Mobile 0413 609 355**