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Australian Securities Exchange and New Zealand Stock Exchange

Thursday 21 August 2008

DOWNER EDI CONFIRMS $400 MILLION IN NEW MINING CONTRACTS

Downer EDI Limited (Downer EDI) today announced that its Mining division has been awarded two major contracts with BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) in Queensland.

Downer EDI Managing Director and CEO Geoff Knox said the contracts, which have a combined value of $400 million, were for works at BMA's Goonyella Riverside and Norwich Park coal mines in the Bowen Basin.

"Securing these contracts with BMA represents another milestone in the continuing re-emergence of the Mining Division, and provides further endorsement of the strategy we have outlined for the business," he said.

"The BMA contracts substantially increase our footprint in the Queensland coal sector, and provide further opportunity to demonstrate the expertise and capability of our people to deliver world-class solutions to both new and existing customers," he said.

The larger of the two new projects is a pre-strip operation at Goonyella Riverside open cut coal mine near Moranbah. The three-year contract is expected to commence in mid-September and will ultimately be supported by a 250-strong Downer EDI Mining workforce.

The company has already commenced work on a pre-strip contract at Norwich Park open cut coal mine near Dysart, which is expected to be completed by mid 2009.

CEO Downer EDI Mining, Damien O'Reilly, said these contract wins further demonstrate the industry's confidence in the people and capability of the Mining Division.

"We are excited by the opportunity to further develop our relationship with the team at BMA as we work together to meet their business and project objectives," he said.

"The BMA contract wins follow recent announcements of new contracts secured with Xstrata at its Bulga coal mine in New South Wales and Rio Tinto Iron Ore for its Paraburdoo operation in Western Australia. These wins are the result of an enthusiastic and dedicated team that has demonstrated its ability to deliver competitive and compelling solutions to meet the needs of our customers," he said.

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Downer EDI's Mining division is Australia's second largest contract miner and has work-in-hand of approximately $2.6 billion with substantial additional contracts under bid.

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Downer EDI Limited (www.downeredi.com) is an Australian top-100 company that provides comprehensive engineering and infrastructure management services to the public and private transport, energy, infrastructure, communications and resources sectors across Australia, New Zealand, the Asia Pacific and the United Kingdom.

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