



DEME

Dredging, Environmental
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PRESS RELEASE

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Important contracts for DEME for the extension of the coal port of Newcastle and the port of Gladstone in Australia

Dredco Pte Ltd, full subsidiary of the Belgian dredging and hydraulic engineering contractor DEME (Dredging Environmental and Marine Engineering) has acquired another large development contract for the expansion of the coal export harbor of Newcastle in Australia. The client is Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (www.ncig.com.au), a consortium of world's largest coal miners BHP Billiton, Centennial Coal, Donaldson Coal, Peabody Energy, Felix Resources and Whitehaven Coal.

This project in Australia is another of a series of large-scale commodity driven projects on the global maritime infrastructure market. The market is driven by long-term factors, such as increases in the global population, the growth of the global economy and international trade volumes and the developments on the energy markets.

This contract will be executed in joint venture with Boskalis of the Netherlands. The project will be executed in approximately 18 months until mid 2009. The contract value is approximately AUD 165 million, with the share of DEME being approximately AUD 88 million. The assignment includes reclamation of land for wharfs, dredging an export harbor and deepening an access channel. A total of 5 million m³ of material will be dredged. The Joint Venture will deploy equipment that includes cutter suction dredgers, backhoes and grab dredgers.

DEME is also very pleased to announce that they have been awarded the deepening works for the construction of an additional Berth N°1 at Fisherman's Island, Gladstone in Queensland Australia. This is another commodity related infrastructure for allowing massive Rio Tinto Aluminium (formerly Comalco Aluminium) to expand its alumina refinery and increase the annual output of smelter grade alumina from that area. The works are invested and managed by Central Queensland Port Authority (CQPA). Dredco's CSD Wombat will execute this project in two phases, starting early 2008.

In that same world's hunger for commodities, DEME has just completed, also in Australia, its activities in relation to the Iron Ore bonanza for the upgrade project at Cape Lambert and the maintenance dredging works at Port Hedland, both prime centers for the mining and distribution of Iron Ore.

Finally, maintenance dredging works are presently ongoing at the Port of Bunbury, also in West Australia.

All these activities, for a total turnover amount of AUD 180 million are conducted with the highest standards for safety and environment with special care for corals, whales, dolphins, dugongs, birds, turtles, mangrove and all other pristine habitat that is harvesting down-under their fauna and flora unique on Earth.

About DEME

The Belgian group Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering (DEME) is one of the largest groups of dredging works, environmental projects and hydraulic realisations in the World. The group has 3500 staff members and is active on all the five continents. DEME owns an extensive modern and versatile fleet (80 main units and over 200 auxiliary vessels) and has a continuous programme of investments, research and innovation. The group is active through different subsidiaries, as amongst others Dredging International. At present, the DEME companies are simultaneously executing more than 70 projects on the five continents.

Rebranding

As of the 7th January 2008, the DEME Group has come officially into the open with a rebranded image and a “new look” : one brand for a wide variety of specialisations, activities and companies. Our string of strengths are showing one unified brand identity now. Yet, all companies will keep operating under their existing denominations.

Our new tagline “Creating Land for the Future” indicates that DEME is to act as a global contributor to sustainable development.

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