



Media Release

Embargoed until Sunday 28th October 2007

The City of Port Augusta wins Water Conservation award at the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards

The City of Port Augusta has won the Water Conservation award at the inaugural Australian Sustainable Cities Awards held in Canberra last night.

The Sustainable Cities program recognises the efforts of residents, community groups, businesses and government agencies to help protect their local environment. The program is part of the Keep Australia Beautiful 'Australian Sustainable Communities' Awards which also includes the Tidy Towns and Clean Beaches programmes.

According to Dick Olesinski, Sustainable Cities National Judge, Port Augusta is a well deserving recipient of the national Water Conservation award.

"At a time when water conservation is of great importance Australia-wide, Port Augusta Council and its residents are conscious of saving water and looking at alternative water sources for the city. As part of this, they have introduced subsurface irrigation systems and moisture sensors to help tackle the issue head on," Olesinski said.

"Automatic shut off taps have been installed on the city's drinking fountains and on beach shower units, whilst run off waste water is captured, funneled into drains and then used to assist in watering turf and trees in public areas. Recycled water from council's Waste Water Treatment plant is also used extensively throughout council owned developments.

Meanwhile the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden and award winning building incorporates energy and water saving features including stabilised earth walls, solar hot water system, rainwater storage and filtration for the majority of water needs and onsite effluent treatment for irrigation use," he added.

Highlighting the important role the Sustainable Cities Awards play in providing environmental leadership KESAB CEO, John Phillips, said:

"With climate change and water conservation at the forefront of social and political agendas it is clear that all Australians must make real changes, not just a token effort, to become a more sustainable society.

"These awards not only focus on environmental sustainability, but also take into account the economic and social growth of local communities, providing strong case studies and setting benchmarks for others to follow," he added.

The 2007 Australian Sustainable Cities Award winners are:

Continued pg 2...

Program or Category	Award Winner	Category Sponsor
Overall Winner	Melton, VIC	HUNGRY JACK'S ®
Heritage & Culture	Burnie, TAS	
Community Action	Melton, VIC	Truelocal.com.au
Environmental Innovation	National Lifestyle Villages, WA	
Water Conservation	Port Augusta, SA	
Litter Prevention	Brisbane, QLD	HUNGRY JACK'S ®
Resource Recovery	Australian Ethical Investments for Trevor Pearcey House, ACT	
Community Partnership	Randwick, NSW	Bunnings Warehouse
Protection of the Environment	Melton, VIC	
Young Legends	Randwick, NSW	Coca-Cola
Dame Phyllis Frost - Winner	Lexie Paul - Burnie, TAS	
Dame Phyllis Frost - Commendation	Nora Peters – Melton, VIC	

Last night's Sustainable Cities Awards presentation dinner also saw Adelaide company Grundfos Pumps announce its sponsorship of the Water Conservation award for 2007/2008.

"As a world leading pump and pumping systems manufacturer, Grundfos recognises Australia is faced with a number of social, economic and climatic challenges and that the company should play an active part in responding to some of these serious problems through products, competences and other resource," said Grundfos National Marketing Manager, Tiffany Bermingham.

"Our partnership agreement with Keep Australia Beautiful demonstrates our commitment to sustainable water management and helps ensure we can deliver a clear, concise and consistent message to our respective target audiences," she added.

Further information about the Sustainable Cities Awards and details about each of the national finalists/category winners can be found at www.kab.org.au

- ends -

Media Contacts:

Lara Shannon, Keep Australia Beautiful National Publicist
M: 0415 076 015 or E: laras@kab.org.au

John Phillips, KESAB CEO
T: 08 8234 7255 M: 0413 877 875 E: john@kesab.asn.au

Deon Schumann, City of Port Augusta
T: 08 8641 9100 or E: dschumann@portaugusta.sa.gov.au - **Please respect 28 Oct embargo date when discussing award particulars with category winners.**

Editor's Notes:

1. The Principal Sponsor of Sustainable Cities is the Hungry Jack's ® 'Bag it and Bin it' program. Category Sponsors for 2007 include truelocal.com.au, Bunnings Warehouse and Coca-Cola. Any mention of our Sponsors is much appreciated.
2. Grundfos is a world leading pump and pumping systems manufacturer with 150 employees in Australia with an annual turnover of 150M. Backed by Sales and Service Offices in each State along with an extensive Dealer network. Sponsoring the Water Conservation award through Keep Australia Beautiful in 2007/2008 will specifically target, councils, business, schools and homes. www.grundfos.com