

MEDIA RELEASE

TasRail Congratulates VEC Civil Engineering on Winning Prestigious CCF Earth Award

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TasRail has welcomed the news that Ulverstone company, VEC Civil Engineering, has taken out the prestigious Category Two Award at the Civil Contractors Federation, (CCF), Earth Awards held in Hobart on Friday 26 July.

The company was recognised for its work both rehabilitating and replacing sections of the Don River Railway Bridge on Tasmania's North West Coast at the end of 2012.

The \$2.3m works formed part of the 'Four North West Bridges' capital works program.

TasRail CEO, Damien White, congratulated VEC General Manager Mr Stuart Wiggins and his team, saying VEC's effort in completing the on-site works in only 84 hours, from December 26-29, was nothing short of amazing.

"Months of planning went into this, and even then it was very difficult to foresee every potential issue that could cause work to fall behind schedule, as VEC was working with an existing structure dating from 1886.

"To be able to remove the existing bridge deck, install a pre-fabricated replacement, and hand TasRail over a finished project 6.5hours ahead of schedule, while following industry best practice still astounds me.

"VEC understood the importance of our Western Line and the consequences for TasRail if they didn't complete the job on time, and relished the opportunity to work on such a demanding project."

TasRail is proud to invest in high calibre Tasmanian companies, such as VEC Civil Engineering, as their project partners to undertake the extensive capital works underway to revitalise freight rail in Tasmania.

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About TasRail

TasRail is a State-owned Company, established on 1 December 2009 by an Act of the Tasmanian Parliament. The principal objectives of the business are set out in the Rail Company Act 2009 and require the Company to operate a rail business in Tasmania, effectively and efficiently and to operate its activities in accordance with sound commercial practice.

With a workforce of around 260 men and women, Tasmania's current freight task is approximately 2.5 million tonnes per year – generating annual revenue in the order of \$30 million. Since it was established, TasRail has spent \$97.7 million purchasing goods and services from more than 900 Tasmanian Companies.

TasRail conservatively estimates that the freight it transports by rail each year effectively removes the equivalent of 100,000 B-Double truck movements from the State's road network. Even after taking into account the total of TasRail's reported annual carbon emissions (fuel and energy), this equates to a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of some 45,800 tonnes.