

## Gold Coast Rapid Transit project update

### Industry Briefing

The Hon Rachel Nolan Minister for Transport opened an Industry Briefing at the Gold Coast Convention Centre on July 29. The Industry Briefing showcased the huge level of interest from local business in the project. Over 700 people attended and 75 per cent of these were from Queensland registered companies.

### On-line Industry Register

The project recently launched the *Online Local Industry Register*. The purpose of the register is to connect local Gold Coast businesses with large civil and construction contractors who will be bidding on the project. The register will be made available to bidders to facilitate the involvement of local businesses in contract work, and it already has over 50 businesses listed.

While the register is not a guarantee of work, it will be provided to all winning bidders for their consideration when selecting their local workforce. Gold Coast companies and trades people who have an interest in working on the Gold Coast Rapid Transit project are encouraged to register their full capabilities and skills.

The Gold Coast Rapid Transit project is expected to generate 6300 direct and indirect jobs for the local community over the next four years and the *online local industry register* is designed to help local companies and workers gain access to jobs on the project.

The project is governed by the Queensland Governments *Local Industry Policy* which requires bidders to submit a Local Industry Participation Plan as part of their bids. These participation plans must give local industry a fair and reasonable opportunity to tender for components of the project, subject to achieving best value for money outcomes for government.

The *online local industry register* is available on the project website [www.goldcoastrapidtransit.qld.gov.au](http://www.goldcoastrapidtransit.qld.gov.au)

### World wide light rail project of the year winner

The Gold Coast Rapid Transit project surpassed all international competition to be named the 'Worldwide Project of the Year' at the 2009 Light Rail Awards held in London in October. Three highly commended projects came from Canada and two from the United States of America.

It was the third time the Light Rail awards had been held to honour excellence in the light rail industry with 2009 being the first year the 'Worldwide Project of the Year' category was contested.

The Gold Coast Rapid Transit system, the largest transport infrastructure project ever undertaken on the Gold Coast, is set to deliver a modern, reliable and affordable public transport solution for the community.



Photo 1: Tim Poole giving the acceptance speech via video conference to the London Awards audience.

Photo 2: Gold Coast Rapid Transit project Award

