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Company Secretary

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Company Announcements Office
Australian Securities Exchange Limited
Level 4
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

RE: John Holland Finalises Role in New Melbourne Rail Franchise

Please find attached a copy of a media release to be issued today by John Holland Group Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited.

Yours faithfully,
LEIGHTON HOLDINGS LIMITED

A. J. MOIR
Company Secretary



ASX RELEASE

John Holland Finalises Role in New Melbourne Rail Franchise

Melbourne, 1 September 2009: John Holland, as part of the Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) Consortium with the Mass Transit Railway Corporation (MTR), Hong Kong, and United Group Rail Services Limited, has today reached financial close with Victoria's Department of Transport on the contract to operate and maintain Melbourne's passenger train franchise.

MTM will assume operation and maintenance of the Melbourne passenger train network on 30 November 2009 for an initial period of eight years, with options for up to an additional seven years. John Holland expects revenue from its share in MTM of \$162 million per year. Additional revenue is expected to be generated from capital works projects associated with the Melbourne rail franchise.

John Holland Group Managing Director, Glenn Palin said: "I congratulate the MTM team for completing this process. We are now committed to working with both our consortium partners and the Victorian Government to improve the quality of rail services across Melbourne."

Karl Mociak, Executive General Manager, John Holland's Rail business said: "This new contract represents a significant milestone and highlights the depth of rail maintenance capabilities within our business. We now look forward to getting to work on mobilising our team to ensure a smooth transition period."

MTM was appointed from a shortlist of three, following an intensive and interactive bid phase with the Government's Project Team. Part of MTM's promise to Melburnians will be to get the basics of safety and reliability right first and restore a sense of pride for employees and commuters creating a rail network which is 'for everyone, everyday'.

- ENDS -

For further media information please contact:

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About John Holland

John Holland is one of Australia's leading and most diversified contracting, engineering and services providers. Operating across Australia, John Holland's business is driven by its unique delivery model, combining national specialist skills with strong regional civil construction and building businesses. Our operating principles, *People, Performance, Partnerships* and *Profit*, remain a focus in all that we do.

Our experience covers a wide range of contracting and services capabilities, from tunnelling to power, water to communications and engineering and construction solutions in the resources and energy sectors; along with rail, contract mining and aviation maintenance services. These niche skills are underpinned by industry leading capabilities in building and civil construction.

Our strength lies in our ability to deliver diverse, complex and challenging major projects, our partnership approach to client relationships and our absolute commitment to our people and their careers. With over 6,000 people across Australia and work in hand over \$5 billion, John Holland has the capability to deliver almost any project anywhere in Australia.

John Holland celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2009.