



3 April 2008

**Ashley Moir**  
Company Secretary  
**Leighton Holdings Limited**  
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Company Announcements Office  
Australian Stock Exchange Limited  
Level 4  
20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

**Re: Thiess wins 20 year, A\$1bn India coal mine and infrastructure contracts**

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

Yours faithfully  
LEIGHTON HOLDINGS LIMITED

ASHLEY MOIR  
Company Secretary

# MEDIA RELEASE



**Thiess Pty Ltd**  
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3 April 2008

## **THIESS WINS 20 YEAR, A\$1bn INDIA COAL MINE AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACTS**

**Thiess Pty Ltd has won two contracts worth a total of A\$1 billion over 20 years to develop and operate an open cut coal mine in India's north eastern coal fields.**

The Chitarpur Coal Project will involve the immediate infrastructure development and the subsequent 20 year operation of a greenfield open cut coal mine at the western end of the North Karanpura coalfield in Jharkhand State.

"The long term contract between Thiess India and Abhijeet Group creates a solid foundation for the growth of our business in India," Thiess Asia Chief Executive Bruce Munro said today.

"Located north west of Calcutta and about 90km from the state capital of Ranchi, the project represents our first major mining project in India.

"A key factor in the success of the project will be a strong safety culture and maximising local employment and training, an approach used in Thiess operations around the world.

"This is a major project with over 115 million tonnes of coal to be mined over the next 20 years. Development work will begin by the end of April 2008. Mining is expected to commence in October 2009.

"The project is to construct the mine infrastructure and coal handling plant and then develop and operate the mine to an ultimate capacity of 6.75 million tonnes a year.

"The mine will supply coal to steel plants and to an 1100MW mine-mouth power station currently under construction adjacent to the mine

Chairman of Abhijeet, Mr Manoj Jayaswal, said after inspecting a number of Thiess coal mining operations in Australia and Indonesia, his company chose Thiess because of its world class capability and mining experience in complex open cut pits.

"We are looking forward to working with Thiess on this project and potentially other ventures," Mr Jayaswal said.

Thiess has established offices in New Delhi and Calcutta to focus on mine logistics, planning and servicing projects in North Eastern India.



### For further information:

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### Thiess Pty Ltd

Thiess is one of Australia's largest construction, mining and services contractors with operations throughout Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and India. The company has an annual turnover of \$4.5 billion and work in hand of approximately \$10 billion. Thiess is a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited (LEI).

For further information about Thiess, please visit [www.thiess.com.au](http://www.thiess.com.au)

### Abhijeet Group

Abhijeet Group, by virtue of its entrepreneurial skills, innovative strategies and seamless execution, is emerging as one of the fastest growing and leading private sector organisations in India. The Group is a well-diversified business entity with significant presence in the core sector areas of Power, Mining, Roads, Steel and Ferroalloys.

For further information about Abhijeet Group, please visit [www.abhijeet.in](http://www.abhijeet.in)

### Location of Chitarpur Coal Project

