



**Ashley Moir**  
Company Secretary

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17 May 2005

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

**Re: Thiess awarded major contracts on \$2bn Alcan Gove project**

Dear Sir

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

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## **THIESS AWARDED MAJOR CONTRACT ON \$2B ALCAN GOVE PROJECT**

**17 May 2005:** Major contracting and engineering company, Thiess Pty Ltd has been awarded a significant site construction contract for the landmark \$2 billion Alcan Gove Alumina Refinery Expansion Project.

The largest investment ever undertaken in the Northern Territory, the expansion will see the production capacity at the Refinery increase from 2.1 to 3.8 million tonnes per annum by 2007.

Thiess will lead the mechanical and electrical construction alliance between Thiess, Barclay Mowlem and Downer to deliver the project, with Thiess responsible for the structural, mechanical and piping installation for the process facilities portion of the third-stage expansion. The contract awarded to Thiess is \$150m.

Located on the Gove Peninsular in the Northern Territory's East Arnhem Land, the Refinery currently supplies a significant portion of the Territory's export alumina commodity. The expansion will see the Territory's Alumina exports increase from \$560 million to \$980 million per year, and will reinforce Alcan Gove's future as an internationally competitive operation.

Early tie-in works have already commenced on site, with Thiess working closely with Alcan as part of an integrated project management, procurement and engineering group.

A key element of the project will be the innovative delivery strategy involving extensive use of modular construction with offshore fabrication of fully completed and commissioned process modules.

Construction of the expanded Refinery will create approximately 1700 jobs, with the Thiess workforce expected to peak at approximately 620 labour personnel and 60 staff onsite.

David Overall, Thiess Process Executive General Manager, said the Alcan Gove project was an exciting opportunity for Thiess' Process Business Unit.

"We're very pleased to be involved in a world class project that will set some important milestones not only in terms of project delivery techniques but also the Australian economy.

"We see it as an exciting opportunity for Thiess' process business to expand our capabilities and experience and we are looking forward to working closely with Alcan Gove to deliver a value added outcome," David said.

The project is expected to be completed in October 2006.

Ends.

### ***For further information:***

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