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John Holland awarded \$30 million upgrade to Perth Central Law Courts

John Holland's refurbishment of Perth's Central Law Courts building as part of the CBD Courts Project starts on-site in November following the formal awarding of a \$30 million project to the Western Liberty Group. A new District Court building is being constructed separately as part of the overall courts development.

The Central Law Courts (CLC) building refurbishment works form part of the CBD Courts Project, the Western Australian Government's first public private partnership (PPP) to be progressed under the 'Partnerships for Growth Policy'.

John Holland will undertake the CLC building refurbishment for the Western Liberty Group, a consortium led by ABN-Amro, which was awarded the CBD Courts Project design and construct contract by the WA Government.

John Holland's refurbishment works will take place in two parts.

Stage one involves repair and restoration works to the exterior of the CLC building and is programmed for between November this year and June 2006, with the progressive refurbishment of the internal lift cars scheduled to continue until May 2007.

The second stage, the refurbishment of the CLC building's and other external works to the Hay and Irwin Street facades, will start when construction of the new District Court Building is complete in mid-2008. It is expected that the internal refurbishment will be complete in mid-2009.

A high-tech overhaul of the 24-year-old building's IT systems to help improve video conferencing and court recording capacities and modernise court booking systems, will be a key feature of the refurbishment.

John Holland Group Managing Director, Bill Wild, said a key challenge of the contract was to undertake the refurbishment works while the courts and their support services were fully operational.

"We have a long history of managing the needs of clients and the general public while working in operating environments," Mr Wild said. "It will be a 'business as usual' approach while the building is refurbished."

"We are conscious of the fact that the upgrade of a building where civil and criminal legal proceedings are taking place needs a particularly careful approach."

Media Enquiries:

- Daniel Moloney, John Holland Group Manager – Communications & External Relations, Ph. 03 9934 5360

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