

## EA HIRE EQUIPMENT PROVIDES RECORD NUMBER OF MEN AND MACHINES TO SHANNON CREEK DAM PROJECT

With a vast range of equipment and a national team of highly skilled operators, EA Hire Equipment, formerly known as Excavators Australia were awarded the principal earthworks hire contract in the excavation and construction of the Shannon Creek Storage Facility in the Clarence Valley. Leighton Contractors have been engaged by Clarence Valley Council to construct the Storage Facility and associated works, completing the final stage of the construction of the Clarence Valley and Coffs Harbour Regional Water Supply Project.

EA Hire was given six weeks to gear up for the job of providing over 40 machines and operators to the project. Laurence Eales, Managing Director of EA Hire is proud to have yet again proved that the company can pull together a crack operator team in record time. "With our vast network of operators from Melbourne to Mackay, all the major contractors know they can rely on us to provide good operators and machines at short notice," said Mr Eales.



Over the duration of the earthworks and dam construction, EA Hire will have had more machines and operators working at the Shannon Creek site than any other project in the company's history. Over 40 machines consisting of multiple truck & dog, excavators from 8 to 87t, dump trucks, backhoes, dozers and graders worked on the 12km road realignment into the site, trench excavation, footings and dam walls.

Throughout the project, machine numbers will shrink and expand to accommodate the type of work being undertaken at various stages. "With our own heavy haulage fleet, we are able to float in and out machines at a competitive rate. This provides Leighton Contractors with not only the flexibility to downsize and upscale but considerable savings on transportation and wet hire costs," Mr Eales said.

In addition to excavation, trenching and moving of earth the EA Hire team will use a number of the company's specialised attachments such as rock grinders to trim the batter walls, rock saws to cut the footings and twin headers to ensure accuracy.

At the conclusion of the project, the facility will store 30,000 mega litres of water piped from the nearby Nymboida River. Depending on the flows within the Nymboida and in accordance with license conditions, it is estimated that the storage will take approximately two years to fill.

For further information please contact:

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