

MEDIA RELEASE



Thiess Pty Ltd
A.C.N. 010 221 486
A.B.N. 87 010 221 486

Thiess Centre
179 Grey Street
South Bank QLD 4101

Locked Bag 2009
South Brisbane QLD 4101
Australia
Telephone (07) 3002 9000
Facsimile (07) 3002 9009

23 July 2008

Finalists in Thiess Riverprize announced

Finalists for this year's internationally renowned Thiess Riverprize worth AU \$500,000 were announced in Brisbane recently.

The awards, of which Thiess is a founding sponsor, are a partnership between the *Riverfestival* and the International Riverfoundation and recognise work to sustain and restore the world's riverine systems.

The Thiess Riverprize is split into two sections: national award worth AU \$150,000 and international award worth AU \$350,000.

Since its conception in 1999 it has since quadrupled in value and could one day be likened to the 'Nobel Prize' of river management.

There are four Australian projects in the running for the \$150,000 National Thiess Riverprize including a group in New South Wales ensuring the long-term sustainability of Lake Macquarie; a regional partnership between 11 government, private, business and community groups to restore and promote the Derwent Estuary in Tasmania; a collaborative effort to protect the Swan Canning River System in Western Australia; and a NSW local government initiative to develop a sustainable management program of its natural resources including the Tweed River.

International finalists include a group established to ensure the sustainable use and protection of water resources for the benefit of the people of St Johns River, Florida USA; a collaborative approach by 10 government groups in New South Wales to manage the Lake Macquarie waterway improvement project, and a group working to enhance the health and long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning River System in Western Australia.

Thiess Group Manager Environment & Sustainability Andrew Grabski said the prize was created to reward best practice and the remarkable successes being achieved in river and waterway management both nationally and internationally.

"It is important to recognise those taking the initiative to protect our precious resources and ensure there is clean water for future generations.

"As a company with strong environmental values Thiess was more than happy to support the Riverprize. Many of our projects reflect the importance of water management with extra measures put in place to reduce water waste and use recycled water where possible," he said.



The prestigious prize complements the International Rivers*symposium*, an annual conference held in Brisbane. The forum, now in its 11th year, showcases world's best practice and celebrates achievements, whilst increasing public awareness of challenges to the world's rivers and waterways.

Both winners will be announced at the Thiess River*prize* Presentation Dinner on Monday September 1 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland during the International Rivers*symposium* (September 1-4).

ENDS

For further information contact Sarah Kulman on 07 3002 9683, 0400 006 295 or email skulman@thiess.com.au

For further information:

Sarah Kulman
Thiess Pty Ltd
Ph: (+61 7) 3002 9683
Mob: 0400 006 295
Email: skulman@thiess.com.au