



CRC Construction Innovation

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

# Media Release

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## OPERA HOUSE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT RESEARCH TAKES CENTRE STAGE

Sydney Opera House – Australia’s most famous landmark and one of the busiest performing arts centres in the world – has taken centre stage in producing world class research for the Facilities Management (FM) industry.

The Opera House was showcased as a template for innovative FM practices in a major Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for *Construction Innovation* research project – the Sydney Opera House FM Exemplar Project.

Australia’s FM industry employs more than 170,000 people and generates approximately \$12 billion of Australia’s gross domestic product.

The Hon Bob Baldwin MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, said the Sydney Opera House FM Exemplar Project not only helped protect Australia’s most iconic building but also contributed to the body of FM industry knowledge.

“The Sydney Opera House FM Exemplar project was initiated by the Australian Government’s Facilities Management Action Agenda, as part of a strategic framework for managing the built environment,” Mr Baldwin said.

The Sydney Opera House FM Exemplar Project has received several industry accolades, including the Facility Management Association of Australia - Rider Hunt Terotech Industry Achievement Award for facility management strategy and practice, presented at the FMA Australia *ideaction 2007* conference in May.

The Building Information Modelling (BIM) component of the research also featured in two recent international awards – the Jury’s Choice category of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Technology in Architectural Practice (TAP) 2007 Building Information Model awards, and the Bentley Awards for Excellence 2007 award for BIM in multiple disciplines. A project team of Arup/Utzon Architects and Johnson Pilton Walker (Architects in Collaboration) were successful in winning these awards.

“Our research has demonstrated that a digital model of a section of the Sydney Opera House which provides a three-dimensional representation of the building and the relationship of objects such as lifts, ventilation and fire systems within the building, can also integrate FM functions like condition reporting, energy consumption and room bookings,” said Mr Peter Scuderi, Acting CEO of the CRC for *Construction Innovation*.

The research was based on use of the IFC open standard to integrate FM data from a range of software systems into a partial BIM of the Sydney Opera House.

“The ability to import and share information from various data sources by means of open software standard has the potential to revolutionise the facilities management industry,” Mr Scuderi said.

The Sydney Opera House FM Exemplar project was undertaken by the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for *Construction Innovation* in collaboration with Rider Hunt, Woods Bagot, Transfield Services Australia, Sydney Opera House, FMA Australia, Brisbane City Council, Queensland Department of Public Works, CSIRO, Queensland University of Technology and The University of Sydney. The project was led by Stephen Ballesty, Director of Rider Hunt and Immediate Past Chairman of FMA Australia.

### **For more information contact:**

**Mr Peter Scuderi, Acting CEO, CRC for *Construction Innovation***  
Tel (07) 3138 9291, mobile 0409 781 412

**Stephen Ballesty, Director of Rider Hunt and Immediate Past Chairman of FMA Australia**  
Tel. (02) 9922 2277, mobile 0411 378787

The CRC for *Construction Innovation* brings together 21 industry, government and research partners in a collaboration to find innovative solutions to improve the economic, environmental and social benefit of the Australian design, property, construction and facility management sectors. Website: <http://www.construction-innovation.info>