



Brisbane businesses go green

A NUMBER of Brisbane companies are spearheading the campaign towards sustainable industry practices, according to the Environmental Protection Agency's list of finalists in this year's awards.

The EPA Sustainable Industries Awards, to be announced at the Gold Coast Exhibition and Convention Centre next month, showcase industries which are building their businesses around sustainability principles and reaping economic rewards.

The finalists have been selected from more than 100 entries ranging from small business to large multi-million dollar companies.

Brisbane-based finalists in the awards include:

- Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (Corporate Sustainability Award) – BCEC has been endorsed by Green Globe as one of only three convention centres worldwide to achieve the international benchmarking standard for its environmental practices.

- RedFlow (Innovation in Sustainable Technologies Award) – RedFlow has created a zinc-bromine battery that enables greater use of renewable energy resources.

- Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation (Innovation in Sustainable Technologies Award) – the centre has developed computer software that produces eco-preferred assessment for buildings, enabling building design professionals to make more informed decisions about a structure and its environmental impact.

- Allen Jack Cottier (Sustainability in the Built Environment Award) – Allen Jack Cottier's design of the Campus Living Village (CLV) at Kelvin Grove sets a new standard for student housing in Australia, ensuring an environment which optimises energy and water savings.

- Leighton Contractors and Leighton Properties (Sustainability in the Built Environment Award) – Leighton's

Green Square project, the largest mixed use corporate office park developed in Brisbane in the past 15 years, includes 17,000sqm of A-grade commercial offices, high-technology utilities, community facilities, a child care centre, basement car parking and a residential precinct and retail plaza.

- Consolidated Rutile Limited (Resource Industries Sustainability Award) – CRL's continuous rehabilitation of land at its North Stradbroke Island sand mining operation has achieved a self-sustaining ecosystem similar to pre-mine conditions.

- Food Connect – (Minister's Award for ClimateSmart Leadership) – The cooperative between farmers, employees, distributors and customers has achieved success in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and waste by transforming the business value chain for fresh, mostly organic fruit and vegetables.