



JOHN HOLLAND GROUP TOPS CONSTRUCTION LIST FOR 2008/09

THE John Holland Group topped the list of Australia's 100 largest commercial construction companies for 2008-09, a move up from second place the previous year.

The annual Housing Industry Association-Australian Industry Group (Ai Group)-Reed Construction Data Construction 100 shows that in a year when commercial construction by the private sector increased by 16.4 per cent to \$84 billion, The John Holland Group won contracts worth nearly \$7.8 billion.

HIA's Chief Economist, Harley Dale, said that over 2008/09 the largest 100 companies won contracts worth over \$56 billion. The contracts won over 2008/09 by the Construction 100 were equal to 67 per cent of all non-residential construction work started.

"The largest ten companies accounted for 48 per cent of work won by the 100 largest companies, while the largest twenty companies accounted for 64 per cent of work won," said Harley Dale.

The John Holland Group won contracts spread across Civil Engineering, Commercial, and Community construction. Bovis Lend Lease was second on the largest 100 list with nearly \$4.4 billion worth of work covering all construction areas. Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd came in third with \$3.1 billion worth of construction work with the civil engineering sector and multi-unit sectors providing an especially significant boost to the company's total.

"2008/09 marked yet another year when the non-residential sector clearly out-performed residential. For the largest 100, the fastest growing segment of the market was the Civil sector where the value of work won more than doubled to \$23.4 billion," Harley Dale said.

"Total non-residential industry work done put on another strong burst in 2008/09, increasing by 12.8 per cent following growth of 20 per cent the previous year. It is difficult, however, to see us avoiding a significant reduction in work in 2009/10," said Harley Dale.

"Worryingly for the construction sector, work commenced dropped behind work done, a reversal of the 2007/08 report. Work yet to be done also dropped across all four construction sectors, breaking a strong upward trend in the industry over this decade," added Harley Dale.

Ai Group Chief Executive Heather Ridout congratulated the leading construction companies on their successes in 2008/09 noting that "The publication of the 2008/09 list comes at a time when the non-infrastructure segments of the construction sector are going through a difficult period. We expect the results for 2009/10 to be disappointing in comparison with last financial year's healthy outcome."

"The engineering construction market will clearly come under increasing pressure from the deferral and cancellation of projects in mining and heavy industrial resource based construction due to the contraction in world demand and the fall in commodity prices. At the same time, the on-going lack of credit availability, heightened aversion to risk and poor property market sentiment will put further pressure on companies operating in the commercial building sector in 2009/10."



“This underlines the importance of the Federal Government’s stimulus package. The significant public sector spend in social infrastructure projects will help cushion the extent of the anticipated downturn in 2009/10 and provide an important bridge for the industry until we see some pick-up in private sector investment,” Mrs Ridout said

Rank	Company	LARGEST 20 COMMERCIAL BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS							Grand Total
		2008/09 contracts won, by type of work, \$million							
		CIVIL ENGINEERING	COMMERCIAL	COMMUNITY	FLATS & UNITS	INDUSTRIAL			
1	JOHN HOLLAND GROUP	6,665	82	1,053	144	65			7,800
2	BOVIS LEND LEASE	22	1,292	2,853	144	65			4,376
3	LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS PTY LTD	1,755	165	150	1,008	39			3,117
4	ABIGROUP CONTRACTORS PTY LTD	1,848	6	250	9	10			2,123
5	BAULDERSTONE PTY LTD	706	140	1,039	80	139			2,104
6	BROOKFIELD MULTIPLEX	347	600	285	819				2,052
7	MIRVAC GROUP	301	203	6	1,409	46			1,965
8	FULTON HOGAN	1,824				3			1,827
9	BMD CONSTRUCTIONS	322		5	47	1,210			1,583
10	MCCONNELL DOWELL CORPORATION LTD	1,163	2			119			1,284
11	SEYMOUR WHYTE CONSTRUCTIONS	1,264							1,264
12	DEVINE GROUP	71	15	1	1,016				1,103
13	HANSEN YUNCKEN		442	516	95	47			1,100
14	BUILT ENVIRONS PTY LTD	800	67	166		7			1,029
15	WATPAC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	82	210	539	6	138			973
16	PROBUILD CONSTRUCTIONS (AUST) PTY LTD	8	535	63	233				839
17	GOLDFIELDS UTILITIES LTD (GUL)	400				400			800
18	DOWNER EDI	746	2			2			751
19	ST HILLIERS CONTRACTING PTY LTD	10	247	249	177	11			693
20	LU SIMON BUILDERS PTY LTD		283	34	348				665

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