

# Consortiums vie to build Kalgoorlie prison

Mark Beyer

THE Barnett government is living up to its promise to deliver more community infrastructure via public private partnerships, naming three short-listed consortiums to bid for a 350-bed prison development at Kalgoorlie.

The three consortiums are bidding for the right to design, build, finance and maintain the new 350-bed Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison.

It will be the Barnett government's fourth PPP, joining the QEII Medical Centre car park, the Mundaring water treatment plant and the proposed Midland Health Campus.

These projects were advocated strongly by former treasurer Troy Buswell, who believed the state was missing out on competitive procurement options by not using PPPs, which have

been used far more widely in other states.

Like other PPPs in Western Australia, the prison project uses a hybrid contracting model. The private consortiums are bidding to design, construct and maintain the prison, but it will be government-owned and operated.

The Assure Partners consortium comprises Capella Capital, Leighton Holdings subsidiary John Holland, Perth construction company Pindan Contracting and Honeywell.

The Aurum Partnership comprises Leighton subsidiaries Leighton Contractors and Broad Construction Services, along with Programmed Facility Management and Lend Lease subsidiary Bilfinger Berger Project Investment.

EG PathWAYS comprises McConnell Dowell Corporation, Spotless Facility Services, banking group RBS and UK-based John Laing Investments.

## PARTNERSHIPS

Three private consortiums bid for Kalgoorlie prison.

This will be state's fourth PPP.

Capella Capital is already active in the WA market, as a member of the Capella Parking consortium that will build, own and operate new multi-storey car parks at the QEII Medical Centre, at a cost of \$140 million.

Other members of that consortium are builder ProBuild and car park operator Ezipark.

Capella, along with Scottish group Asco and Perth-based Macmahon Contractors, had another win recently, when their consortium

was selected to build a marine supply base at Darwin.

Meanwhile, the government is evaluating proposals from the two short-listed consortiums to design, build and operate the Midland Health Campus.

The consortiums are led by Ramsay Healthcare, with builder John Holland, and St John of God Healthcare, with builder Brookfield Multiplex.

The government recently named the Helena Water consortium as the successful bidder for a new \$300 million water treatment plant at Mundaring.

The consortium comprises the Royal Bank of Scotland, Spanish water company Acciona Agua, Mitsubishi Corp subsidiary United Utilities Australia, and Brookfield Multiplex. Engineering consultant GHD is the design partner.



# Harvey Fresh top exporter

Carolyn Herbert

FRUIT and dairy producer Harvey Fresh has topped the field in the state's annual industry and export awards.

Harvey Fresh took out the Premier's award for excellence.

The Department of Commerce's WA Industry and Export Awards recognises companies for their contribution to job creation and increasing prosperity in the community.

Commerce Minister Simon O'Brien said the awards, held for the 23rd time, honoured the success of WA businesses and their contribution to the state's economic and social development.

Mr O'Brien said Harvey Fresh had seen its export business more than double in a 12-month period through hard work and innovation.

"The company has moved from exporting 12 containers of UHT long life products per week to 30 - and the figure continues to grow," he said.

Harvey Fresh is the only brand in WA that has squeezing and crushing facilities operating locally and is the only major fruit juice and dairy facility in the state that has no foreign investment.

Software and solutions provider Micromine won the information and technology award.

This is the third year that Micromine was successful in this category, enabling it to be inducted into the WA Industry and Export awards hall of fame.

Micromine chief operating officer Kevin Fitzpatrick said the award highlighted the company's competitiveness in the field of mining solutions.

"For a company whose roots are in Western Australia, this does signal to the rest of the world how competitive and innovative our mining solutions are," Mr Fitzpatrick said.

Pharmaceutical company Epichem won the small to medium service provider category, its second award after taking out the small business export award in 2010.

Epichem managing director Wayne Best said the company's profile in the biotech sector had increased significantly over the past couple of years.

"I believe this [award], combined with our maturing intellectual property ... will provide some good opportunities for Epichem to grow in the near future," Dr Best said.

Nickel sulphide explorer and producer Western Areas picked up the emerging exporter award.

The company exports nickel concentrate in sealed containers from its Forrester processing plant, which are loaded on to ships at Esperance port and taken to Xinjiang port in China.

The company's total exports to date have a gross metal value of \$450 million.

Winners of the state export award categories automatically progress as finalists to the 49th Australian export awards. National winners will be announced in Brisbane in December.

# Heliwest Success Story Continues

Leading Western Australian based helicopter company Heliwest is proving that local operators can match it with the multinationals in the energy and resources sectors.

The company, which has long-term contracts to provide a raft of services to mining and exploration companies across the Pilbara and Kimberley regions, has recently won a major contract with Santos in the Moomba gas fields and has begun a long-term contract with Saipem in Papua New Guinea to provide crew transfers and supply operations using B212 helicopters on a major gas project.

Heliwest now operates eight B212 helicopters in PNG in a joint venture with Helifix of Port Moresby.

Earlier this year the company won a contract with Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd to provide service and maintenance crew transfers for its Cliff Head project off the WA coast from Dongara. More recently, Heliwest also won a major air-intelligence contract with FESA and a long-term contract to provide emergency response services to Western Power in the southern half of WA. Heliwest already provides scheduled inspection flight services to Western Power and has now added emergency response flying to its operations.



Alan Bailey



David Grimes

Heliwest has also opened operating bases at Toowoomba and Mt Isa, the first two of planned strategic expansions into Queensland airspace, and last week won a contract to provide Queensland's first Police helicopter for the Gold Coast Council.

The company's pilots have a reputation for reliability in emergency medical evacuations and rescue operations in areas beyond the reach of the WA state government's rescue resources. Heliwest crews recently rescued the survivor of a helicopter crash near Meekatharra, found a missing four year-old girl near Mukinbudin and transported a snakebite victim from an isolated campsite on the Canning Stock Route.

The recent contracts are as diverse as they are significant and underline the capability of a company formed 18 years ago by pilots Alan Bailey and David Grimes who today fill the positions of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer respectively at Heliwest.



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