

Thursday, December 13, 2007

## **GROCON TO BUILD FAIRFAX MELBOURNE HEADQUARTERS**

Grocon was today officially announced by Fairfax Media Limited as the builder of its new editorial and commercial headquarters in Melbourne.

CEO Daniel Grollo said the company was very much looking forward to completing the \$110 million building, which includes an extensive deck over the railway lines near Southern Cross Station.

“We commenced work on site about a month ago and have already erected a tower crane in preparation for the deck construction,” he said.

“Building this platform over the top of the existing railway lines will make the Docklands much more accessible to the CBD.

“It’s a very exciting project for us and the new building will provide The Age and other Fairfax media with a great headquarters in Victoria.”

Grocon has spent several months in consultation with stakeholders from the State Government and Connex in relation to building the deck. Mr Grollo said the occupations in the rail corridor would be kept to a minimum and work would be done on weekends or overnight.

“We have worked closely with Connex and we are employing innovative construction methods which will significantly reduce our occupations in the corridor, as the lines are used by 300,000 commuters a day,” he said.

“Connex has been advising the public of any changes to schedule and will continue to do so. There are two main blocks of occupation – between November 2007 and January 2008 and then between May and July 2008.”

Mr Grollo, a Director of the Green Building Council of Australia, said Grocon was also pleased to be building another 5 Star Greenstar facility in Melbourne, with the latest in sustainability features.

“The new Fairfax headquarters will include the latest in reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions, as well as the most up to date recycling methods and best methods of water conservation,” he said. “We will use recycled timber and rainwater will be collected and reused on site.”

Mr Grollo said the Bates Smart design would ensure a light filled office interior with extensive green space at the front of the site facing on to Spencer Street.

“Overall this is a great project for us, adding to our work for the State Government at the Rectangular Stadium and also our redevelopment of the Carlton Brewery site.”

**Media Contact: Jane Wilson at 0407 831456**