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## MAJOR CONSTRUCTORS APPOINT NEW LEADERS AND SIGNAL A NEW DIRECTION FOR THE INDUSTRY

The Australian Constructors Association (ACA) today announced the appointment of a new national executive team to lead the industry's major construction businesses in 2017.

Two Vice-Presidents were elected at the ACA's Annual General Meeting and will join ACA President John Flecker, Chief Executive of Multiplex, as the executive officers of the ACA for 2017.

The two Vice-Presidents are Craig Laslett, Managing Director of Lend Lease Engineering Pty Ltd, and Cathal O'Rourke, Managing Director of Laing O'Rourke Australia Construction Pty Ltd.

Mr Flecker welcomed the appointment of Mr Laslett and Mr O'Rourke and said that their expertise and commitment to a sustainable construction industry for Australia would assist the ACA to lead the industry into new areas of innovation, technology and project delivery.

Commenting on future activities of the ACA, Mr Flecker said that in 2017 the ACA would be devoting significant efforts to improving the culture of the industry and in achieving a more diverse workforce.

"The construction industry cannot expect to grow and attract a larger and more skilled workforce unless cultural change occurs throughout the industry. It is not acceptable for the industry to continue to pass off its failure to achieve a more diversified workforce by simply repeating the tired mantra that the industry is a tough place to work", Mr Flecker said.

Mr Flecker also said that the ACA would be engaging with governments to develop new approaches to the development and delivery of major construction projects.

"The ACA believes that a closer and more cooperative relationship between the industry, its supply chain and governments will enable the industry to deliver more and better public infrastructure at a lower cost to the community."

"The ACA believes that there is scope through a different approach the ACA proposes to project development and implementation for governments to achieve initial savings of up to 20% of the cost of major projects. There are potentially billions of dollars available in savings on project costs and the ACA is prepared to work with Australian governments to achieve these savings", Mr Flecker said.

### Further Information

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*The members of the Australian Constructors Association have combined annual revenues in Australia exceeding \$50 billion and directly employ over 100,000 workers.*