PERTH REMAINS A STRONGHOLD FOR CONSULTING EXCELLENCE

Perth's built environment consulting industry was last night recognised as a leading force in the Australian industry, with Perth-born firm, BG&E and a young professional from Arup awarded Gold at Consult Australia's annual Awards for Excellence.

Consult Australia Chief Executive Officer, Megan Motto commended the quality of the services delivered and the groundbreaking nature of the projects being delivered across the state alongside an exceptionally strong focus on staff and community.

"The state has capitalised on the mining boom and has continued to attract leading professionals and firms who are working together making a practical difference in WA, Australia and internationally."

Arup Senior Project Manager, Dr Ryan Falconer was awarded Future Leader: nominated for dedication to his firm and the wider industry, and one of 18 exceptional nominees highlighting the strength of the industry across Australia.

Ryan is a member of the Perth leadership group and is responsible for leading projects for clients including LandCorp, the Public Transport Authority (PTA) WA, Department of Transport WA, Department of Planning WA and BHP Billiton, and is sought-after for international projects as well.

"Ryan contributes to the commercial success of Arup through his client relationship and project delivery skills. He also readily involves himself in non-core activities that support our business and the wider community," said Arup Australasia CEO and Chair, Peter Bailey.

Perth firm, BG&E's commitment to people and community exhibited in their Award entry highlighted the corporate responsibility that comes with great success.

BG&E took out a Gold Award in Safety in Design for the rebuild of the Mambo Tema Bridges in Tanzania, and was also awarded the Medium Firm of the Year for the second year running.

BG&E's overall objective on the Tanzania bridges project was to transfer skills to the locals and help create an environment where the firm's initial assistance would lead to a self-sustaining outcome.

"By working closely with the communities, we were able to transfer very practical knowledge and skills—helping them to become more prepared for future bridge maintenance tasks," said BG&E Director, Peter de Bruin.

The judges commended BG&E on this community focus; noting that it was an inspirational project—particularly for firms of a similar size who wanted to have a positive impact on communities.

Recognised as one of the biggest events in the industry, the Consult Australia Awards for Excellence attracted over 270 senior representatives from firms including: AECOM, Arup, GHD, Hyder Consulting, Norman Disney & Young, Parsons Brinckerhoff, SMEC Australia, and WorleyParsons.

"It is clear that the expertise of consultants and firms in Western Australia is felt broadly in the community and internationally as the industry shares its success and skills," said Ms Motto.

"I congratulate Western Australia, and indeed all entrants and winners at Consult Australia's 2013 Awards for Excellence."

Ends
6 December 2013

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact PR & Policy Advisor, Gillian O'Young on (02) 8252 6715 or via email at gillian@consultaustralia.com.au.

About Consult Australia
Consult Australia is the leading not-for-profit association that represents the business interests of consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment.

Our member firms include: Arup, Aurecon, Beca, BG&E, Cox Architects, GHD, Hyder Consulting, MWH, Norman Disney & Young, Sinclair Knight Merz, SMEC and WorleyParsons.

We represent an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 firms. Collectively, our industry is estimated to employ over 240,000 people, and generate combined revenue exceeding $40 billion a year.