

## media release

23 January 2020

### **South Bank Corporation green energy investment**

The Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC) continues to lead the way in sustainability for the meetings and events industry, with the installation of 764 solar panels on its roof.

The BCEC, managed by ASM Global on behalf of South Bank Corporation, already has EarthCheck Gold accreditation from the world's most recognised environmental benchmarking program for its commitment to sustainable venue operations, and is on track to receive Platinum Certification in 2020.

South Bank Corporation Chief Executive Officer Bill Delves said the solar panels would not only cut the Centre's electricity costs but bolster and encourage the overall sustainability of the precinct.

"The South Bank precinct is renowned for its vast green footprint as well as many sustainable initiatives from power generation, to water capture, and recycling," Professor Delves said.

"The 309.42 kilowatt system, worth more than half a million dollars, will take some pressure off the electricity grid by generating 18 per cent of the Centre's power.

"The Corporation is also pleased that local Brisbane business GEM Energy Australia Pty Ltd won the open-market tender to install the panels and employed 37 construction contractors."

The BCEC was an early advocate of operating a sustainable venue, joining the Federal Government's Greenhouse Challenge back in 2001 and developing its very own carbon calculator for measuring event emissions back in 2008.

BCEC's General Manager, Bob O'Keeffe welcomed South Bank Corporation's addition of the solar panels to the Centre's sustainability agenda saying the panels would provide a renewable power source for the Centre's 1200 meetings and events on the 2020 calendar.

"The installation of the solar panels comes on the back of a recently installed energy saving LED lighting system for the Centre's Exhibition Halls, Concourse and Car Park equipped with bluetooth smart lighting control facilitating daylight harvesting," Mr O'Keeffe said.

"These latest initiatives build significantly on the Centre's green credentials and combined with existing measures will ensure BCEC remains at the forefront of venue sustainability into the future."

*High-res images and footage available.*

### **Media contacts**

South Bank Corporation: Gen Mgr Marketing & Communications Angela Harper 0414 712 605

BCEC: Marketing and Communications Manager Gail Sawyer 0439 733 509