

## ASX Release

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18 June 2010

### **AIRPORT LINK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – TUNNEL BREAKTHROUGH MILESTONE**

BrisConnections Management Company Limited as responsible entity for the BrisConnections Investment Trust and BrisConnections Holding Trust (collectively **BCS**) (ASX code: BCS), is pleased to announce the achievement today of the first tunnel breakthrough in the Airport Link Project. One of the twin north-south tunnels is now connected.

The breakthrough represents an important milestone for Airport Link as the half-way stage of the Project approaches, expected in July 2010, and demonstrates the Project remains on track for completion on-time and on-budget in June 2012.

BCS Chairman, Trevor Rowe AM said “The achievement of this first tunnel breakthrough is a significant milestone in the Project and has construction where we should be at the 22 month stage of the 47 month construction period.”

“BrisConnections congratulates our contractors Thies John Holland and their engineers on this great engineering accomplishment, completed with an excellent safety record” Mr Rowe said.

Mr Rowe said other important construction and financial milestones have also been achieved recently, including:

- Over \$2 billion has now been expended on construction of Airport Link, Northern Busway and Airport Roundabout Upgrade projects, which equates to just under half of the total design and construction contract;
- Over 4.6 kilometres of tunnel excavation completed;
- Traffic switch onto new Gateway section complete and commencement of construction of fast diamond at Airport Roundabout Upgrade;
- 40% of tunnel lining segments have been manufactured.

In late May 2010, the 12.48m cutter head of the first of the Project’s Tunnel Boring Machines (TBM) was lowered into the giant launch box (measuring 105m long x 35m wide x 6 storeys deep) as one of the 250 separate TBM components being assembled in readiness for beginning its 12-month journey from Toombul to Lutwyche. BrisConnections expects this TBM will commence tunnelling in July 2010, at about 85m per week, and will fit out the tunnel with a concrete lining as it moves forward. A second TBM is expected to commence boring a parallel tunnel a few weeks later.

“Excellent progress has been achieved but significant works remain to be completed before this critical and transformational piece of infrastructure for South East Queensland can open for business in June 2012” Mr Rowe stated.



**BRISCONNECTIONS**

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### About BrisConnections

An investment in BrisConnections Unit Trusts comprises a stapled security made up of one unit in BrisConnections Investment Trust and one unit in BrisConnections Holding Trust. Stapled securities in BrisConnections are listed on the Australian Stock Exchange under the code "BCS". There are many factors that may affect the results of an investment in BCS which are outside the control of the Directors of the Responsible Entity or may not be capable of being foreseen or accurately predicted.

BrisConnections has been awarded a 45 year concession to design, construct, operate, maintain and finance the Airport Link tollroad in Brisbane. Airport Link is a 6.7 kilometre multi-lane electronic free-flow tollroad with dual 5.7 kilometre tunnels. Upon completion, Airport Link will operate as a multi-destinational road connecting Brisbane's northern suburbs with Brisbane's CBD and Brisbane Airport, the CLEM7 Tunnel and the Inner City Bypass. It will also serve as a key distribution road, connecting some of Brisbane's major destinations such as Brisbane Airport, the CBD, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Australia TradeCoast and Chermside Shopping Centre.

Airport Link is being constructed using a world class, innovative design solution, with connections avoiding intersection delays and streamlining traffic flows. Lane configuration will provide for separate traffic movements, with early decision points, to minimise traffic weaving and merging.

Airport Link is being built around an electronic free-flow tolling design. Electronic free-flow tolling is mandatory across all Queensland tollroads and Airport Link tags will be fully interoperable with other Queensland and Australian tollroads.

BrisConnections is also designing and constructing a portion of the Northern Busway between Windsor and Kedron and an upgrade of the East-West Arterial / Airport Drive / Gateway Motorway interchange at Brisbane Airport, both of which are funded by the Queensland Government. BrisConnections will not receive any revenue from these projects and they will both be handed over to the Queensland Government upon commissioning.

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